

Voluntary Education for Reserve Component Service Members



Contents

1.0 Military Tuition Assistance (TA) Program.....	1
1.1 Federal TA Program	1
1.2 State TA, Scholarship, Tuition Waiver Policies	4
1.3 In-state Tuition Rates for Members of the Armed Forces	23
2.0 Department of Veterans Affairs Education Programs for Service Members	24
2.1 Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty.....	24
2.2 Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve	25
2.3 Reserve Education Assistance Program.....	25
2.4 Post-9/11 GI Bill.....	26
2.5 Veterans Educational Assistance Program	28
3.0 Education Loan Repayment Program for Members of the Selected Reserve.....	30
4.0 Examination Programs.....	31
4.1 Credit by Examination	31
4.2 DANTES Certification Examinations.....	32
5.0 Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges	33
6.0 Education Center Services	34
7.0 Education Opportunities for Family Members	35
7.1 In-state Tuition for Family Members.....	35
7.2 Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance Program.....	35
7.3 Education Assistance for Members Held as Captives and Their Dependents	35
7.4 State Casualty-Related Education Benefits for Family Members	35

The Department of Defense (DoD) Voluntary Education Program offers assistance to service members and their families in planning and paying for their education expenses. Installation continuing education offices provide eligible Reserve Component service members with detailed information on available programs as well as assistance with the completion of required forms for study and degree planning. Voluntary education programs to include financial assistance for tuition and other associated costs are available to Reserve Component service members and their families through the DoD, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and the individual states. Reserve Component service members and their families can enroll in and complete courses leading to high school diplomas, undergraduate, and graduate degrees at little or no cost to the student.

1.0 Military Tuition Assistance Program

Tuition assistance (TA) is the money provided by the military to pay a percentage of the charges of an educational institution for tuition and other associated fees for service members enrolled in courses of study during his or her off-duty time. TA is not a loan that needs to be repaid, but rather a benefit earned for serving in the military similar to drill pay. TA is provided for members of the Reserve Component through two methods: federal TA and state TA.

1.1 Federal TA Program

Paragraph c of Section 2007 of Title 10, United States Code ([10 USC §2007\(c\)](#)) authorizes the individual military branches of Service to pay all or a portion of the tuition or expenses for members of the Selected Reserve. Additionally, the individual branches of Service are authorized to pay the tuition or expenses for members of the Individual Ready Reserve who are in specified designated military occupational specialties (MOS). Although authorized by 10 USC §2007(c), the individual branches of Service determine how to administer their own TA to include whether to offer TA to members of the Reserve Component.

In conjunction with the provision of TA to members of the Reserve Component, 10 USC §2007(c) mandates the individual branches of Service to require agreements for additional years of service for officers receiving TA and provides the branches of Service the authority to mandate additional service for enlisted service members.

- **Officers in the Selected Reserve** – The individual branches of Service may not provide TA to an officer of the Selected Reserve unless the officer enters into an agreement to remain a member of the Selected Reserve for at least four years after completion of the education or training for which TA is provided. ([10 USC §2007\(c\)\(3\)](#))
- **Officers in the Individual Ready Reserve** – The individual branches of Service may not provide TA to officers of the Individual Ready Reserve unless the officer enters into an agreement to remain in the Selected Reserve of Individual Ready

Reserve for at least four years after completion of the education or training for which TA is provided. ([10 USC §2007\(c\)\(4\)](#))

- **Enlisted service members in the Selected Reserve or Individual Ready Reserve** – The individual branches of Service may require an enlisted member of the Selected Reserve or Individual Ready Reserve to enter into an agreement to serve up to four years in the Selected Reserve or Individual Ready Reserve after completion of the education or training for which TA is provided. ([10 USC §2007\(c\)\(5\)](#))

Each of the individual branches of Service determines how to administer federal TA to members of the Reserve Component. The following are summaries of the federal TA policies for each of the individual branches of the Reserve Component:

- **Army National Guard (ARNG)** – Federal TA is available to ARNG Soldiers in Active Guard Reserve (AGR) status and ARNG Soldiers serving in active status who are coded as satisfactory participants. Soldiers are required to declare an education goal leading to a credential higher than their current degree level and receive 100 percent TA up to a specified amount per semester/quarter hour and a maximum amount per year. Enlisted Soldiers and non-commissioned warrant officers who receive TA must have sufficient time remaining in their term of service to complete resident courses. Officers and commissioned warrant officers who are in AGR status and receive TA incur a two-year active duty service obligation (ADSO). ARNG officers and commissioned warrant officers in non-AGR status who receive TA incur reserve duty service obligation (RDSO) and must have at least four years of National Guard service remaining from the date of completion of the course for which TA is provided. When states provide TA to members of the ARNG, those funds may be used concurrently with federal TA, but state funds must be applied first and federal TA is applied to the remaining costs not to exceed 100 percent of the tuition costs. Requirements and procedures for TA for Soldiers in the ARNG are defined in [Paragraph 6-2, Army Regulation \(AR\) 621-5, “Army Continuing Education System,” Rapid Action Revision, 6 September 09.](#)
- **United States Army Reserve (USAR)** – Federal TA is available to USAR Soldiers in Active Guard Reserve (AGR) status and USAR Soldiers serving in the Selected Reserve who are coded as satisfactory participants. Soldiers are required to declare an education goal leading to a credential higher than their current degree level and receive 100 percent TA up to a specified amount per semester/quarter hour and a maximum amount per year. Enlisted Soldiers and non-commissioned warrant officers who receive TA must have sufficient time remaining on their term of service to complete resident courses. Officers and commissioned warrant officers who are in AGR status and receive TA incur a two-year active duty service obligation (ADSO). USAR officers and commissioned warrant officers in non-AGR status who receive TA incur reserve duty service obligation (RDSO) and must have at least four years of Selected

Reserve service remaining from the date of completion of the course for which TA is provided. Requirements and procedures for TA for Soldiers in the USAR are defined in [Paragraph 6-3, AR 621-5, “Army Continuing Education System,” Rapid Action Revision, 6 September 09.](#)

- **Marine Corps Reserve (USMCR)** – The USMCR does not currently have an overall TA program in place for Reserve Marines. TA is available to Active Reserve (AR) and Marine Corps Reserve personnel on extended active duty (EAD). Eligibility and policies for Marine Corps TA are defined in [Chapter 3, Marine Corps Order \(MCO\) P1560.25C, “Marine Corps Lifelong Learning Program,” 22 December 1999.](#) The Secretary of the Navy may provide financial assistance to Reserve members of the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class for expenses while the member is pursuing, on a full-time basis at an institution of higher education, a program that leads to a baccalaureate degree in less than five years or a doctor of jurisprudence or bachelor of laws degree in not more than four years. The Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class College TA Program is governed by [10 USC §16401.](#)
- **Navy Reserve (USNR)** – The USNR does not currently have a TA program in place for Reserve Sailors. Reserve Sailors on continuous active duty and Reservists ordered to active duty for 120 days or more may receive Navy TA. Limitations and authorization amounts for Navy TA are found in [paragraph 6d, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations \(OPNAVINST\) 1560.9A, “Voluntary Education \(VOLED\) for Navy Sailors,” 4 March 2008.](#)
- **Air Force Reserve (USAFR)** – USAFR provides TA for USAFR service members pursuing education goals on a voluntary basis. USAFR provides 100 percent TA for undergraduate degree programs up to a specified amount per semester/quarter hour and a maximum amount per year. For graduate studies, USAFR provides seventy-five percent TA up to a specified amount per semester/quarter hour and a maximum amount per year. Officers in the Air Force Reserve incur a two-year Reserve Service Obligation per [Table 1.1, Air Force Reserve Command Instruction 36-2102, “Air Force Reserve Service Commitment Date Program,” 26 March 2004.](#) More information on the TA program can be found on the [Air Reserve Personnel Center website.](#)
- **Coast Guard Reserve (USCGR)** – TA eligibility and benefits are standardized Service-wide across the Coast Guard to include active duty, appropriated fund civilian employees, drilling Reserve members, and Public Health Service members working with the Coast Guard. Enlisted members must have twelve months remaining on their active duty contracts or Selected Reserve obligation upon completion of the course. Officers must agree not to request release, separation, retirement, or termination of Selected Reserve status for twelve months after completing a course. The Coast Guard offers 100 percent TA up to a specified amount per semester/quarter hour and a maximum amount per year. Policies and procedures for Coast Guard TA are defined by [Commandant](#)

1.2 State TA, Scholarship, Tuition Waiver Policies

Most states provide additional TA for members of the National Guard. Some state TA policies also apply to Reserve members who are residents of the state. Depending on the state, TA may include interest-free loans that are cancellable through additional service in the National Guard, reimbursement of tuition paid by service members, and partial or complete waivers of tuition. Eligibility requirements for the state TA policies also vary from state to state, with some states restricting the benefit to specified ranks and some states requiring additional service obligations for receipt of the benefit. More information on individual state TA programs can be found through the [State Education Services Office](#).

Alabama

The Alabama Commission on Higher Education is authorized to pay or reimburse the tuition for any active member of the Alabama National Guard who is enrolled in a program leading to the associate, baccalaureate, masters, or doctorate degree in an accredited institution of higher learning, technical college, or junior college within the state of Alabama. The tuition grant authorized may be used for undergraduate or graduate studies. To be eligible for the grant, individuals must be a member of the Alabama National Guard in good standing, a member of a federally-recognized unit of the Alabama National Guard, must be at least seventeen years of age, and must be a resident of the state of Alabama at the time of his/her enrollment in classes. In no event will any individual be eligible to receive more than 100 percent of covered expenses when combined with similar federal education benefits available to members of the National Guard. The Alabama National Guard Educational Assistance Act is codified in [§31-10-1, Code of Alabama 1975](#), [§31-10-2, Code of Alabama 1975](#), [§31-10-3, Code of Alabama 1975](#), and [§31-10-4, Code of Alabama 1975](#).

Alaska

Each active enlisted member of the Alaska National Guard who has completed the initial voluntary enlistment period of service is eligible for education assistance benefits in Alaska educational facilities. Education programs and monetary benefits available to enlisted National Guard service members are based on, and equivalent to, those of the VA education program. Education assistance may only be provided for a program or class in which the person is a student in good standing. Education benefits to enlisted members of the Alaska National Guard are codified under [§26.05.295, The Alaska Statutes 2009](#).

The State of Alaska may also pay up to 100 percent of the cost of tuition and required fees for each active member of the Alaska National Guard if the member attends an educational, vocational, or technical training school in the state. The Adjutant General may prioritize categories of education benefits to encourage recruitment and retention of

Alaska National Guard members. Payments authorized under this section for active members of the Alaska National Guard continue so long as the active member is a student in good standing in the education program or class and participates satisfactorily in unit training activities. TA for active members of the Alaska National Guard is codified under [§26.05.296, The Alaska Statutes 2009](#).

Arizona

Tuition and fees may be reimbursed for Arizona National Guard service members who complete a semester as a full-time or part-time graduate or undergraduate student at a public or private postsecondary educational institution for which credit toward a degree or diploma is granted, or a certificated vocational technical school in the state of Arizona. To be eligible for tuition and fees reimbursement, service members must be a member of the Arizona Army National Guard or Arizona Air National Guard throughout each semester for which he or she applies for such reimbursement, have satisfactorily completed initial active duty service, have satisfactorily performed duty upon return from initial active duty training (including a minimum ninety percent attendance on scheduled drill dates and at annual training with his or her parent unit), maintain an average academic grade of "C" or better for each semester, and not be eligible for a certificate of eligibility and benefits under the Veterans' Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966 for the same period. Tuition and fees reimbursement for Arizona National Guard service members is codified in [§26-179, The Arizona Revised Statutes](#).

Members of the Arizona National Guard who received a purple heart citation on or after 11 September 2001 or former members of the Arizona National Guard who were medically discharged due to an injury or disability suffered during status under Title 10, United States Code (USC), weekend training status, annual training status, or in response to a state of emergency declared by the governor are eligible for a tuition waiver scholarship at a state-supported school. The tuition waiver scholarship provides no more than sixty-four credit hours at Arizona community colleges or the total number of credits equal to the number of credits required for a baccalaureate degree at Arizona universities. The Tuition Waiver Scholarship is codified under [§15-1808\(C\), The Arizona Revised Statutes](#).

Arkansas

The Arkansas National Guard Tuition Incentive Program provides qualified applicants an annual tuition incentive award of up to \$5,000 per eligible service member, payable at \$2,500 per semester for two semesters with payments made directly to the approved institution. Tuition awards are only available for payment toward undergraduate studies at approved institutions. Eligible service members must have completed military training and be awarded a military occupation specialty or Air Force skill code before payment of a tuition incentive award is made. In order to receive a second semester or subsequent semester tuition incentive award, an eligible service member must continue as a student in good standing and as a satisfactory participant in the Arkansas National Guard, meeting Good Soldier or Good Airman requirements as certified by his or her unit

commander. The Arkansas National Guard Tuition Incentive Program is codified under [§12-62-601 through §12-62-605, Arkansas Code of 1987](#).

Colleges, universities, community colleges, technical schools, and other postsecondary institutions of higher learning located in the state of Arkansas that directly receive funds appropriated by the state may waive up to twenty-five percent of the tuition at the institution for members of the Arkansas National Guard. Eligibility requirements and implementation procedures for the program are established by the adjutant general of Arkansas. The tuition waiver program is codified under [§6-60-211, Arkansas Code of 1987](#).

California

Members of the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia may be eligible for the California National Guard Education Assistance Award. National Guard service members who are residents of the state, active members of the California National Guard who have served two years in the National Guard, agree to use the award toward a certificate, degree, or diploma, and have submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) may be eligible to receive the award. The amount of the award varies depending on whether the school is the University of California or California State University, a community college, or a private institution, and whether the award is to be used for graduate studies. The California National Guard Education Assistance Award is codified under [§69999.10 through §69999.30, Military and Veteran Code, California Code](#).

Colorado

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs will pay at least 50 percent and no more than 100 percent of the cost of tuition for members of the Colorado National Guard for courses at any designated institution of higher education leading toward a bachelor degree, a postgraduate degree, an associate degree, or a certificate of completion. The program is subject to available appropriations. Tuition payments may continue, as long as a person remains a member of the Colorado National Guard, but payments may not be made for more than 132 semester hours, 198 quarter hours, or for more than eight years. Colorado National Guard service members may receive TA from the state concurrently with federal TA as long as the sum of the member's TA from all sources does not exceed 100 percent of the cost of tuition. The TA for Colorado National Guard service members is codified under [§23-5-111.4, Code of Colorado Regulations](#).

Connecticut

The Connecticut Tuition Waiver for Veterans covers 100 percent of tuition for matriculated students (fall and spring semesters) for veterans attending Connecticut public colleges and universities (University of Connecticut, Connecticut State Universities, and the twelve community-technical colleges). If a veteran has elected to receive benefits under the Federal Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of

2008 (Post 9/11 GI Bill), these benefits are applied first, and the tuition waiver pays the balance. Additionally, fifty percent of course fees are waived for veterans who are matriculated students for courses that count toward a degree during summer and intercession. In the case of veterans receiving benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill enrolled in courses during the summer and intercession, this waiver again pays the balance. The waivers do not cover the various fees that are charged to the student.

The Connecticut National Guard Tuition Waiver Program provides a 100 percent waiver of the tuition costs at any Connecticut state public university, community-technical college, or regional vocational-technical school. The program is available for any active member of the Connecticut Army National Guard or Air National Guard who is a resident of the state, is in good standing of the guard, and is enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate degree-granting program. The Connecticut National Guard Tuition Waiver Program is codified under [§10a-99\(d\)\(5\), Connecticut Code](#) for schools in the Connecticut State University System, [§10a-105\(e\)\(5\), Connecticut Code](#) for the University of Connecticut, [§10a-77\(d\)\(5\), Connecticut Code](#) for regional community-technical colleges.

