



Military Scholarships Guide

PointUniversity

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Introduction

According to a [recent study](#) from the American Council on Education, a record number of military service members and veterans are using educational benefits to enroll in postsecondary degree programs. Thus, "...identifying ways to increase their success... is a national imperative."

This influx of students is due in part to the enactment of the [Post-9/11 GI Bill](#), a program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that is open to those who served on or after September 10, 2001 for a certain amount of time.

As military personnel withdraw from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, many service members now have the time and ability to enroll in school. The U.S. Government Accountability Office projects 5 million post-9/11 military service members will transition to civilian life by 2020.

Introduction

Under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, eligible recipients qualify for up to 36 months of educational benefits, including financial support for tuition, housing, and other college expenses. In addition, military service members, veterans, reservists, and National Guard personnel may qualify for other benefits programs. These include the Montgomery GI Bill, the Reserve Educational Assistance Program, and the Yellow Ribbon Program. Please visit [Point University's guide to military benefits](#) for more information about these programs.

Active and retired military personnel may also receive scholarships and grants specifically designed for veterans and service members. Each of the five military branches offers financial aid opportunities for students who have completed their service contracts. Military-affiliated organizations, businesses, and nonprofits also provide support to service members and veterans. Some of these awards stack on top of VA and Department of Defense benefits.

All of the awards listed here are available to full-time degree seekers at Point University. Students should also be sure to look for Christian college scholarships, as Point University is religiously affiliated.

Air Force Scholarships

[Col. Loren J. and Mrs. Lawona R. Spencer Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This award is open to Air Force active duty service members, civilians, reservists, and National Guard members who are pursuing a master's degree in management and administration. This merit-based scholarship assists applicants who demonstrate academic achievement and strong job performance. Candidates should have a minimum 3.0 GPA. Other requirements include a letter of recommendation from the applicant's Air Force supervisor and an essay addressing academic and career goals. *For additional scholarships related to this one, please visit this [link](#).*

Amount: \$5,000

[Captain Jodi Callahan Memorial Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This scholarship assists active Air Force or Air National Guard personnel earning a master's degree in a nontechnical field. Applicants who have not begun their studies must submit proof of acceptance at an accredited degree-granting institution. Candidates must also submit a letter of recommendation from their Air Force supervisor and a personal essay. *For additional scholarships related to this one, please visit this [link](#).*

Amount: \$1,000

Air Force Scholarships

[U.S. Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program](#)

Who Can Apply: These scholarships are available to students earning degrees in various health fields including pharmacy, clinical psychology, public health, and nursing. Students can renew the scholarship for up to four years depending on their major. The awards cover all tuition and fees, books, and lab materials. Students also receive a monthly living allowance. Recipients must complete 45 days of active military service while in school and commit to one year of postgraduate service for each year of aid.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

Army Scholarships

[Army Scholarship Foundation Scholarships](#)

Who Can Apply: Established in 2001, the Army Scholarship Foundation is a nonprofit organization that offers more than 20 scholarships each year to undergraduate students enrolled at accredited academic or technical institutions. Recipients may qualify for up to four years of continuing financial aid based on academic performance and eligibility.

Amount: \$500-\$2,000

[Army Women's Foundation Legacy Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This annual scholarship awards female service members and veterans. Their children and dependents may also apply. Candidates may pursue undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees, or certifications. The foundation awards scholarships