Delaware

Active members of the Delaware National Guard who meet the requirements for satisfactory membership are eligible for funding support by the Delaware National Guard for certain postsecondary education tuition and fees. To be eligible to receive financial assistance, service members must first apply for and utilize all other reasonably available TA programs and make application to the Adjutant General for tuition and fees assistance in advance of a class or course of instruction. Education benefits may be used only for attendance at a postsecondary educational institution either financially supported by the state or, if private, located in the state. If a member chooses to attend a state-supported institution, tuition and fees shall be reimbursed for the full amount expended, not to exceed the in-state resident rate. If a member chooses to attend a Delaware private institution, the amount of the benefit shall be equal to the average tuition and fees of the Delaware postsecondary institutions which offer the class or course of instruction, based on the in-state resident rate. Classes or courses taken must be required by the institution for the award of a specific certificate or of a specific associate, bachelor, or masters degree and can be taken on a part-time or full-time basis. The tuition and fees assistance program is subject to the limits of the total funding appropriated by the legislature and approved by the governor for that purpose. National Guard service members receiving funds for tuition and fees for a postsecondary class or course of instruction must agree to serve in a satisfactory manner for a period of not less than six years in the Delaware National Guard. The six-year requirement may include service time before, during, and after the member receives funding for education benefits and must earn a grade of no lower than a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. The Delaware tuition and fees assistance program is codified under [§3480, Delaware Code](#).

District of Columbia

District of Columbia Air and Army National Guardsmen are eligible for up to \$6,000 in TA for their education endeavors. Army National Guardsmen can access both federal (\$4,500) and state TA (\$1,500) for every fiscal year in which they participate in the National Guard. District of Columbia Air National Guardsmen do not have the option of using federal TA. Therefore, the state TA program will pay up to \$6,000 per fiscal year for its members. More information on the TA programs and application forms are available on the [District of Columbia National Guard website](#).

Florida

The Educational Dollars for Duty Program is for individuals entering the Florida National Guard for the first time after 30 June 1997. The Educational Dollars for Duty Program pays up to 100 percent of tuition and fees assessed on a per student credit hour basis at Florida's public vocational-technical schools, public community colleges, and State University System institutions for credit courses in which they register. The Florida National Guard Member will be responsible for any tuition and fees not paid by the Educational Dollars for Duty Program. To be eligible for the program, National Guard service members must be seventeen years of age or older, be presently domiciled in the state, be an active drilling member in good standing, maintain continuous satisfactory participation in the Florida National Guard for any school term for which benefits are received, and complete a memorandum of agreement to serve in the Florida National Guard for the period specified in the member's enlistment or reenlistment contract. The Educational Dollars for Duty Program is codified under [§250.10\(7\), Florida Statutes](#).

Subject to appropriations, the state of Florida may pay the full cost of tuition and fees for required courses for current members of the Florida National Guard. National Guard service members are eligible to use the program upon enlistment in the Florida National Guard. If a member is enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary educational institution or a nonpublic vocational-technical program, the state of Florida will pay an amount equal to the amount that would be required for the average tuition and fees at a public postsecondary educational institution or public vocational-technical program. To be eligible for TA, service members must maintain satisfactory participation in, and be an active drilling member of, the Florida National Guard. Inactive members of the Florida National Guard and members of the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) are not eligible to participate in the program. The Florida TA program is codified under [§250.10\(8\), The Florida Statutes](#).

Georgia

The Georgia Helping Education Reservists and their Offspring (HERO) scholarship provides a grant for members of the Georgia National Guard or members of a Reserve Component of the armed forces of the United States enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in an approved school. Eligible students may receive a grant for a maximum of four award years in the sum of \$2,000 per award year not to exceed a total in excess of

\$8,000. The Georgia HERO scholarship is codified under [§20-3-485, Georgia Code](#), [§20-3-486, Georgia Code](#), and [§20-3-487, Georgia Code](#).

The Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan Program provides service cancelable education loans to residents of Georgia who are eligible members of the Georgia National Guard and who are enrolled at the undergraduate level in a private or public college or public postsecondary technical or vocational school located in the state. The amount of the loan may not exceed the actual tuition charged for the period of enrollment in an educational institution or the tuition charged by the University of Georgia for the period of enrollment. The maximum a student can receive per semester for 2009-2010 is \$2,248 and \$1,434 per quarter. Unlike TA or tuition waivers where financial aid is provided as a grant, the Cancelable Loan Program provides education loans to National Guard service members whose repayment can be accomplished through cancelation of the debt. The Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan Program is codified under [§20-3-374\(b\)\(2\), Georgia Code](#).

Hawaii

Subject to the availability of funds, the state of Hawaii may award TA to qualified enlisted National Guard service members, warrant officers, and company grade officers (0-1 through 0-3) who are residents of the state and who are undergraduate students working toward a degree on any campus of the University of Hawaii. The Adjutant General defines the minimum military and academic qualification of personnel who may be awarded full or partial TA; listings of acceptable fields of study, degrees, and periods of eligibility; procedures for demonstrating the ongoing, satisfactory military and academic performance of personnel; and any reenlistment obligations for personnel who have accepted TA. TA for Hawaii National Guard personnel to attend the University of Hawaii is codified under [§121-45, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

Idaho

The Adjutant General of the Idaho National Guard may pay not more than 100 percent of student registration fees or tuition for each semester for each member of the active Idaho National Guard who attends a public or private institution of higher education in Idaho, a vocational education school, or a community college. To be eligible to receive benefits, an individual must be a member in good standing of the active Idaho National Guard at the beginning of and throughout the entire semester for which benefits are received. The Idaho National Guard TA program is codified under [§46-314, Idaho Statutes](#).

Illinois

The Illinois National Guard Grant Program may award a grant to National Guard service members who have served at least one year in the Illinois National Guard. The program provides 100 percent of tuition and fees at the state-controlled university or community college for not more than the equivalent of four years of full-time enrollment. National Guard service members receiving the grant must maintain minimum grade levels. The

Illinois National Guard Grant Program is codified under [110 Illinois Compiled Statutes \(ILCS\) 947/45](#).

Indiana

The Indiana National Guard Tuition Supplement Program provides annual scholarships to scholarship applicants in an amount that is equal to the full tuition of a state educational institution. If the service member is receiving other financial assistance specifically designated for education costs, the National Guard Tuition Supplement Program provides financial assistance equal to the balance required to attend the state institution. Scholarships awarded under the program may be renewed up to eight semesters. The Indiana National Guard Tuition Supplement Program is codified under [§21-13-4-1 through §21-13-4-3, Indiana Code](#).

Iowa

The Iowa National Guard Educational Assistance Program provides TA to service members who are enrolled as undergraduate students in a community college, an institution of higher learning under the state board of regents, or an accredited private institution. The amount of tuition shall not exceed the resident tuition rate established for institutions of higher learning under control of the state. The Iowa National Guard Educational Assistance Program is codified under [§261.86, Iowa Code](#).

Kansas

Subject to the availability of funding, the Kansas National Guard Educational Assistance Program provides eligible National Guard members enrolled at a Kansas educational institution the amount of tuition and required fees. Courses must be part of an education program. Tuition cannot be paid for courses repeated or taken in excess of the requirements for completion for the education program. The amount of tuition and required fees paid to eligible members may not exceed the maximum rate that would be charged by the state educational institutions for enrollment. To be eligible for the program, a service member must agree to complete his or her current service obligation in the Kansas National Guard plus three months of service for each semester of assistance. The Kansas National Guard Educational Assistance Program is codified under [§74-32, 145, Kansas Statutes, §74-32, 146, Kansas Statutes, §74-32, 147, Kansas Statutes, §74-32, 148, Kansas Statutes, and §74-32, 149, Kansas Statutes](#).

Kentucky

The Kentucky National Guard Tuition Award Program provides members of the Kentucky National Guard the tuition at an in-state educational institution. The tuition paid is up to or equal to the in-state full or part-time tuition rate of the institution the member attends except that tuition paid in support of a member attending a private postsecondary educational institution shall be up to or equal to the average in-state full or part-time tuition rate of a public university or community college. Active members of the Kentucky National Guard who are not Kentucky residents may also qualify for the tuition

award if the member enrolls in an educational institution within the state. In this case, the tuition award may not exceed an amount equivalent to the in-state tuition amount the member would have received if the member were a Kentucky resident. The Kentucky National Guard Tuition Award Program is codified under [§164.516, Kentucky Revised Statutes](#), [§164.5161, Kentucky Revised Statutes](#), [§164.5165, Kentucky Revised Statutes](#), and [§164.5169, Kentucky Revised Statutes](#).

Louisiana

The State Tuition Exemption Program (STEP) allows National Guard service members who are active drilling members to receive a waiver for tuition to all state-funded schools in the state of Louisiana for a period of five academic years (twenty quarters or fifteen semesters) or the receipt of a degree. In addition to the five-year waiver, any National Guard service member enrolled in a Louisiana public college or university and who is serving in the Louisiana National Guard pursuant to a six-year reenlistment agreement is exempt from all tuition charges imposed by such institution. This tuition exemption may be claimed for four separate academic years or until the receipt of a degree at the associate, baccalaureate, masters, or professional level, whichever occurs first. The Louisiana STEP is codified under [§36.1, Title 29, Louisiana Revised Statutes](#).

Maine

The Maine National Guard Education Assistance Program provides a tuition benefit not to exceed tuition costs incurred at any state postsecondary educational institution. National Guard service members who attend classes in Maine at a regionally accredited private Maine college or university are entitled to a tuition benefit that does not exceed the lesser of the tuition at that private college or university or the tuition assessed for a similar degree program at any state postsecondary educational institution. To be eligible for the program, service members must have completed basic training or received a commission, be a satisfactory participant in the Maine National Guard, and enter into a written contractual commitment with the Maine National Guard for at least one year beyond the end of the term for which tuition benefits are granted. The Maine National Guard Education Assistance Program is codified under [§351, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#), [§352, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#), [§353, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#), [§354, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#), [§355, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#), [§356, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#), [§357, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#), and [§358, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#).

Maryland

Subject to the availability of funds, the state may provide financial assistance equal to fifty percent of the cost of in-state tuition for any regularly scheduled undergraduate credit course, graduate credit course, professional credit course, vocational-technical course, or trade course for any active member attending an institution who is certified as eligible by the adjutant general. To be eligible for the program, service members must be enlisted service members with at least twenty-four months remaining on their current

enlistment or officers and warrant officers who agree in writing to serve for a minimum of twenty-four months. Service members receiving assistance must agree to remain an active member of the Maryland National Guard for two years following the completion of an undergraduate course, or four years following the completion of a graduate course. The Maryland TA Program is codified under [§13-405, Maryland Code](#).

In addition to the TA Program, some institutions within the state of Maryland offer tuition waivers to members of the National Guard. As codified under [§11-403, Maryland Code](#), the state maintains a listing of institutions offering tuition waivers, copies of the individual institutions' policies, and is required to share this information with the military department to be shared with members of the National Guard.

Massachusetts

The Massachusetts National Guard Education Assistance Program provides an exemption from the matriculation fee and tuition to any member of the Massachusetts Army or Air National Guard who is enrolled at any state institution. To be eligible for the program, service members must be a member in good standing of the active Massachusetts National Guard at the beginning of each semester that benefits are payable and must remain a member in good standing of the active Massachusetts National Guard throughout the entire semester for which benefits are payable. National Guard service members may continue to receive the benefit as long as the student remains in good standing at the institution, but the student cannot receive the benefits for more than 130 semester hours. The Massachusetts National Guard Education Assistance Program is codified under [§137, Chapter 33, Massachusetts Code](#).

Michigan

The Michigan State Education Reimbursement Program (SERP) provides members of the Michigan National Guard an offset to tuition costs up to \$2,000 per year. The SERP provides assistance for National Guard service members who enroll in approved courses of instruction offered at colleges, universities, and technical colleges and vocational/trade schools in Michigan. To be eligible for the program, members must be in good standing and participating in either the Michigan Air or Army National Guard. The SERP is not codified under Michigan law; it is appropriated annually through the fiscal year budget of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The [SERP Administrative Regulations and Procedures](#) contains complete details about the program.

Minnesota

The Adjutant General of the Minnesota National Guard provides eligible members a grant for reimbursement for tuition and textbooks for courses at postsecondary educational institutions, to include vocational or technical schools operated or regulated by Minnesota or another state or province. To be eligible for the program, National Guard service members must be serving satisfactorily in the National Guard and provide proof of satisfactory completion of coursework. Service members who have served

honorably in the Minnesota National Guard and who have been separated or discharged due to a service-connected injury, disease, or disability retain eligibility under the program for up to eight years beyond the date of separation. Service members may receive the benefit for no more than 208 quarter credits or 144 semester credits of coursework. The tuition and textbook reimbursement grant may be up to 100 percent of the cost of tuition for lower division programs in the College of Liberal Arts at the Twin Cities campus of the University of Minnesota in the most recent academic year; or up to 100 percent of the cost of tuition for the program in which the person is enrolled at that Minnesota public institution, or if that public institution is outside the state of Minnesota, for the cost of a comparable program at the University of Minnesota. The Minnesota textbook and tuition reimbursement grant is codified under [§192.501, Minnesota Code](#).

Mississippi

The Mississippi State Educational Assistance Program pays tuition, room, and board for any active member of the Mississippi National Guard who is enrolled or may enroll within the state of Mississippi in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational education school, or junior college. To be eligible for such benefits, National Guard service members must be, at the time of his or her initial enrollment, of rank O-3 or below, at least seventeen years of age, and a resident of the state of Mississippi. Tuition received under this benefit may only be used for undergraduate studies and vocational education courses, and may not be used for more than ten years after the date of the first tuition payment under this program. The Mississippi State Educational Assistance Program is codified under [§33-7-401, Mississippi Code of 1972](#), [§33-7-403, Mississippi Code of 1972](#), [§33-7-405, Mississippi Code of 1972](#), [§33-7-407, Mississippi Code of 1972](#), [§33-7-409, Mississippi Code of 1972](#), [§33-7-411, Mississippi Code of 1972](#), and [§33-7-413, Mississippi Code of 1972](#).

Missouri

The Missouri Educational Assistance Grant provides financial assistance to members of the National Guard attending an approved public institution or private institution. This benefit may pay up to 100 percent of the tuition charged by an institution, not to exceed the tuition charged a Missouri resident at the University of Missouri for attendance. To be eligible for the program, individuals must be in good standing of the Missouri National Guard and must maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. The Missouri Educational Assistance Grant is codified under [§173-239, Missouri Revised Statutes](#).

Montana

The regents of the state of Montana may waive tuition for up to 5,000 credits across the National Guard each academic year in accordance with the Montana National Guard Education Benefit program. Waivers provided by this program are available for up to five years after the National Guard service member qualifies for the program. The tuition waiver program is codified under [§20-25-421, Montana Code Annotated 2009](#).

Nebraska

Members of the Nebraska National Guard who enroll in any state-supported university, college, or community college or any independent, not-for-profit, regionally accredited college or university in the state of Nebraska is entitled to a credit of seventy-five percent of the resident tuition charges of such school. Any member attending a regionally accredited private educational institution in the state is eligible to receive a credit in an amount no higher than that person would receive if he or she attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The TA program is available to members of the National Guard who do not have a baccalaureate degree and are not receiving any federal education assistance. The program is available for a period of ten years from the date of initial membership in the Nebraska National Guard. Any member of the National Guard receiving TA must also agree in writing to serve in the Nebraska National Guard for three years after the completion of the courses for which TA was given. The Nebraska National Guard TA Program is codified under [§85-505, Nebraska Code](#) and [§85-505.01, Nebraska Code](#).

Nevada

The board of regents of the University of Nevada may grant a waiver of registration fees and laboratory fees for any member of the active Nevada National Guard who attends a school within the system as a full-time or part-time student. To be eligible for a tuition waiver, an individual must be a member in good standing of the active Nevada National Guard at the beginning of and throughout the entire semester for which the waiver is granted and maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale for each semester. The Nevada Tuition Waiver Program is codified under [§396.544, Nevada Revised Statutes](#).

New Hampshire

New Hampshire provides a scholarship to members of the New Hampshire National Guard in good standing for the purpose of assisting in tuition payments at institutions of higher learning or postsecondary education located within the state. No scholarship award to any one person shall exceed \$500 per fiscal year. To be eligible for the scholarship, individuals must be an active member of the New Hampshire National Guard residing either in-state or out-of-state who has completed advanced individual training or commissioning; be enrolled in a degree-enhancing curriculum in any vocational or technical school that is under the authority of the commissioner of regional community-technical colleges or enrolled in any degree-enhancing curriculum in any public college or university within the state; and have first utilized any federal educational entitlements, not including Montgomery GI Bill benefits, and National Guard scholarship grants. The New Hampshire National Guard Scholarship is codified under [§110-B:63, New Hampshire Code](#), [§110-B:63-c, New Hampshire Code](#), [§110-B:63-d, New Hampshire Code](#), and [§110-B:63-e, New Hampshire Code](#).

New Jersey

Members of the New Jersey National Guard may receive up to sixteen credits per semester tuition-free at any public institution of higher education in the state. To be eligible for the program, members must have completed Initial Active Duty Training, be in good standing as an active member of the New Jersey National Guard, and have applied for all available state student grants and scholarships as well as all available federal student grants and scholarships for which the member is eligible. The New Jersey National Guard TA program is codified under [§18A:62-4-2, New Jersey Statutes](#).

New Mexico

The New Mexico National Guard Tuition Scholarship Program pays 100 percent per semester towards the cost of tuition for eligible New Mexico National Guard service members. Students are required to maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0. The program applies to a postsecondary degree or vocational training at any state-supported institution. Service members are not to exceed 150 semester hours while participating in this program. The New Mexico National Guard Tuition Scholarship Program is codified under [§21-1-2.1, New Mexico Code](#) and [§20-4-13, New Mexico Code](#).

New York

The New York Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program provides members of the New York state organized militia a tuition benefit not to exceed the lesser of the actual tuition charged to the recipient or the tuition charged by the state university of New York. To be eligible, service members must have successfully completed advanced individual training or commissioning, be a member of the New York National Guard in good standing, not currently possess a baccalaureate degree, and be a legal resident of the state of New York. Any service member eligible for the benefit must apply for all other available state and federal aid at the time of enrollment. The benefit may be used for full-time or part-time study. The New York Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program is codified under [§669-b, Education, New York Code](#).

North Carolina

The North Carolina National Guard TA Act of 1975 provides a monetary education assistance grant not to exceed the highest amount charged by a state educational institution per academic year to qualifying members of the North Carolina National Guard. To be eligible, service members must be enrolled in any business or trade school, private educational institution, or state educational institution, and must have a minimum obligation of two years remaining as a member of the National Guard from the end of the academic period for which TA is provided or agree to commit to extended membership for at least two additional years from the end of said academic period. The benefit under the act is available for students at a community college or technical institute, and for trade or vocational training or education, a two-year associate degree, a four-year baccalaureate degree, or a graduate degree. The North Carolina National Guard TA Act of 1975 is codified under [Article 15, Chapter 127A, North Carolina Code](#).

North Dakota

The National Guard Tuition Waiver Act provides qualifying members of the National Guard who enroll in any state-controlled school a twenty-five percent waiver of the tuition, subject to availability of funds. To be eligible for the program, service members must maintain satisfactory performance with the National Guard, meet qualification requirements adopted by the adjutant general, and pursue a course of study in a manner that satisfies the normal requirements of the school. The Adjutant General makes tuition reimbursement payments to each qualifying member of the National Guard enrolled in any state-controlled school who receives the tuition waiver. The National Guard Tuition Waiver Act is codified under [Chapter 37-07.1, 2009 North Dakota Century Code](#).

The state of North Dakota also may offer TA grants to qualifying members of the National Guard who enroll in an accredited postsecondary institution in North Dakota, subject to available appropriated funds and subject to National Guard rules. The amount of the benefit may not exceed the cost of tuition and fees for similar courses and credit hours for students enrolled at the University of North Dakota. Any accredited postsecondary institution that agrees to participate in the program must waive twenty-five percent of the tuition for qualifying National Guard service members. To be eligible for the grant, service members must maintain satisfactory performance with the National Guard, meet the qualification requirements, and pursue a course of study that satisfies the normal requirements of the school. The North Dakota National Guard Tuition Grants are codified under [Chapter 37-07.2, 2009 North Dakota Century Code](#).

Ohio

The Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program provides eligible service members up to 100 percent of tuition for courses taken to achieve an undergraduate degree. At state-assisted institutions, the amount of the scholarship is 100 percent of the tuition charges; at private institutions, the amount of the scholarship is equal to 100 percent of the average tuition charges of all state universities. To be eligible for the scholarship, individuals must be a current member of the National Guard in good standing, not possess a baccalaureate degree, be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student for at least six credit hours at a two-year or four-year degree-granting program. National Guard service members may continue to receive the scholarship until they have accumulated ninety-six eligibility units, where eligibility units are based on the number of credits completed in a semester. The Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program is codified under [§5919.34, Ohio Revised Code](#).

Oklahoma

The National Guard Tuition Waiver Program provides eligible service members a waiver of the full resident tuition charged by Oklahoma public colleges and universities for courses leading to a baccalaureate degree. The tuition waiver does not cover all other fees, such as special course fees, student activity and faculty fees, and assessment fees.

Students may receive the waiver for a maximum of eighteen semester credit hours each semester, for up to six years from the date of first application. To be eligible for the program, members must be a bona fide member of the Oklahoma National Guard at the beginning of the semester for which the member is applying for the tuition waiver or by the deadline determined by the institution, be certified as a member in good standing by the adjutant general, not have previously earned a baccalaureate or graduate degree, and be eligible for admission and retention requirements at the educational institution. The National Guard Tuition Waiver Program is governed by [Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education \(OSRHE\)](#) policy.

Oregon

Subject to the availability of funds, the Oregon Military Department may provide (in conjunction with the Oregon Student Assistance Commission) scholarships of \$800 to qualified members of the Oregon National Guard. The scholarship may be used at any two-year or four-year, nonprofit, generally accredited institution of higher education located in this state, including community colleges and accredited schools of nursing located in state. To be eligible for the scholarship, individuals must be members of the Oregon National Guard, maintain minimum academic standards at the qualified institution of higher education, meet participation standards in the Oregon National Guard, be a full-time student, and serve one year in the Oregon National Guard for each year a scholarship is granted. The scholarship may not be used for more than four years and may not be used for courses of study required for or leading to a degree in theology, divinity, or religious education. The Oregon National Guard Scholarship Program is codified under [§399.245 through §399.265, Oregon Revised Statutes](#).

The Oregon National Guard Tuition Waiver Program waives tuition only at an Oregon public postsecondary institution of higher education for courses that meet a degree requirement. The program may also be used toward private colleges within the state of Oregon, but the program will only pay the tuition rate charged by public colleges. To be eligible for the waiver, members must not currently possess a baccalaureate degree, maintain satisfactory performance with the Oregon National Guard, and pursue a course of study in the eligible postsecondary institution. Members of the National Guard who receive tuition waivers must agree in writing to serve in the Oregon National Guard for four years after the completion of the courses for which tuition waivers were given. The Oregon National Guard Tuition Waiver Program is codified under [§399.275 through §399.280, Oregon Revised Statutes](#).

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania National Guard Educational Assistance Program provides tuition grants to eligible members of the National Guard pursuing degrees at qualified educational institutions. For full-time students, the amount of the benefit is the lesser of the tuition of the approved institution in which the member is enrolled or the tuition charged to a resident of Pennsylvania at a member institution of the State System of Higher Education (SSHE) for the same academic year. For part-time students not possessing a

baccalaureate degree, the amount of the benefit is the lesser of the tuition charged for the part-time courses in which the member is enrolled or two-thirds the tuition charged to a resident of Pennsylvania at SSHE institutions for the same academic year. For part-time students possessing baccalaureate degrees, the amount of the benefit is the lesser of one-half the tuition charged for the course or one-third the tuition charged at SSHE institutions for residents of Pennsylvania. To be eligible for the program, members must be residents of the Commonwealth, in good standing with the Pennsylvania National Guard, and be enrolled as a student in an approved program of education. To qualify for full-time student assistance grants, service members must not possess a baccalaureate degree, must accept an obligation to serve in the National Guard for a period of six years from the date of entry into the program, and must not be receiving a Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Scholarship. National Guard service members may receive the benefit for no more than five years. The Pennsylvania National Guard Educational Assistance Program is codified under [§3201, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), [§3202, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), [§3203, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), [§3204, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), [§3205, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), [§3206, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), [§3207, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), [§3208, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), [§3209, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#), and [§3210, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#).

Puerto Rico

The Puerto Rico Educational Fund provides financial assistance to members of the National Guard pursuing an associate, bachelor, masters, or doctoral degree. National Guard service members may use the benefit for themselves or they may delegate the use of the benefit to their spouse or college-aged children. Service members can use the funds to defray college costs for undergraduate courses with a stipend of \$240 for twelve credits per semester or \$225 for each three credits of a graduate course to a maximum of twelve graduate credits per year. The Puerto Rico Educational Fund is established under [Chapter 23, Title 25, Puerto Rico Code](#).

Rhode Island

Active members of the National Guard who are enrolled in, or eligible to attend, any state college or university in Rhode Island are eligible for a TA education benefit amounting to five courses per semester at any Rhode Island state college or university. To be eligible for the tuition benefit, individuals must be a member of the National Guard in good standing and a student in good standing at any state college or university. National Guard members wishing to participate in the program must enter into a contractual enlistment commitment which provides for one year of obligated service in the Rhode Island National Guard for each twelve course credits or four three-credit courses where the service member's tuition will be waived. Assistance under the program is only available for courses creditable to associate, bachelor, or masters degrees. The Rhode Island TA program is codified under [§30-3-40, State of Rhode Island General Laws](#), [§30-3-40.1, State of Rhode Island General Laws](#), [§30-3-40.2, State of Rhode Island General Laws](#), and [§30-3-40.3, State of Rhode Island General Laws](#).

South Carolina

The South Carolina National Guard College Assistance Program provides qualifying members of the National Guard grants up to an amount equal to 100 percent of college tuition and fees for undergraduate courses at eligible public educational institutions in the state. The total of all grants received may not exceed \$18,000 and a service member may not qualify for college assistance program grants for more than 130 semester hours or related quarter hours. To be eligible for the program, individuals must be members of the National Guard enrolled in or planning to enroll in an eligible institution, be in good standing with the active National Guard, remain in good standing as a student at the educational institution, and must apply to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. Enlisted service members must remain in the National Guard during the term of the courses covered by the grant received. Officers receiving the grant must agree to remain in the National Guard for at least four years after completion of the most recent grant awarded or degree completion. The South Carolina National Guard College Assistance Program is codified under [§59-114-10 through §59-114-75, South Carolina Code of Laws](#).

South Dakota

The South Dakota State Tuition Program provides service members a benefit to attend and pursue courses in any state educational institution under the control and management of the board of regents. Service members enrolled in undergraduate or graduate degree programs at state educational institutions are entitled to a benefit of fifty percent of the in-state resident graduate tuition paid to the institution by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The benefit provided for undergraduate degrees may not exceed 128 credit hours. For graduate degrees, the benefit may not exceed thirty-two credit hours. To be eligible for the benefit, service members must be a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard Unit or Air National Guard Unit throughout each semester or vocational program for which the member applies for benefits, have satisfactorily completed required initial basic training, have satisfactorily performed duty upon return from basic training, including a minimum ninety percent attendance on scheduled drill dates and at annual training with the member's parent unit, maintain satisfactory academic progress, and provide proper notice to the institution at the time of registration for the term in which the benefits are sought. The South Dakota State Tuition Program is codified under [§33-6-5, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§33-6-5.1, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§33-6-5.2, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§33-6-5.3, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§33-6-6, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§33-6-7, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§33-6-8, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), and [§33-6-8.1, South Dakota Codified Laws](#).

Tennessee

The Tennessee National Guard TA Act provides the cost of tuition at any state-supported university, community college, or vocational or technical school, or any private college or university located within the state of Tennessee. To be eligible for the benefit, service

members must be active members of the Tennessee National Guard maintaining satisfactory membership in the Guard. The Tennessee National Guard TA Act is codified under [§49-4-1001 through §49-4-1006, Tennessee Code](#).

Texas

The Texas State Tuition Reimbursement Program provides tuition reimbursement for up to twelve semester hours at any Texas public, private, or independent institution of higher education. National Guard service members may be enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis, but may not receive the benefit for more than ten semesters or five academic years. For undergraduate, vocational, and technical courses at public institutions, service members are eligible to receive reimbursement for the actual tuition as long as the tuition does not exceed the in-state rate. For graduate courses at public institutions, TA is equal to the average of the amount of reimbursement per semester hour as determined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. For private or independent institutions, the amount of the benefit is equal to the average amount of reimbursement per semester for public institutions as determined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. To be eligible for the benefit, service members must be active in the Texas National Guard, be an enlisted service member, be of rank WO1 through CW3, or 2LT through CPT, have completed basic training, and have an expiration of Term of Service date that is beyond the end date of the semester. The Texas State Tuition Reimbursement Program is codified under [§54.2155, Texas Statutes](#) and [Texas National Guard Regulation \(AGTX\) 621-5, "Texas National Guard TA Program," 14 June 2009](#).

Utah

The Utah National Guard TA Program provides 100 percent of tuition and fees to members of the Utah National Guard for study at postsecondary institutions of learning. The amount of the benefits may not to exceed the resident tuition for the actual course. To be eligible for the benefit, individuals must be an active member of the Utah National Guard at the time he or she receives assistance. The Utah National Guard TA Program is codified under [§39-1-63, Utah Code](#).

The Utah Purple Heart Recipients' Tuition Act waives undergraduate tuition at state institutions for higher education for Purple Heart recipients who are full-time or part-time students and are residents of the state enrolled in a program of study leading to a degree or certificate. The program also waives graduate tuition for recipients of the medal, but for graduate courses, application for the tuition waiver must be made within ten years of receiving the medal, the total amount of graduate tuition waived may not exceed \$10,000, and the recipient may not receive a tuition waiver for more than five years. The Utah Purple Heart Recipients' Tuition Act is codified under [§53B-8e-101, Utah Code](#), [§53B-8e-102, Utah Code](#), and [§53B-8e-103, Utah Code](#).

Vermont

Active members of the Vermont National Guard may be eligible for interest-free loans to pay for tuition and fees for courses taken at a Vermont college, university, or regional technical center. The interest-free loans may be partially or completely cancelled and forgiven for individuals who complete the course and complete two years of National Guard service for each full academic year awarded. To be eligible for the program, individuals must be active members in good standing of the Vermont National Guard, have successfully completed basic training or commissioning, not hold a baccalaureate degree or higher, and be enrolled in a program that leads to a postsecondary degree, diploma, or be studying for relevant continuing education purposes. The interest-free loan program for members of the Vermont National Guard is codified under [§2856, Chapter 87, Title 16, Vermont Code](#).

Virgin Islands

The National Guard Tuition Exemption Program provides members of the National Guard of the Virgin Islands free tuition to the University of the Virgin Islands for a period not to exceed thirty-two semester hours. To be eligible for the program, service members must complete one year of service in the National Guard, must be in good standing with the National Guard, and must meet the qualifications and admission standards of the University of the Virgin Islands. Service members receiving TA from the federal government as a result of their service in the armed forces of the United States are not eligible for this tuition exemption program. The National Guard tuition exemption program of the Virgin Islands is codified under [§473, Chapter 33, Title 17, Virgin Islands Code](#).

Virginia

The Virginia National Guard State TA Program (VaNGSTAP) funds 100 percent of tuition costs remaining after federal TA (FTA) benefits are applied at any Department of Veterans Affairs state-supported school. The VaNGSTAP can be used to achieve one degree program at each level of study, to include associate degree, bachelor degree, and post-graduate degrees. The program can be used for any accredited state university of higher education in Virginia, any private accredited or nonprofit institution of higher education in Virginia, or courses/programs offered by public vocation or technical schools approved by the state. To be eligible for the program, service members must have completed initial basic training requirements, must have a remaining service or contractual obligation of two years to the Virginia National Guard after completion of the academic period in which TA is received, must be in good standing with the National Guard throughout the period of the grant, and must have attended or been properly excused from all unit training assemblies within the last six months. National Guard service members serving AGR Title 10 Tours are not eligible for state TA grants. The policies and guidance procedures of the program are codified in [Virginia Army National Guard \(VaARNG\) Regulation 621-1/Virginia Air National Guard \(VaANG\) Regulation 213-1, "Virginia National Guard State TA Program \(VaNGSTAP\)," 1 July 08](#).

Washington

The Washington State National Guard Conditional Scholarship Program provides loans that are forgiven in whole or in part to recipients who render service as a member of the Washington National Guard. The amount of the loans may vary, but may not exceed the annual cost of undergraduate tuition fees and services and activities fees at the University of Washington, plus an additional allowance for books and supplies. Participants in the Conditional Scholarship Program are required to repay the loans, with interest, unless they serve in the Washington National Guard for one additional year for each year of conditional scholarship received. To be eligible for the program, individuals must be enlisted members or officers of the rank of Captain or below in the Washington National Guard in good standing, attend an institution of higher education that is located in the state that is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, and be enrolled in courses or programs that lead to a baccalaureate degree, an associate degree, or a certificate. The Washington State National Guard Conditional Scholarship Program is codified under [§28B.103.010, Revised Code of Washington](#), [§28B.103.020, Revised Code of Washington](#), and [§28B.103.030, Revised Code of Washington](#).

West Virginia

Members of the National Guard who are enrolled in a course of undergraduate study at any accredited college, university, business or trade school located in West Virginia or any aviation school located in West Virginia for the purpose of taking college-credit courses, may be entitled to payment of tuition and fees at that school during the period of his or her service in the National Guard. The amount of payment for members attending state-supported schools may not exceed the actual amount of tuition and fees charged at the school. For members attending private schools, the amount of the payment may not exceed the highest amounts payable at any state-supported school. The West Virginia National Guard TA program is codified under [§15-1B-21, West Virginia Code](#).

Wisconsin

The Wisconsin National Guard Tuition Grant Program provides eligible service members TA for up to 120 credits of part-time study or eight semesters of full-time college education. Eligible National Guard members may apply for a tuition grant equal to the lesser of 100 percent of the actual tuition charged by the school or 100 percent of the maximum resident undergraduate tuition charged by the University of Wisconsin-Madison for a comparable number of credits. To be eligible for the benefit, individuals must not be an officer, not possess a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent, be in good standing with the National Guard, not be delinquent in child support payments, and maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 for the semester for which a tuition grant is provided. The Wisconsin National Guard Tuition Grant Program is codified under [§321.40, Wisconsin Statutes](#).

Wyoming

The Wyoming National Guard Educational Assistance Plan provides assistance for qualified members of the Wyoming National Guard who enroll in institutions of higher education in the state. For authorized courses at Wyoming public institutions of higher education, payment may be made for up to the full cost of tuition and mandatory fees. For authorized courses at Wyoming private institutions of higher education, payment may be made for the lesser of the actual costs of tuition and mandatory fees or an amount equal to the average resident tuition and mandatory fee charges of all Wyoming public institutions of higher education for an undergraduate student enrolled for twelve semester hours. To be eligible for the plan, individuals must have completed basic military training or officer training unless waived by the adjutant general for good cause shown, meet the standards for satisfactory participation in the active Wyoming National Guard at the beginning of and throughout the entire academic term for which assistance is received, be committed through an enlistment contract or other written agreement to membership in the active Wyoming National Guard for not less than six years including initial enlistment and any previous contract or contracts, and agree in writing to serve in the active Wyoming National Guard for two years after the last day of the last academic term for which assistance is received under the plan. The Wyoming National Guard Educational Assistance Plan is codified under [§19-9-501 through §19-9-504, Wyoming State Statutes](#).

1.3 In-state Tuition Rates for Members of the Armed Forces

For periods of enrollment that begin after July 1, 2009, Reserve Component service members on active duty for a period of more than thirty days are eligible to receive in-state tuition at public colleges and universities in the state where they reside or are permanently stationed. Once a service member is enrolled and paying in-state tuition, he or she will continue to pay the in-state tuition rate as long as he or she remains continuously enrolled at the institution, even if the service member is reassigned outside the state. This requirement applies to all public institutions that receive funds under a program authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965. This change in federal law was codified under [§114, Public Law 110-315, 14 August 2008](#).

2.0 Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Education Programs for Service Members

The VA administers several education assistance programs as codified in Title 10 and Title 38, United States Code. Each of the programs is found in different chapters of the law and is often referred to by the chapter number in addition to the name of the program. VA education programs offer a specified number of "months" of benefits, typically thirty-six months. A full-time institutional payment rate is set annually for each program, and each time an eligible individual collects that amount of money he or she is said to have used one month of benefits. Therefore, if a student were to attend a program on a half-time basis, it would take twice as long to exhaust the benefit. VA education benefits can only be used for one type of training at a time and only one benefit can be collected at a time. Service members can be eligible for more than one VA education benefit, but cannot receive benefits from more than one program at a time.

2.1 Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty

Codified under [Chapter 30, 38 USC](#), the Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty (MGIB–AD) provides education assistance to eligible service members who have served a qualifying period of active duty service on or after 01 July 1985. Eligible service members receive thirty-six months of financial benefit that can be used to pay for college courses, technical or vocational courses, correspondence courses, apprenticeship/job training, flight training, high-tech training, licensing and certification tests, entrepreneurship training, or certain entrance examinations.

To be eligible for the benefit, Reserve Component service members must serve at least two continuous years on active duty, receive an honorable discharge, and contribute \$1,200 to the program. For active duty service members (to include Active Guard Reserve (AGR) service members), the contribution to the program can either be through a monthly allotment or through a lump-sum payment while on active duty. Reserve Component service members who were on active duty as a result of a mobilization may serve less than two years of continuous active duty if they serve twenty months of a 730-day mobilization order and are released due to the “convenience of the government.”

Service members are eligible to use the Chapter 30 benefit while on active duty and for ten years from their date of discharge. If a service member previously established eligibility for MGIB benefits and re-enters active service for at least ninety continuous days, he or she may receive a new ten-year eligibility window from the date of his or her latest honorable active duty discharge in which to use the remaining entitlement.

As part of the "Plus-Up" Program, service members who are on active duty may contribute up to an additional \$600 to increase their monthly benefit payments. For every additional twenty dollars contributed to the VA, the monthly benefit for the MGIB–AD increases five dollars. The full \$600 contribution increases a service member’s monthly payment rate for the benefit by \$150. More information and current payment rates for the MGIB-AD benefit can be found on the [VA education benefits website](#).

2.2 Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve

Codified under [Chapter 1606, 10 USC](#), the Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) provides education assistance to individuals serving in the Selected Reserve. Eligible service members receive thirty-six months of financial benefit for degree programs, certificate or correspondence courses, cooperative training, independent study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-job training, vocational flight training programs, and remedial, refresher, and deficiency training under certain circumstances.

Specific eligibility requirements for the MGIB-SR are determined by the individual branches of the Service Reserve. Generally, service members must have received a high school diploma or a GED, completed Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT), and agree to serve for six years in an active drilling status in the Selected Reserve. If a service member has elected to have his or her total service in the Selected Reserve credited toward establishing eligibility under the MGIB-AD through the 2 x 4 program¹, he or she is not eligible for the MGIB-SR. However, if the service member agrees to an additional six-year obligation in the Selected Reserve, he or she may be eligible to receive either the MGIB-AD or the MGIB-SR benefit.

If service members' eligibility for the MGIB-SR began on or after 01 October 92, the period in which the benefit may be used ends fourteen years from the beginning date of eligibility or on the day the service member leaves the Selected Reserve. If service members' eligibility for the MGIB-SR began prior to 01 October 92, the period in which the benefit may be used ends ten years from the beginning date of eligibility or on the day the service member leaves the Selected Reserve. The fourteen or ten-year eligibility period begins when the last of the three general eligibility criteria are met, typically the day following completion of IADT.

Selected Reserve service members who are federally mobilized for one day or more receive an extension to their period of eligibility for the MGIB-SR benefit equal to the length of time mobilized plus four months. More information and current payment rates for the MGIB-SR benefit can be found on the [VA education benefits website](#).

2.3 Reserve Education Assistance Program

Codified under [Chapter 1607, 10 USC](#), the Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP) provides education assistance to members of the Ready Reserve (which includes the Selected Reserve, Inactive National Guard, and Individual Ready Reserve) who were called or ordered to active duty in response to a contingency operation² as declared by the

¹ The 2 x 4 Program allows a service member to become eligible for the MGIB-AD with two continuous years of active duty and a four-year Selected Reserve obligation. The individual must enter the Selected Reserve within one year of release from active duty.

² Under Ch 1607, 10 USC, contingency operations are defined as "military operations that are designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which members of the armed forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against

president or the congress. The REAP provides thirty-six months of financial benefit that can be used for all education programs eligible under the MGIB-AD benefit, with the exception of national examination/testing reimbursement. A REAP participant may use up to forty-eight months of education benefits through a combination with one or more other VA education programs (e.g., twenty-five months of REAP and twenty-three months of MGIB-SR).

Specific eligibility requirements for the REAP are determined by each branch of Service. Generally, members of the Ready Reserve called to active duty in a qualifying contingency operation for ninety days or more after 01 September 01 are eligible for the benefit. The REAP benefit differs from the MGIB-AD benefit as Reserve Component service members are not required to pay into the program and only need to be called to active duty for ninety continuous days beginning on or after 11 September 01. Service members may begin using Chapter 1607 benefits upon reaching the ninety-day period and may continue to use the benefit while in a drilling status for ten years from the date of separation from the Selected Reserve, as long as they have completed a service contract or have exhausted the thirty-six months of entitlement.

The monthly payment rates for the REAP are a percentage of the MGIB-AD three-year, full-time institutional rate, based on the length of time spent in continuous active service. For service members in active duty for ninety days up to one year, the REAP benefit pays forty percent of the MGIB-AD monthly benefit; for periods of continuous active duty service of one year up to two years, the REAP benefit pays sixty percent of the monthly MGIB-AD benefit; and for more than two years of continuous active duty service, the REAP pays eighty percent of the monthly MGIB-AD benefit. More information and current payment rates for the REAP benefit can be found on the [VA education benefits website](#).

2.4 Post-9/11 GI Bill

Codified under Chapter 33, 38 USC, the Post-9/11 GI Bill is a new VA education benefit program for individuals who served qualifying periods of Title 10 active duty on or after 11 September 2001. Benefits under this program can only be paid after 1 August 2009 and can only apply to education or training pursued after that date. Approved training under the Post-9/11 GI Bill includes courses leading to graduate and undergraduate degrees. All training programs must be offered by a degree-granting institution of higher learning and approved for GI Bill benefits.

Service members are eligible for the benefit if they have served at least ninety aggregate days on Title 10 active duty after 11 September 2001 and are either still serving on Title 10 active duty or were honorably discharged. Eligibility for the benefit is retained for fifteen years from the last period of Title 10 active duty of at least ninety consecutive days. Under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, service members may receive up to thirty-six months

opposing military force; or results in the call or order to, or retention on active duty of members of the uniformed services...."

of benefit but can collect up to forty-eight months of benefits through two or more VA education and training programs.

Each of the seven payment levels for the benefit are a percentage of the maximum benefit and vary depending on the amount of aggregate time spent in Title 10 active duty after 11 September 2001. Individuals serving at least thirty-six months in Title 10 active duty are entitled to the maximum benefit; those serving at least thirty months but less than thirty-six months are entitled to ninety percent of the maximum benefit; those serving at least twenty-four months but less than thirty months are entitled to eighty percent of the maximum benefit; those serving at least eighteen months but less than twenty-four months are entitled to seventy percent of the maximum benefit; those serving at least twelve months but less than eighteen months are entitled to sixty percent of the maximum benefit; those serving at least six months but less than twelve months are entitled to fifty percent of the maximum benefit; and those serving at least ninety days but less than six months are entitled to receive forty percent of the maximum benefit.

The benefits available to eligible service members vary depending on each individual service member's situation. Benefits could include payment of tuition and fees, a monthly housing allowance, a stipend for books and supplies, college fund ("kicker") payments, a rural benefit payment, and a Yellow Ribbon benefit. Benefits received through the Post-9/11 GI Bill differ from other education assistance programs in that each type of payment is issued separately, with some payments made directly to the school and others issued to the individual. Based on length of service, service members may receive a portion of the maximum benefit for the following:

- **Tuition and fees** – Tuition and fees payments are issued to the school on behalf of the individual at the time the certificate of enrollment is processed. For individuals not on active duty, the amount is pro-rated according to length of service. The amount paid is limited to the highest amount of tuition and fees charged for full-time, undergraduate training at a public institution of higher learning in the state where the student is enrolled.
- **Monthly housing allowance** – This payment is issued directly to the student at the beginning of each month for education and training pursued the previous month. Service members on active duty, students enrolled exclusively in online training, and students enrolled on a half-time or less basis are not eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill monthly housing allowance. The monthly housing allowance is equal to the basic allowance for housing payable to a service member in rank E-5 with dependents for the zip code in which the school is located.
- **Books and supplies stipend** – The books and supplies stipend is issued directly to the student when the school certifies the enrollment and the VA processes it. Active duty personnel are not eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill books and supplies stipend.

- **Yellow Ribbon payments** – The Yellow Ribbon Program allows degree-granting institutions to enter into a voluntary agreement with the VA to fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate for individuals eligible for the 100 percent payment tier. Institutions can contribute up to fifty percent of those expenses and the VA will match the same amount. This payment is issued to the school when the school certifies the student’s enrollment and the VA processes it.
- **College fund or “kicker”** – College fund payments are issued directly to the student based on whether the student is enrolled on a full or part-time basis and based on the education benefits program under which the kicker is payable. Post-9/11 GI Bill kickers are issued monthly along with the housing allowance; all other kickers are issued in a lump sum when the student’s enrollment certification is processed.
- **Rural benefit payments** – Rural benefit payments are one-time, lump-sum payments issued directly to a student who resides in a county with six persons or fewer per square mile (as determined by the most recent decennial census), and who either physically relocates at least 500 miles to attend an educational institution or relocates by air (any distance) to physically attend an educational institution, if no other land-based transportation exists.

Service members eligible for the Chapter 33 program who are also eligible for a previous GI Bill program (such as Chapter 1606, 1607, or 30) must make an irrevocable election in order to use benefits under the new Chapter 33 program. By making this election, the service member is choosing to no longer be eligible for the previous program. But, if after making an irrevocable election, a service member decides to pursue a VA-approved course or program that is not offered by an institute of higher learning, he or she may apply for benefits under the previous program and will be allowed to collect benefits as prescribed by the rules governing the previous program.

Unlike other VA education benefits, the Post-9/11 GI Bill allows eligible service members to transfer the benefit entitlement to dependents. To be eligible to transfer the benefit, service members must have unused entitlement remaining, currently be serving in the military (either on active duty, Reserves, or in the National Guard), have served at least six years in the military, and commit to serve an additional four years in the military. More information and current payment rates for the Post-9/11 GI Bill can be found on the [VA education benefits website](#).

2.5 Veterans Educational Assistance Program

Codified under [Chapter 32, 38 USC](#), the Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) is the post-Vietnam era educational assistance program. The VEAP provides education benefits to service members who first entered active duty between 1 January 1977 and 30 June 1985. Similar to the MGIB-AD, eligible service members must have elected to make contributions from their military pay to participate in the program.

Under the VEAP, service member contributions are matched by the government at a rate of \$2 for every \$1 contributed. The eligibility period for using the VEAP benefits extends ten years from the date of discharge from active duty. More information and payment rates for the VEAP can be found on the [VA education benefits website](#).

3.0 Education Loan Repayment Program for Members of the Selected Reserve

The Secretary of Defense may repay certain education loans for any person in exchange for service performed as a member of the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve of an armed force. Service performed cannot be retroactively applied to education loans; loans may only be repaid with service performed after the loan was made. The portion or amount of a loan that may be repaid is the larger of fifteen percent of the balance of the loan or \$500 for each year of service, plus the amount of any interest that may accrue during the current year. The Secretary of Homeland Security may repay loans in a similar manner for members of the Selected Reserve of the Coast Guard Reserve when the Coast Guard is not operating as a service of the Navy. The federal loan repayment program for members of the Selected Reserve is codified under [10 USC §16301](#).

4.0 Examination Programs

Reserve Component service members are eligible to take a variety of tests offered at commercial test sites, national test centers, colleges and universities, and the Education Services Offices in each state. Tests range from certification exams and credit-by-examination to language aptitude and military classification tests.

4.1 Credit by Examination

Reserve Component service members, their spouses, and civilian employees may benefit from free testing opportunities sponsored by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) by allowing eligible personnel to complete examinations to receive college credit and/or promotion points. Eligible personnel may register and complete the examinations at DANTES Test Centers or national test centers located at many colleges and universities throughout the country. More information on the nearest test center can be found through the [military education centers](#).

- **College Level Examination Program (CLEP)** – CLEP subject examinations measure knowledge of basic concepts, principles, relationships, and applications involved in various subject areas. Funding for CLEP examinations may be provided up-front, but advance registration fees are not funded.
- **eCLEP** – eCLEP examinations are computer-based CLEP exams administered at more than 1,300 colleges and universities. Funding for eCLEP examinations may be provided up-front, but advance registration fees are not funded.
- **DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST)** – DSST is an extensive series of examinations in college-level and technical subjects comparable to the final or end-of-course exam in specific undergraduate courses. Service members, civilians, and family members may use DSST to earn college credit while in high school or college, to enter college with earned credits, to save time and money toward college degrees, and to bypass introductory classes in subject areas with which the service member, civilian, or family member is already familiar.
- **Excelsior College Examinations (ECE)** – ECE examinations are delivered at military test centers and meet specific degree requirements of Excelsior College degrees.
- **General Education Development (GED)** – The General Education Development Exam (GED) was developed for adults who have not completed a formal high school education.
- **College entrance examinations** – Eligible service members may also take required examinations for entrance into institutions of higher learning through the DANTES or national test centers. These examinations include the American College Testing Program (ACT), Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT), Graduate

Record Examination (GRE), Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), and the Law School Admission Test (LSAT).

4.2 DANTES Certification Examinations

Reserve Component service members may be reimbursed for certification examinations offered in their respective Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) through DANTES. DANTES maintains agreements with nationally-recognized certification and licensure associations allowing DANTES test sites to administer the majority of their certification and licensure exams. More information on the DANTES certification examinations can be found on the [DANTES website](#).

5.0 Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges

Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) is a consortium of more than 1,800 institutions of higher education, fifteen national higher education associations, the Department of Defense, and the military services (to include the National Guard and the Coast Guard). SOC is dedicated to supporting, expanding, and improving the voluntary postsecondary education needs of service members worldwide. To be a member of the consortium, educational institutions must be accredited, degree-granting institutions and must agree to the reasonable transfer of course credit between institutions, to recognize credit for military training and experience, to accept credit for nationally-recognized testing programs (such as CLEP, DSST, ECE, etc.), and must agree to limit academic residency requirements.

Within the SOC consortium, separate sub-groupings of member institutions have been selected by the Services to deliver specific associate and bachelor degree programs to their service members and their families. Included in these sub-groupings are specific networks of institutions for associate and bachelor degrees for the Army ([SOCAD](#)), the Marine Corps ([SOCMAR](#)), the Navy ([SOCNAV](#)), the Coast Guard ([SOCCOAST](#)), and the National Guard ([SOCGuard](#)).

6.0 Education Center Services

Each of the Reserve Components provides additional services through Education Centers. Education Centers serve as a one-stop location for service members, their dependents, and civilian employees to receive assistance on accessing education benefits.

Additionally, the Education Centers can provide Reserve Component service members with education counseling, degree planning, and assessments of military experience. Contact information for Education Centers across the active and Reserve Components can be found on the [DANTES Directory of Education Centers website](#).

- **Education counseling and degree planning** – Education Center counselors can provide guidance in career and academic environments to help Reserve Component service members and their family members make informed choices concerning their education. Education Center counselors balance the student's needs and earned college credits against the requirements of each college or university. Education Center counselors work with students to build a personalized college degree plan by consolidating earned credit from military training, college level testing (CLEP, DSST, ECE, etc.), independent study courses, traditional college courses, and corporate training.
- **Assessment of military experience and training** – Reserve Component service members can earn college credit for training and military experience earned as a result of their service. Education Center counselors help consolidate a service member's earned credit into a comprehensive education assessment.

7.0 Education Opportunities for Family Members

7.1 In-state Tuition for Family Members

For periods of enrollment that begin after 1 July 2009, spouses and dependent children of Reserve Component service members on active duty for a period of more than thirty days are eligible to receive in-state tuition at public colleges and universities in the state where they reside or are permanently stationed. Once family members are enrolled and paying in-state tuition, they will continue to pay the in-state tuition rate as long as they remain continuously enrolled at the institution, even if the service member is reassigned outside the state. This requirement applies to all public institutions that receive funds under a program authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965. This change in federal law was codified under [§114, Public Law 110-315, 14 August 2008](#).

7.2 Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program

Codified under [Chapter 35, 38 USC](#), the VA's Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA) provides education and training benefits for spouses and children of service members who have been permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability, have died as a result of a service-connected disability, have been declared missing in action, or have been declared a prisoner of war. Children are generally eligible to receive benefits from age eighteen to twenty-six, but may receive benefits outside this age range in certain situations. Generally for spouses, the period of eligibility extends ten years after the date of disability or death, ten years from the date the VA notifies the veteran of a permanent and total disability, or ten years from the ninety-first day after the service member was listed as captive or missing. Children and spouses may be entitled to up to forty-five months of DEA education benefits and may receive up to forty-eight months of combined education benefits if the child or spouse is eligible for more than one VA program. [Eligibility requirements](#) and [payment amounts](#) for the DEA can be found on the VA website.

7.3 Education Assistance for Members Held as Captives and Their Dependents

Codified under [Chapter 110, 10 USC](#), the military may provide dependents of service members held in captive status (either through advancement or reimbursement) financial assistance for subsistence, tuition, fees, supplies, books, equipment, and other education expenses. Dependents may receive the benefit for up to forty-five months or the equivalent in other than full-time education or training, but may not receive the benefits under Chapter 110, USC if they are eligible for the DEA benefit.

7.4 State Casualty-Related Education Benefits for Family Members

The individual states have policies that provide education assistance to dependent spouses and children of service members who were killed in action, missing in action,

prisoners of war, or who were totally and permanently disabled as a result of service. The specific policies vary from state to state, with some states allowing recipients of the benefits to use the state benefits in conjunction with federal survivors' education benefits, and other states requiring that recipients of the state benefits not receive federal education assistance. More information on individual state programs can be found through the [State Education Services Office](#).

Alabama

Children of service members (to include Reserve Component service members) who are killed in the line of duty, are listed as missing in action, were prisoners of war, whose death or permanent total disabilities were service-connected while serving as a member of the armed forces, or who have been assigned 100 percent permanent or total disability by the VA may attend any Alabama state institution of higher learning, college, or university for a period of four standard academic years without paying any tuition, fees, or books. The benefit may not exceed thirty-six months or the equivalent of thirty-six months if enrolled part-time. To be eligible to receive the benefit, education or training must be initiated prior to the child's thirtieth birthday and must be completed within eight years after its initiation, except for delays caused by military service. The state of Alabama education benefits for children of deceased or disabled veterans or prisoners of war are codified under [§31-6-4, Code of Alabama 1975](#).

Spouses or widows of service members who, during their marriage, were killed or died in the line of duty, were listed as missing in action, were prisoners of war, died from a disability incurred from military service, or are 100 percent permanently and totally disabled from service-connected disabilities, may attend any Alabama state institution of higher learning, college, or university for a period of four standard academic years without paying any tuition, fees, or books. The benefit may not exceed thirty-six months or the equivalent of thirty-six months if enrolled part-time. All training or education completed under this program must be completed within eight years of the beginning date of the four-year course of study. Widows of deceased service members who remarried prior to applying for and obtaining education benefits are not eligible for the benefit. Widows who remarry during time in attendance at any of the schools, colleges, or universities are required to pay tuition and fees for the course of study from the time of the remarriage. The state of Alabama education benefits for spouses or widows of deceased or disabled veterans or prisoners of war are codified under [§31-6-5, Code of Alabama 1975](#).

Spouses and children of any veteran who is suffering from twenty to ninety percent service-connected disability, or widows and children of deceased veterans who were suffering from twenty percent or more service-connected disability at the time of death, are entitled to receive education advantages and opportunities from the state of Alabama. Spouses or widows may receive up to eighteen months of schooling (or the equivalent of eighteen months if enrolled part-time) in any Alabama state-supported institution of higher learning, college, or university, or to a prescribed course in any Alabama state-supported trade school without the payment of any tuition, fees, or books. All training or

education received at state institutions of higher learning or state trade schools must be completed within a period of six years after the beginning date of such two-year course or such prescribed course. Children of such disabled veterans are entitled to four standard academic years (or the equivalent of thirty-six months if enrolled part-time) in any Alabama state-supported institution of higher learning, college, or university, or to a prescribed course at an Alabama state-supported trade school without payment of any tuition, fees, or books. Training or education must be initiated prior to the child's twenty-sixth birthday and must be completed within eight years after its initiation, except for delays caused by military service. The state of Alabama education benefits for spouses or widows and children of partially disabled veterans are codified under [§31-6-6, Code of Alabama 1975](#).

Alaska

Spouses and dependent children of service members who died in the line of duty, died as a result of injuries sustained while in the line of duty for the state or federal government, or who were listed by the DoD as a prisoner of war or as missing in action may be entitled to a waiver of undergraduate tuition and fees. To be eligible for the waiver, the spouse or children must be students in good standing at a state-supported educational institution in the state of Alaska. Additionally, the service member must have been a bona fide resident of the state of Alaska, and may have been a member of the Alaska National Guard, the Alaska Naval Militia, or the armed services of the United States. The tuition waiver for spouses or children of service members is codified under [§14.43.085, The Alaska Statutes 2009](#).

Arizona

Spouses and children of service members who were residents of the state of Arizona and were killed in the line of duty or died from injuries suffered in the line of duty while traveling to or from duty are entitled to a tuition waiver scholarship at state-supported universities. Tuition waiver scholarships are limited to children who are thirty years of age or younger and to spouses who have not remarried. The benefit is limited to provide no more than sixty-four credit hours at Arizona community colleges or the total number of credits required for a baccalaureate degree at Arizona universities. The Tuition Waiver Scholarship for spouses and children is codified under [§15-1808, The Arizona Revised Statutes](#).

Arkansas

Dependent children of a disabled veteran (100 percent total and permanent disability), a prisoner of war, a person declared to be missing in action or killed in action, or a person killed on ordnance delivery are entitled to receive state assistance for tuition, fees, or other charges to obtain a bachelor degree at any state-supported institution of higher education in the state of Arkansas. Each applicant to the state program must first apply for assistance through the VA's Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA) (Chapter 35). State assistance is limited to tuition, fees, or other charges

that exceed the amount of monetary benefit provided by the DEA. In cases where the child is not eligible for monetary benefits from the DEA but is eligible for the benefits under the state program, the child is allowed to obtain a bachelor degree free of tuition, fees, or other charges from the state-supported institution of higher education. Eligible recipients receive a scholarship for one academic year, renewable for up to three additional years if the recipient meets continuing eligibility requirements. The Arkansas scholarship for children of disabled veterans, prisoners of war, veterans missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance duty is codified under [§6-82-601, Arkansas Code of 1987](#).

California

The California Department of Military and Veterans Affairs may provide for the payment of tuition and other fees, as well as for the monthly payment of an allowance for books, supplies, and living expenses for eligible dependents of a service member who was killed in action during any period of hostility in which the United States is engaged, who died or was totally disabled at any time as a result of active service, was declared missing in action, or was a prisoner of war. Dependents applying for the benefit must be over the age of fourteen, have entered the ninth grade, and must be native to the state or have lived in the state for five of the nine years preceding the date that the application is filed. Any dependent who has attained eligibility for the benefit while under twenty-one years of age may continue to receive the benefit until the training is completed or until he or she reaches the age of twenty-seven. Spouses or dependent widows are not restricted by the age limitations on the benefit, but are limited to not more than forty-eight months of full-time training or the equivalent in part-time training. Eligible dependents for the California state benefit may not receive the DEA (Chapter 35) federal education benefits or duplicate assistance from any other government source. The California education assistance benefit for dependents of disabled, killed in action, missing in action, or prisoner of war veterans is codified under [§890 through 899, Military and Veterans Code, California Code](#).

Colorado

Upon being accepted for enrollment into any institution, dependent children and spouses of prisoners of war or of persons missing in action are permitted to pursue studies leading toward a bachelor degree or a certificate of completion tuition-free, for so long as said dependent achieves and maintains standards set by the institution for its students. Benefits received generally may not be extended for more than twelve academic quarters or eight academic semesters. Dependents pursuing education at institutions that are not state institutions are eligible to receive assistance not to exceed the average cost of undergraduate instruction at a comparable state institution for the previous year. Benefits provided by the state of Colorado are only allowed to those qualified dependents that are not eligible for education benefits provided by the federal government. The Colorado education assistance benefit for dependent children and spouses of prisoners of war or persons missing in action is codified under [§23-3.3-204, Code of Colorado Regulations](#).

Dependent children and spouses of service members who died or were permanently disabled while on state active duty, federalized active duty, or authorized training duty as a Colorado National Guard service member, upon being accepted for enrollment into any state institution, are permitted to pursue studies leading toward his or her first bachelor degree or certificate of completion, free of tuition and room and board charges. Recipients are required to achieve and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above based upon a 4.0 scale. Benefits may not be received for more than six years from the date of enrollment. Dependents pursuing studies at a nonpublic institution of higher education within the state of Colorado are eligible for assistance not to exceed the average cost of undergraduate instruction at a comparable state institution for the previous year, and the average cost of room and board for full-time equivalent students at all state institutions for the previous year. Dependents pursuing studies at an out-of-state institution of higher education are eligible for assistance not to exceed the average cost of undergraduate instruction at a comparable state institution for the previous year. Benefits provided by the state of Colorado are only allowed to those qualified dependents that are not eligible for education benefits provided by the federal government. The Colorado education assistance benefit for dependent children and spouses of service members who died or were permanently disabled during service is codified under [§23-3.3-205, Code of Colorado Regulations](#).

Connecticut

Children between the ages sixteen and twenty-three of any person who served in the armed forces in time of war and who was killed in action, died as a result of accident or illness sustained while performing active military duty, has been rated totally and permanently disabled by the VA, or who is missing in action in Vietnam, are eligible to receive state aid for tuition, matriculation fees, board, room rent, books, and supplies for an educational or training institution of college grade, or any other institution of higher learning or commercial training, a state college, a vocational school, or a technical institute. Recipients of the benefit must be residents of the state. Aid received is based on need and may not exceed \$400 dollars per year. The Connecticut grant for children of service members is codified under [§10a-166, Connecticut Code](#).

The board of trustees of community-technical colleges, the Connecticut State University System, and the University of Connecticut will waive the payment of tuition fees for any dependent child of a person whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in such armed forces after 1 January 1960. The child must be accepted for admission to such institution and is required to be a resident of Connecticut at the time of acceptance. The waiver of tuition for dependent children of missing in action and prisoner of war service members is codified under [§10a-77\(d\)\(1\), Connecticut Code](#) for community-technical colleges, [§10a-99\(d\)\(1\), Connecticut Code](#) for the Connecticut State University System, and [§10a-105\(e\), Connecticut Code](#) for the University of Connecticut.

Delaware

Children of service members who have been killed while on active duty; died as a result of disease, wounds, injuries, or disabilities arising or resulting from performance of duty; held as prisoners of war; or officially declared to be missing in action may be provided education assistance. To be eligible, children must be between sixteen and twenty-four years of age at the time of application for the benefit, have been a resident of the state for at least three years prior to applying, and be admitted for attendance at an educational institution beyond the high school level in a program not to exceed four years in duration. Eligible beneficiaries may utilize the benefit at an institution financially supported by the state, at a private institution in the state if the desired major or training is not available at a state public institution, or at a public or private institution in another state if there is no institution in Delaware offering such major or training. The benefit for children of service members at public institutions in the state of Delaware may not exceed the amount of tuition and fees per academic year. For students attending private schools in the state or institutions in other states, the amount of the benefit is equal to the average tuition and fees of the Delaware public institutions which offer the major or the average of tuition and fees of the Delaware private institutions which offer the major if not offered at a Delaware public institution. The Delaware benefit for children of service members is codified under [§3451 through §3455, Delaware Code](#).

Florida

Children of service members who died as a result of service-connected injuries, disease, or disability sustained while on active duty; have been determined by the VA to have a service-connected 100 percent total and permanent disability rating; or determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and are in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the military are eligible to received educational opportunities at state expense. To be eligible for the benefit, the parents of such children must have been residents of the state for one year immediately preceding the death or occurrence of such disability. Students must remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to pay for tuition, registration fees, board, room rent, books, and/or supplies. Children receiving the benefit must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two and in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The educational opportunity for children of deceased or total and completely disabled service members is codified under [§295.01, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

Dependent children either of whose parents has been classified as a prisoner of war or missing in action in the service of the military are eligible to receive education assistance from the state of Florida. To be eligible, the parents of such children must have been residents of the state for one year preceding the event that led to the parent's classification as a prisoner of war or missing in action by the United States government. Students must

remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to pay for tuition, registration fees, board, room rent, books, and/or supplies. Children receiving the benefit must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two and in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The educational opportunity for dependent children of service members declared prisoners of war or missing in action is codified under [§295.015, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

The state of Florida provides education assistance at state expense to dependent children of any service member who died or suffered a service-connected 100 percent total and permanent disability rating for compensation as determined by the VA, or who has been determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the military, was in the Iranian rescue mission known as Operation Eagle Claw, and was residing in the state of Florida on April 25, 1980. Students must remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to pay for tuition, registration fees, board, room rent, books, and/or supplies. Children receiving the benefit must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two and in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The educational opportunity for dependent children of service members who died or were disabled in Operation Eagle Claw is codified under [§295.016, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

The state of Florida provides education assistance at state expense to dependent children of any service member who died or suffered a service-connected 100 percent total and permanent disability rating for compensation as determined by the VA, or who has been determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the military, participated in a Multinational Peace Keeping Force in Lebanon during the period from 17 September 1982 through 3 February 1984, inclusive, or participated in Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada during the period from 23 October 1983 through 2 November 1983, inclusive, and was residing in the state during those periods of military action. Students must remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to pay for tuition, registration fees, board, room rent, books, and/or supplies. Children receiving the benefit must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two and in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The educational opportunity for dependent children of service members who died or were disabled in the Lebanon and Grenada military arenas is codified under [§295.017, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

The state of Florida provides education assistance at state expense to dependent children of those service members killed in the crash of a military transport airplane in Gander, Newfoundland on 12 December 1985 while returning from Mideast peacekeeping duties in the Sinai Desert. Service members must have entered the military service from the state of Florida. Students must remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to pay for tuition, registration fees, board, room rent, books, and/or supplies. Children receiving the benefit must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two and in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The educational opportunity for dependent children of service members who died in the Newfoundland air tragedy is codified under [§295.018, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

The state of Florida provides education assistance at state expense to dependent children of those military personnel who die or suffer a service-connected 100 percent total and permanent disability rating for compensation as determined by the VA, or who are determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and are in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the military, while participating in Operation Enduring Freedom, which began on 7 October 2001, or while participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom, which began on 19 March 2003, if such military personnel have been residents of the state during the period of military action. Students must remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to for pay tuition, registration fees, board, room rent, books, and/or supplies. Children receiving the benefit must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two and in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The educational opportunity for dependent children of service members who die or become disabled in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom is codified under [§295.0185, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

The state of Florida provides education assistance at state expense to dependent children of service members killed in the Iraqi missile attack on the USS Stark in the Persian Gulf on 17 May 1987 and who claimed Florida as their home of record on the date of the attack. Students must remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to pay for tuition, registration fees, board, room rent, books, and/or supplies. Children receiving the benefit must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two and in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The educational opportunity for dependent children of service members who died in the USS Stark attack is codified under [§295.019, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

The state of Florida provides education assistance at state expense to dependent children of military personnel who died or suffered a service-connected 100 percent total and permanent disability rating for compensation as determined by the VA, or who have been determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and are in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the military, while participating in the Mideast Persian Gulf arena during hostilities with Iraq, which began as Operation Desert Shield on 5 August 1990, through cessation of those hostilities, inclusive, or while participating in the military action in Panama known as Operation Just Cause during December 1989, if such military personnel were residents of the state during the period of military action. Students must remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to pay for tuition, registration fees, board, room rent, books, and/or supplies. Children receiving the benefit must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two and in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The educational opportunity for dependent children of service members who died or became disabled in the Mideast Persian Gulf military arena during hostilities with Iraq or in military action in Panama known as Operation Just Cause is codified under [§295.0195, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

Non-remarried spouses of services members who died as a result of service-connected injuries, disease, or disability sustained while on active duty or spouses of service members who have been determined by the VA to have a service-connected 100 percent total and permanent disability rating, or determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and are in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the military are eligible to received educational opportunities at state expense. For widowed spouses, the service member and spouse must have been residents of the state for one year immediately preceding the service member's death and the widowed spouse must apply to use the benefit within five years after the service member's death. For spouses of disabled service members, the service member and spouse must have been married to each other for at least one year and must have been residents of the state of Florida for one year immediately preceding the occurrence of the service member's disability. Students must remain in good standing with the educational institution in which they are enrolled and may not receive the benefit for more than twelve quarters, eight semesters, or eight trimesters. The benefit may be used to pay tuition and registration fees for spouses who are in attendance at a state-supported institution of higher learning, including a community college or career center. The benefit may be used for up 110 percent of the number of required credit hours of an initial baccalaureate degree or certification program. The educational opportunity for children and spouses of deceased or total and completely disabled service members is codified under [§295.01, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.02, Florida Statutes](#), [§295.03, Florida Statutes](#), and [§295.04, Florida Statutes](#).

Georgia

Children of Georgia National Guard service members who are killed in action, reported missing in action, or totally and permanently disabled while on active duty while a resident of the state may be eligible to receive financial grants from the state. Eligible students may receive \$2,000 per academic year for a maximum of \$8,000 over four years. To be eligible for the grant, students must be twenty-five years of age or younger, have been a resident of the state for at least twelve months prior to the date of registration in an approved public or private school in the state, and remain a resident of the state while receiving funds. Grants to children of killed in action, missing in action, or totally and permanently disabled Georgia National Guard service members is codified under [§20-3-480, Georgia Code](#), [§20-3-481, Georgia Code](#), and [§20-3-482, Georgia Code](#).

The Georgia Helping Education Reservists and their Offspring (HERO) scholarship provides a grant for surviving spouses of deceased members of the Georgia National Guard or Reserve who were killed or sustained a 100 percent disability as a result of injuries received in a combat zone. To be eligible for the scholarship, children and spouses must be enrolled in an approved school, be residents of the state of Georgia at the time of registration, and remain residents while receiving funds. Children must also be twenty-five years of age or younger. Eligible students may receive a grant for a maximum of four award years in the sum of \$2,000 per award year not to exceed a total in excess of \$8,000. The Georgia HERO scholarship is codified under [§20-3-485, Georgia Code](#), [§20-3-486, Georgia Code](#), and [§20-3-487, Georgia Code](#).

Idaho

Dependent children and spouses of service members who were residents of the state of Idaho, were determined by the federal government to be a prisoner of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA), or who died or became disabled by injuries or wounds sustained in action in any armed conflict may be eligible for the Idaho POW/MIA Scholarship. The scholarship may be used at any public institution of higher education or public professional-technical college within the state of Idaho. Recipients of the scholarship are not required to pay tuition and fees; are provided with books, equipment, and supplies necessary not to exceed \$500 per quarter, semester, or intensified semester; and are furnished on-campus housing and subsistence for each month he or she is enrolled under this program and resides in such on-campus facility. The benefit may not be collected for more than thirty-six months or four nine-month periods. The initiation of the benefit may not extend for a period of ten years after achieving a high school diploma or its equivalency, or for a period of ten years after the event giving rise to the eligibility for the scholarship, whichever is longer. To be eligible, dependent children and spouses must be residents of the state and must have completed secondary school or its equivalent in the state of Idaho. The Idaho POW/MIA Scholarship is codified under [§33-4301, Idaho Statutes](#) and [§33-4302, Idaho Statutes](#).

Illinois

Spouses, natural children, legally adopted children, or any step-children of eligible veterans or service members who possess all necessary entrance requirements may be eligible to receive the Illinois MIA/POW Scholarship. For the MIA/POW Scholarship, eligible veterans or service members, to include Illinois National Guard service members, must have been declared by the DoD or the VA as a prisoner of war or missing in action, have died as the result of a service-connected disability, be permanently disabled from service-connected causes with 100 percent disability, and be a resident of the state of Illinois at the time of entering service or within six months of entering the service. The scholarship provides for the equivalent of four calendar years of full-time enrollment to state-supported Illinois institutions of higher learning and encompasses any matriculation or application fees, tuition, activities fees, graduation fees, or other fees, except multipurpose building fees or similar fees for supplies and materials. Scholarships may be used by a spouse or child without regard to age. If the surviving spouse remarries or if there is a divorce between the veteran or service member and his or her spouse while the dependent is pursuing his or her course of study, scholarship benefits will be terminated at the end of the term for which he or she is presently enrolled. The Illinois MIA/POW Scholarship is codified under [105 ILCS 5/30-14.2](#).

Indiana

Children of service members who received the Purple Heart decoration, were wounded as a result of enemy action, or suffered a service-connected death or disability as determined by the VA may be eligible for tuition and fees exemption. The benefit provides eligible recipients a waiver of the tuition and fees for 124 semester credit hours. To be eligible for the exemption, the child must be a resident of the state of Indiana and must be enrolled at a state educational institution. Tuition and fees exemption for children of certain veterans is codified under [§21-14-4-1 through §21-14-4-8, Indiana Code](#).

Spouses and children of Indiana National Guard members who suffered a service-connected death while serving on state active duty may be eligible to receive an exemption for tuition and fees at state-supported educational institutions. The benefit provides eligible recipients a waiver of the tuition and fees for 124 semester credit hours. To be eligible for the exemption, children and spouses must be residents of the state and must be enrolled at a state educational institution. Tuition and fees exemption for spouses and children of certain veterans is codified under [§21-14-7-1 through §21-14-7-12, Indiana Code](#).

Iowa

The state of Iowa provides education assistance to children of deceased veterans who died prior to 11 September 2001 during active duty service. The benefit may not exceed \$600 per year for any one child and can be used to defray the expenses of tuition, matriculation, laboratory and similar fees, books and supplies, board, lodging, and any other reasonably necessary expenses. The benefit must be used at approved educational institutions in the state and may not exceed \$3,000 for any one student during the child's

lifetime. To be eligible for the benefit, children must have lived in the state of Iowa for two years preceding application for education assistance. The Iowa education assistance for children of deceased service members who died prior to 11 September 2001 is codified under [§35.8, Iowa Code](#), [§35.9, Iowa Code](#), and [§35.10, Iowa Code](#).

The state of Iowa also provides education assistance to children of deceased veterans who died on or after 11 September 2001 during active federal military service or during active federal military service in the Iowa National Guard. The amount of the benefit may not exceed the highest resident tuition rate per year for an institution of higher learning under control of the state board of regents less any state and federal education benefits, grants, or scholarships received by the child. The total amount received by any one child may not exceed five times the highest resident undergraduate tuition rate per year during the child's lifetime. The benefit may be used to defray the expenses of tuition at any postsecondary educational institution in the state. To be eligible for the benefit, children must be less than thirty-one years of age, begin postsecondary education prior to reaching age twenty-six, and be a resident of the state of Iowa. The Iowa education assistance for children of deceased service members who died on or after 11 September 2001 is codified under [§35.8, Iowa Code](#), [§35.9, Iowa Code](#), and [§35.10, Iowa Code](#).

Kansas

Children of service members who are Kansas residents and who have been declared by the Department of Defense to be prisoners of war or missing in action may be eligible to enroll at educational institutions in the state without charge of tuition or fees. Approved educational institutions include every community college, Washburn University of Topeka, every area vocational school, and every other institution of post-high school education which is supported by any state funds. Eligible children starting their receipt of the benefit prior to 1 July 1 2005 may receive the benefit for up to twelve semesters of instruction; children starting receipt of the benefit after 1 July 2005 may receive the benefit for up to ten semesters. The Kansas education benefit for children of prisoners of war or missing in action service members is codified under [§73-1216, Kansas Statutes](#) and [§73-1217, Kansas Statutes](#).

Children of service members who died as a result of a service-connected disability suffered during the Vietnam conflict may be entitled to enroll at institutions without tuition or fees in the state of Kansas. Approved educational institutions include every community college, Washburn University of Topeka, every area vocational school, and every other institution of post-high school education which is supported by any state funds. Eligible children may receive up to twelve semesters of instruction or the equivalent at approved educational institutions in the state. The Kansas education benefit for children of deceased Vietnam veterans is codified under [§73-1218, Kansas Statutes](#).

Kentucky

Children and widows of deceased service members from the Commonwealth of Kentucky may be exempt from matriculation or tuition fees at any state-supported

university, junior college, or vocational training institution. To be eligible for the benefit, the service member must have been a resident of Kentucky upon joining the Kentucky National Guard or upon military service; must have been killed while serving in state active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training with the Kentucky National Guard; killed in action while on active duty in the military; killed by hostile fire while on active duty or in the Kentucky National Guard; or died as a result of a service-connected disability acquired while serving in state active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training with the Kentucky National Guard or Reserve Component, or while on active duty in the military. The Kentucky exemption of matriculation or tuition fees for children or widows of members of the military or National Guard killed while in service or having died as a result of a service-connected disability is codified under [§164.505, Kentucky Revised Statutes](#).

Non-remarried spouses and children under the age of twenty-six of a deceased veteran may be entitled to an exemption from matriculation or tuition fees at any state-supported university, junior college, or vocational training institution for up to forty-five months in order to obtain a diploma. To be eligible for the benefit, the service member must have died while serving in the armed forces during a national emergency or in wars declared by Congress, serving actions of the United Nations, while on active duty regardless of war status, or as a result of a service-connected disability acquired while on active duty. Additionally, the service member must have been a resident of the Commonwealth of Kentucky at the time of death or married to a resident of Kentucky at the time of death. The Kentucky education benefit for non-remarried spouses and children of deceased veterans is codified under [§164.507, Kentucky Revised Statutes](#).

Children of veterans, regardless of age, who have acquired a disability as a direct result of the veteran's service may be eligible to receive a waiver of tuition upon admission to any state-supported university, college, or vocational training institution. To be eligible for the benefit, the member of the National Guard or Reserve Component must have served on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training or the veteran must have served on active duty with the military, and the discharge must have been under honorable conditions. Additionally, veterans must be residents or, if deceased, must have been residents of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Disabled children receiving this benefit must have acquired a disability determined by the VA as compensable. The Kentucky tuition waiver for disabled children of veterans is codified under [§164.512, Kentucky Revised Statutes](#).

Spouses, regardless of age, and children under the age of twenty-six of a permanently and totally disabled member of the Kentucky National Guard or Reserve Component injured while on state active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training; a permanently and totally disabled war veteran; a 100 percent service-connected disabled veteran regardless of wartime service; a prisoner of war; or a service member declared missing in action may be eligible to receive an exemption for matriculation or tuition fees upon admission to any state-supported institution of higher education or any state-supported vocational training school. To be eligible for the benefit, the service member must be a resident, or if deceased, have been a resident of the Commonwealth of

Kentucky. Eligible spouses and children may receive the benefit for up to forty-five months to obtain a diploma or certificate. The tuition exemption benefit for spouses and children under the age of twenty-six of permanently disabled members of the National Guard, war veterans, prisoners of war, or missing in action service members is codified under [§164.515, Kentucky Revised Statutes](#).

Louisiana

Children, spouses, and surviving spouses of members of the military who were killed in action, died in active service from other causes, were declared missing in action, were prisoners of war, or died as a result of a service-connected disability incurred during a wartime period may attend any state college or university, including community and technical colleges, without having to pay tuition, matriculation, registration, laboratory, athletic, medical, and other school-imposed fees. Service members must have been residents of the state of Louisiana for at least twelve months immediately preceding their entrance into service. For service-connected disabilities, service members must be rated between 90 and 100 percent disabled by the VA to qualify spouses and children for the benefit. For children to be eligible for the benefit, they must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five and must use the benefit within ten years from the date of eligibility. For spouses and surviving spouses to be eligible for the benefit, they must use the benefit within ten years from the date of eligibility. The total amount of the benefit may not exceed \$500 per year for each beneficiary and may not be provided for more than four academic years within a period of five calendar years. The Louisiana education benefits for children, spouses, and surviving spouses of veterans are codified under [§288, Title 29, Louisiana Revised Statutes](#), [§289, Title 29, Louisiana Revised Statutes](#), and [§290, Title 29, Louisiana Revised Statutes](#).

Surviving spouses and children of Louisiana National Guard service members who die as a result of wounds, injuries, or illnesses incurred while serving in federal active duty service or in an operation or area that the Secretary of Defense designates, in writing, as a combat operation or a zone of combat are eligible to enroll in a public institution of higher learning of the state and are exempt from all tuition charges if the spouse and/or child is presently domiciled in Louisiana. Spouses and children may claim the tuition exemption for five separate academic years or until the receipt of a bachelor degree. Children may claim the exemption upon attaining the age of seventeen. The tuition exemption for surviving spouses and children of Louisiana National Guard service members is codified under [paragraph G, §36.1, Title 29, Louisiana Revised Statutes](#).

Maine

Spouses and children of veterans who have a total permanent disability resulting from a service-connected disability, were killed in action, listed as missing in action or as prisoners of war, died from a service-connected disability as a result of service, or were totally and permanently disabled due to service-connected disability at the time of death but whose death was not related to the service-connected disability may be eligible for a waiver of tuition and mandatory fees at state-supported postsecondary vocational schools

or institutions of collegiate grade. Service members must have entered service from the state of Maine or have been a resident of the state for five years immediately preceding the application for the benefit. Spouses may use the benefit for a certificate program, an associate degree, a bachelor degree, or a masters degree program. Spouses are entitled to receive up to 120 credit hours of education benefits and are allowed up to ten years from the date of first entrance to complete the program. Children must enroll in a degree program prior to their twenty-second birthday and may use the benefit for an associate or bachelor degree program. Children may use the benefit for up to eight semesters and are allowed up to six years from the date of first entrance to complete the eight semesters. The waiver of tuition for spouses and children of certain veterans is codified under [§505, Title 37-B, Maine Revised Statutes](#).

Maryland

The Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship provides assistance to spouses and children of service members who were declared prisoners of war or missing in action, died as a result of military service, suffered a 100 percent permanent disability, or were killed in action. The scholarship may be used for tuition and mandatory fees at eligible institutions. The amount of the scholarship is the lesser of \$3,000 or the equivalent tuition and mandatory fees of a resident of the institution attended by the recipient. Recipients of the scholarship may hold the award for five years of full-time study or eight years of part-time study. To be eligible for the benefit, children must be at least sixteen years of age and be residents of the state of Maryland; spouses receiving the scholarship must be residents of the state. The Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship is codified under [§18-601, Maryland Code](#).

Massachusetts

The Public Service Scholarship Program provides scholarships to children and widowed spouses of Massachusetts service members who were declared prisoners of war or missing in action in Southeast Asia during service between 1 February 1955 and the termination of the Vietnam conflict. The Public Service Scholarship is also provided to children of veterans who were killed in action or otherwise died as a result of such service. The scholarship may be used as a waiver of mandatory fees and can be used only for undergraduate studies. The Public Service Scholarship Program is codified under [§16, Chapter 15A, Massachusetts Code](#).

Michigan

The Michigan Children of Veterans Tuition Grant Act provides tuition grants to eligible children of service members who were killed in action, declared missing in action by the VA, died from another cause while serving in a war or war condition, died as a result of a service-connected illness or injury, or suffered a total and permanent disability as determined by the VA. To be eligible for the benefit, children must be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in undergraduate courses, be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-six, have resided continuously in the state for twelve months immediately

preceding application for the benefit, and must have maintained a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.25 in any undergraduate classes completed at eligible institutions in any previous academic years. The amount of the benefit for full-time students is the lesser of \$2,800 or the amount of tuition charged during the academic year. For part-time students, the amount of the benefit is one-half of the available amount for a full-time student. Children may receive the benefit for no more than four academic years. The Michigan Children of Veterans Tuition Grant Act is codified under [§390.1341 through §390.1346, Michigan Compiled Laws](#).

Minnesota

Surviving spouses and children of Minnesota National Guard service members who are killed in the line of state active service or federally funded state active service may be eligible to receive a tuition and textbook reimbursement grant. To be eligible for the grant, surviving spouses and children under the age of twenty-four must attend a postsecondary educational institution that is operated or regulated by the state of Minnesota or that is operated publicly or privately in another state if the institution is approved by the United States Secretary of Education and is determined to maintain academic standards substantially equal to those of comparable institutions operated by the state. The amount of the tuition and textbook reimbursement grant is limited by the greater of 100 percent of the tuition for lower division programs in the College of Liberal Arts at the Twin Cities campus of the University of Minnesota in the most recent academic year or up to 100 percent of the cost of tuition for the program in which the person is enrolled. Surviving spouses and children may receive the grant for no more than the equivalent of 208 quarter credits or 144 semester credits of coursework. The tuition and textbook reimbursement grant for surviving spouses and children of Minnesota National Guard service members is codified under [§192.501, Minnesota Code](#).

Children of veterans who have died as a result of their service in the military as determined by the VA may be eligible to receive an exemption for tuition at the University of Minnesota, a state university, a community college, a technical college, or any other university of higher learning within the state. To be eligible for the benefit, children must have resided in the state of Minnesota for at least two years prior to applying for the benefit. Eligible children of veterans may continue to receive the benefit until they receive a bachelor degree or equivalent. The Minnesota education assistance for war orphans is codified under [§197.75, Minnesota Code](#).

Spouses and children of service members declared prisoners of war or missing in action may be eligible to attend any Minnesota public postsecondary institution free of tuition or charge. For private educational institutions, eligible spouses and children may receive up to \$250 per year. Spouses and children may use the benefit until they have obtained a bachelor degree or certificate of completion. The Minnesota education assistance for dependents of prisoners of war and missing in action service members is codified under [§197.752, Minnesota Code](#).

Mississippi

Children of service members who have or had official residence in the state of Mississippi and who were declared a prisoner of war in Southeast Asia, missing in action in Southeast Asia, or a prisoner of a foreign government as the result of military action against the United States may be eligible to receive an eight-semester scholarship at any state-supported college or university in Mississippi. For children to be eligible for the scholarship, the spouse of the missing or prisoner of war service member must have been a resident of the state of Mississippi for a period of not less than ten years. Beneficiaries may receive the scholarship only up until the semester during which they reach twenty-three years of age. The Mississippi scholarship for children of missing and prisoner of war service members is codified under [§37-108-1, Mississippi Code of 1972](#), [§37-108-3, Mississippi Code of 1972](#), and [§37-108-5, Mississippi Code of 1972](#).

Missouri

Surviving spouses and children of service members who were Missouri residents when first entering service and at the time death, served in the Vietnam theater between 1961 and 1972, and whose death was attributable to illness that could possibly be a result of exposure to toxic chemicals during the Vietnam Conflict may be eligible to receive the Missouri Vietnam Veterans Scholarship. Survivors may receive grants under the scholarship program for studies leading to a certificate, an associate degree, or bachelor degree. The amount of the benefit is limited by the greater of the actual tuition charged at an approved institution or the average amount of tuition charged to a Missouri resident at state colleges and universities for full-time students. To be eligible for the scholarship, children must be under the age of twenty-five and spouses are eligible for the benefit until the fifth anniversary of the death of the veteran. The Missouri Vietnam Veteran Scholarship will expire on 31 December 2015 and is codified under [§173.236, Missouri Revised Statutes](#).

Montana

The state of Montana may waive tuition at state-supported institutions for children of residents of the state who served in the military and were killed in action or died as a result of injury, disease, or other disability incurred while in the service. Additionally, the state may waive tuition at state-supported institutions for spouses and children of residents of the state who have been declared missing in action, prisoners of war, or Montana National Guard service members who were killed or died as a result of injury, disease, or other disability incurred in the line of duty while serving on state active duty. The tuition waiver for children and spouses of veterans is codified under [§20-25-421, Montana Code Annotated 2009](#).

Nebraska

Spouses and children of Nebraska National Guard service members who died while serving in the active service of the state may be entitled to receive 100 percent of tuition

charges in any state-supported university, college, or community college in the state. Spouses and children may receive a credit for tuition no higher than the spouse or child would have received at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln if he/she enrolls in an independent, not-for-profit, regionally accredited college or university in the state. The benefit may be used for an undergraduate course of education that does not exceed four years. Spouses are eligible to receive the credit up to the tenth anniversary of the service member's death, and children are eligible to receive the credit up to their twenty-fifth birthday. The Nebraska National Guard spouse and children tuition credit is codified under [§85-507, Nebraska Code](#).

Dependent spouses and children of veterans who have died as a result of a service-connected injury, died subsequent to discharge as a result of injury or illness sustained while a member of the armed forces, are permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service, or were classified as missing in action or as a prisoner of war may be eligible to receive a tuition waiver at the University of Nebraska, the state colleges, and the community colleges. To be eligible for the tuition waiver, students must be residents of the state of Nebraska. Children receiving the benefit must be under the age of twenty-six unless he or she serves on active duty with the military between the ages of eighteen and twenty-six. If eligible children served on active duty, the period of eligibility ends five years after his or her first discharge or release from duty. The tuition waiver can be used for one degree, diploma, or certificate from a community college and one baccalaureate degree. The tuition waiver for dependents of certain service members is codified under [§80-411, Nebraska Code](#).

New Hampshire

Children of service members who were residents of the state while serving in the military and who were classified as missing, missing in action, or prisoner of war during the Vietnam conflict may be eligible to receive a tuition waiver. Eligible children are not required to pay tuition for attendance at the University of New Hampshire, Plymouth State University, Keene State College, or at regional community-technical institutes or colleges. The tuition waiver for children at state colleges and universities is codified under [§187-A:20, New Hampshire Code](#) and the tuition waiver for regional community-technical institutes or colleges is codified under [§188-F:16, New Hampshire Code](#).

New Jersey

Surviving children and spouses of members of the New Jersey National Guard who had completed Initial Active Duty Training and were killed while on active duty with the New Jersey National Guard may be eligible to attend any public institution of higher education in the state and receive up to sixteen credits per semester tuition-free. To be eligible for the benefit, the child or spouse must be accepted to pursue a course of undergraduate or graduate study, remain in good academic standing, and must have applied for all available state and federal student grants and scholarships for which the child or spouse is eligible. The New Jersey tuition waiver for sixteen semester hours to

surviving children and spouses of National Guard service members is codified under [§18A:62, New Jersey Statutes](#).

Children of service members who were residents of the state of New Jersey who were killed in action or died while a member of the military in a time of war or emergency, were officially listed as missing in action by the Department of Defense, or who died of disease or disability resulting from military service may be eligible to receive an annual allotment from the state. The allotment may not exceed \$500 per year and may only be used to defray the costs and expenses at any state educational, technical, or professional school of a college grade. To be eligible for the allotment, children must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one and be residents of the state for at least twelve months prior to the time of application. Students may not receive the allotment for more than four years. The allotment for children of certain veterans is codified under [§38:20-1, New Jersey Statutes](#), [§38:20-2 thorough §38:20-3, New Jersey Statutes](#), and [§38:20-4, New Jersey Statutes](#).

New Mexico

Surviving children and spouses of members of the New Mexico National Guard who die in the line of duty while serving on state military status may be eligible to receive a tuition waiver for up to one baccalaureate degree or similar vocational certification at any state-sponsored university, college, or institute of learning. The New Mexico tuition waiver for spouses and children of deceased National Guard service members is codified under [§20-4-11, New Mexico Code](#).

Surviving children of a New Mexico resident who was a member of the New Mexico National Guard or of a branch of the federal Services and was killed in the line of duty may be entitled to a tuition waiver for four consecutive years at state postsecondary institutions. To be eligible for the tuition waiver, the service member must have been called to active duty and deployed. The tuition waiver for surviving children of active duty National Guard and military service members is codified under [§20-1-8, New Mexico Code](#).

New York

The state of New York provides military enhanced recognition, incentive, and tribute (MERIT) scholarships to children, spouses, and financial dependents of members of the military or state organized militia of resident New York service members who have died on active duty, become severely and permanently disabled as a result of service, been classified as missing in action, or died as a result of injury or illness suffered as a result of military service. Eligible spouses and children may receive the MERIT scholarship for no more than four academic years of undergraduate study, or for up five years if the program normally requires five years. The New York MERIT scholarships are codified under [§608-a, Education, New York Code](#) and [§668-e, Education, New York Code](#).

Children of deceased and disabled veterans may be eligible to receive Regent awards from the state of New York. To be eligible for the award, the parent or step-parent must have been the recipient of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Navy Expeditionary Medal, or the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal for participation in various operations, or have served on active duty (other than for training) in the military during specified periods. Additionally, the parent must be or have been a resident of the state of New York and must have either died as a result of injury or illness suffered during military duty, have died and had a disability of forty percent or more as result of injury or illness incurred during military service, have been honorably discharged and have a current disability of forty percent or more, or have been classified as a prisoner of war or missing in action by the Department of Defense. The amount of the award is \$450 and may not be received for more than four academic years, or five academic years if the recipient is enrolled in a program normally requiring five years. The New York Regent awards for children of deceased and disabled veterans are codified under [§668, Education, New York Code](#).

North Carolina

Children of veterans who were in active federal service during a period of war, who were separated from the Services under conditions other than dishonorable, whose death or disability was incurred as a direct result of armed conflict or while engaged in hazardous service may be eligible to receive a scholarship from the state of North Carolina. The scholarship may be used at either state or private educational institutions. For state institutions, the full scholarship consists of tuition, a reasonable board allowance, a reasonable room allowance, and matriculation and other fees. For private institutions, the scholarship equals the amount provided for public institutions. Children must be under the age of twenty-five at the time of application for the scholarship, may receive the scholarship for no more than four academic years, but must use their eight years of eligibility within an eight-year period. The North Carolina Children of War Veterans Scholarship is codified under [Article 4, Chapter 165, North Carolina Code](#).

North Dakota

Children, spouses, and widows of resident veterans who were killed in action, died from wounds or other service-connected causes, were totally disabled as a result of service-connected causes, died from service-connected disabilities, were a prisoner of war, or were declared missing in action may be eligible to receive free tuition at North Dakota institutions of higher education. The tuition waiver benefit may be used for an undergraduate degree or certificate program and may be used for a forty-five-month or ten-semester period or its equivalent. The tuition waiver for dependents of veterans in North Dakota is codified under [§15-10-18.2 and §15-10-18.3, 2009 North Dakota Century Code](#).

Ohio

Children of members of the Ohio National Guard and the Reserve Components of any of the armed Services who are killed, permanently and totally disabled while on active duty, or who are killed or permanently and totally disabled while at a scheduled training assembly, a field training period of any duration or length, or active duty for training may be eligible to receive the Ohio War Orphans Scholarship. Additionally, children of veterans who, in the course of honorable service in the military, were declared by the Department of Defense to be a prisoner of war or missing in action may also be eligible for the scholarship. To be eligible for the scholarship, children must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five at the time of application, be a resident of the state of Ohio for at least one year prior to application, and be in financial need. Scholarships received may be either an exemption of 100 percent of general and instructional fees at state-supported colleges and universities, or the average value of all of the scholarships granted to eligible children to public colleges and universities for private colleges and universities. The Ohio War Orphans Scholarship is codified under [§5910.01 through §5910.07, Ohio Revised Code](#).

Oklahoma

Any dependent of a current or former prisoner of war or person missing in action, upon being accepted for enrollment into any state-supported institution of higher education, may be eligible to obtain a bachelor degree or certificate of completion free of general enrollment fees. To be eligible, dependent children may not be more than twenty-four years of age and may not be the recipient of federal funds provided for general enrollment. The waiver of general enrollment fees for dependent children of veterans missing in action or prisoners of war is codified under [§70-2281, Title 70, Oklahoma Statutes](#).

Oregon

Spouses or children of Oregon National Guard service members who were killed while on active duty may be eligible to receive a tuition waiver at a state institution of higher learning. The tuition waiver may be up to 100 percent of the resident tuition charges imposed by the institution, except at not-for-profit independent institutions, where the amount of the tuition waiver may not exceed 100 percent of the resident tuition at Oregon State University. The tuition waiver is only available for surviving family members who do not have a bachelor degree and may only be used for courses leading to a degree. The tuition waiver program for surviving family members of Oregon National Guard service members is codified under [§399.275 through §399.280, Oregon Revised Statutes](#).

Pennsylvania

Children of service members who were residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, who served on active duty after 31 January 1955, and who have been classified as a prisoner of war or missing in action may be eligible to receive a grant for use at an

institution in the State Higher Education Grant Program. Eligible dependents may use the benefit for an undergraduate degree or non-degree program of at least one academic year in duration, must be enrolled on at least a half-time basis, and must demonstrate financial need for assistance. The POW/MIA Education Program is codified under [§121.111 through §121.118, Title 22, The Pennsylvania Code](#).

Spouses and children of members of the Pennsylvania National Guard who were killed or die as a result of injuries received while performing duty in an official duty status may be entitled to a waiver of all tuition costs and fees at all state-owned colleges or universities, approved trade schools, state-related institutions of higher learning, or community colleges. Eligible beneficiaries may not receive the waiver for more than eight semesters or four years. The tuition waiver for spouses and children of deceased Pennsylvania National Guard service members is codified under [§3503, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes](#).

Puerto Rico

Children of Puerto Rico service members who have died in action, were classified as missing in action, or were prisoners of war who enroll in the University of Puerto Rico System may be exempt from payment of tuition fees, student dues and other fees, rentals, charges, laboratory fees, breakage fees, books, supplies, dormitories, houses and other housing facilities, restaurants and their facilities, parking lots for vehicles, facilities provided by student centers, events, and activities and other services. The exemption of fees for children of deceased Puerto Rico service members is codified under [§612, Chapter 40, Title 18, Puerto Rico Code](#).

Rhode Island

Children and spouses of Rhode Island National Guard service members who were killed or died while in the performance of duties may be exempt from tuition at the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, or any other college or university operated by the state. To be eligible for the tuition exemption, children must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one. For both spouses and children, the tuition waiver may be available for a period of time equal to the normal time for completing the courses regularly offered by the institution but may not exceed four years. The tuition waiver for children and spouses of National Guard service members dying as a result of service is codified under [§30-3-40.5, State of Rhode Island General Laws](#).

Children and spouses of service members who died as the result of hostile action, died as a result of a service-connected disability resulting from active service in the military, died from any cause while such a disability was in existence, were classified as missing in action, or were prisoners of war may be eligible to receive financial assistance for tuition and books. Eligible dependents may use the benefits at the University of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island College, or any institution of higher education or technical/professional learning. The amount of the benefit may not exceed the in-state tuition cost plus the average cost of books for attending the University of Rhode Island. To be eligible for the

benefit, children must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-six and have resided in the state for five years prior to applying for the benefit. The period of eligibility for surviving spouses extends ten years from the date of initial eligibility. Spouses and children may receive the benefit for a period of time equal to the normal time for completing the courses regularly offered by the institution, but may not exceed four years. The financial assistance for surviving children and spouses of service members is codified under [§30-30-1, State of Rhode Island General Laws](#).

South Carolina

Children of service members who are or were residents of the state, were killed in action, died from other causes while in the Service, died of disease or disability resulting from Service, were declared a prisoner of war, are permanently and totally disabled, have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, or have been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat may be eligible to attend any state-supported college, university, or post-high school technical education institution free of tuition. To be eligible for the tuition waiver, children must meet residency requirements for the state, be under the age of twenty-six, and pursuing any type of undergraduate degree. The South Carolina free tuition for the children of certain veterans is codified under [§59-111-20, South Carolina Code of Laws](#).

South Dakota

Children of residents who died from any cause during service in the military may be eligible to receive free tuition at any state educational institution under the control and management of the board of regents or any postsecondary technical institute in the state. To be eligible for the benefit, children must be under the age of twenty-five. The benefit may be used to pursue any course of study. The waiver of tuition for children of deceased veterans is codified under [§13-55-6, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§13-55-7, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), and [§13-55-8, South Dakota Codified Laws](#).

Children and spouses of service members who were residents of the state of South Dakota and were declared prisoners of war or missing in action may be eligible to receive free tuition and mandatory fees at any state-supported institution of higher education or state-supported technical or vocational school. The benefit may be used for up to eight semesters or twelve quarters and may be used for either full-time or part-time study. Free tuition to spouses and children of service members who were prisoners of war or missing in action is codified under [§13-55-9, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§13-55-9.1, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§13-55-9.2, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§13-55-9.3, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§13-55-9.4, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§13-55-9.5, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), [§13-55-9.6, South Dakota Codified Laws](#), and [§13-55-9.7, South Dakota Codified Laws](#).

Children and spouses of National Guard service members who died or sustained a total and permanent disability in the line of duty while on state or federal active duty may be eligible to receive a waiver of tuition to attend any course or courses of study in any state

educational institution. To be eligible for the tuition waiver, children must be under the age of twenty-five; no age restrictions exist for spouses of National Guard service members. The tuition waiver for children and spouses of National Guard service members is codified under [§13-55-10, South Dakota Codified Laws](#).

Tennessee

Dependent children and spouses of service members who were killed, died as a direct result of injuries received, were officially reported as being a prisoner of war or missing in action may be entitled to a waiver of tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees, and required registration or matriculation fees at any of the institutions of higher education owned, operated, and maintained by the state. To be eligible for the tuition waiver, children must be enrolled as a full-time student prior to the age of twenty-three. Once declared eligible, children remain eligible until the child earns an undergraduate degree before he or she is twenty-three years of age, earns 135 semester hours or the equivalent, or has attempted 150 semester hours or the equivalent. Spouse eligibility for the waiver ends ten years after the death of the veteran or upon the date of the spouse's remarriage within the ten-year period. Eligible spouses may use the waiver to complete their first undergraduate degree. Once eligible, spouses remain eligible for the waiver until the spouse earns an undergraduate degree prior to expiration of the benefit, 135 semester hours or their equivalent, or attempts 150 semester hours or their equivalent. The tuition waiver for spouses and children of prisoners of war, missing in action, and deceased veterans is codified under [§49-7-102, Tennessee Code](#).

Texas

Children of service members who were or are residents of the state of Texas and who were killed in action, declared missing in action, died while in service or in a manner that was directly caused by illness or injury connected with service, or are totally disabled by a service-related injury may be exempt from the payment of all dues, fees, and charges including fees for correspondence courses at all institutions of higher education within the state. Exemptions do not apply to general deposit fees, student services fees, and any fees or charges for lodging, board, or clothing. Eligible children may receive the exemption for no more than 150 credit hours of course work. The exemption of dues, fees, and charges for children of veterans is codified under [§54.203, Texas Statutes](#).

Children of Texas service members who have been declared prisoners of war or persons missing in action by the Department of Defense may be exempt from the payment of tuition and fees at state institutions of higher education. The exemption may include tuition, service fees, lab fees, building use fees, and all other fees except room, board, or clothing fees. To be eligible for the exemption, children must be under the age of twenty-one or under the age of twenty-five if they receive the majority of their support from their parent or parents. The tuition and fees exemption for children of service members who have been declared prisoners of war or missing in action is codified under [§54.209, Texas Statutes](#).

Children of Texas National Guard service members who were killed while serving on active duty either in state of federal status or who are totally disabled as a result of a service-related injury incurred while on active duty may be exempt from the payment of all dues, fees, and charges including fees for correspondence courses at all institutions of higher education within the state. Exemptions do not apply to general deposit fees, student services fees, and any fees or charges for lodging, board, or clothing. Eligible children may receive the exemption for no more than 150 credit hours of course work. The exemption of dues, fees, and charges for children of veterans is codified under [§54.203, Texas Statutes](#).

Utah

Surviving children and spouses of service members who were killed or died of wounds or injuries received while serving on state or federal active duty may be eligible to receive a tuition waiver at state institutions of higher education. To be eligible for the waiver, the spouse or child must be accepted by the institution in accordance with the institution's admissions guidelines, be a resident of the state, and have not already completed courses leading to an undergraduate degree. The tuition waiver for surviving spouses and children may be used only for courses applicable to undergraduate study and does not apply to fees, books, or housing expenses. The Scott B Lundell Military Survivors' Tuition Waiver is codified under [§53B-8-107, Utah Code](#).

Vermont

Children and spouses of members of the Vermont National Guard, active Reserve forces, or active armed forces who were killed or have died while on active or inactive duty may be eligible to receive the Armed Services Scholarship. The scholarship may be used for courses leading to a certificate or degree other than a postgraduate degree. The amount of the scholarship is equal to the in-state tuition fee for Vermont state colleges when courses are taken at private institutions. The scholarship may be used for up to 130 credits or up to the actual amount of credits required to graduate. Eligible children and spouses must also apply for a Federal Pell Grant. The Vermont Armed Services Scholarship is codified under [§2537, Chapter 79, Title 16, Vermont Code](#), [§2538, Chapter 79, Title 16, Vermont Code](#), and [§2539, Chapter 79, Title 16, Vermont Code](#).

Virgin Islands

The Virgin Islands National Guard Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to children of members and officers of the National Guard of the Virgin Islands who die or sustain permanent total disability in the line of official duty while on territorial active military duty, federal active duty, or training duty. The National Guard Scholarship Fund may be used for all undergraduate matriculation fees and tuition at the University of the Virgin Islands for up to four years. To be eligible for the scholarship, children must be under the age of twenty-five and must have been dependent on the service member for support, totally or partially, at the time of the member's death or injury. The Virgin Islands

National Guard Scholarship Fund is codified under [§190n, Chapter 15, Title 17, Virgin Islands Code](#).

Virginia

Children and spouses of service members who served as an active duty member in the armed forces, armed forces reserve, or Virginia National Guard and were killed in action, declared missing in action, declared a prisoner of war, or has been rated as totally and permanently disabled or at least ninety percent disabled may be eligible for a waiver of tuition and certain charges and fees. The waiver may be used at any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth of Virginia. To be eligible for the waiver, children and spouses must meet acceptance requirements from the educational institution and must have been residents of the Commonwealth for five years prior to the date of applying for the benefit. Additionally, children must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-nine, except when extenuating circumstances prevented children from using their benefits before the age of thirty. The tuition waiver for children and spouses of certain veterans is codified under [§23-7.4:1, Code of Virginia](#).

Washington

Children and spouses of veterans and National Guard service members who became totally disabled while engaged in active federal military service, were classified as prisoners of war, were classified as missing in action, or died while in active federal service may be eligible to receive a waiver for a portion or all of the tuition and fees at state universities, regional universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community colleges within the state. Upon remarriage, surviving spouses of eligible veterans or National Guard service members become ineligible for the waiver. The tuition waiver for children and spouses of certain veterans is codified under [§28B.15.621, Revised Code of Washington](#).

West Virginia

Children of service members who were killed in action or have died from disease or disability resulting from war time service may be eligible to receive a tuition waiver and financial assistance from the state of West Virginia. To be eligible for the benefit, children must be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five, enrolled in a postsecondary education or training institution in the state, and be the child of an enlistee who designated West Virginia as his or her state of record. Eligible children receive a waiver of tuition at state postsecondary education or training institutions and may receive an additional financial benefit for matriculation fees, board, room rent, books, supplies, and other necessary living expenses. The amount of the additional financial benefit may vary from year to year but is limited by law not to exceed \$1,000 in any one semester or a total of \$2,000 in any one year. If eligible children attend private postsecondary institutions, the tuition waiver is not applicable but the child may still qualify for the additional financial benefit. The tuition waiver and additional financial benefit are codified under

[§18-19-1, West Virginia Code](#), [§18-19-2, West Virginia Code](#), [§18-19-3, West Virginia Code](#), and [§18-19-4, West Virginia Code](#).

Wisconsin

Spouses and children of service members who served on active duty under honorable conditions, were residents of the state of Wisconsin, and who died while on active duty, died as a result of a service-connected disability, died in the line of duty while on active or inactive duty for training, or were awarded at least a thirty percent service-connected disability rating may receive full remission of academic fees and segregated fees at schools within the University of Wisconsin System and the Wisconsin Technical College System. The benefit may be used for up to 128 credits or eight semesters, whichever is longer. To be eligible for the benefit, children must be between the ages of seventeen and twenty-six. The period of eligibility for spouses extends for ten years from the date on which the eligible veteran received the service-connected disability rating or for ten years from the date of death of the veteran. The remission of tuition for spouses and children of certain veterans is codified under [§36.27\(3n\), Wisconsin Statutes](#) for the University of Wisconsin System and [§38.24\(7\), Wisconsin Statutes](#) for the Wisconsin Technical College System.

Wyoming

Spouses and children of a service member who was a resident of the state of Wyoming at the time of entering service and whose death was service-connected, was declared a prisoner of war, was declared missing in action, or was honorably discharged from the military and died of an injury or disease incurred while in active service may be eligible to receive free tuition, matriculation, and other fees at state educational institutions. To be eligible, spouses must use the benefit no later than ten years following the death of the veteran. Children must be under the age of twenty-two at the time of enrollment. Spouses and children may use the benefit at the University of Wyoming or a Wyoming community college for up to ten semesters of study over a course of eight academic years. The tuition waiver for spouses and children of certain veterans is codified under [§19-14-106, Wyoming State Statutes](#).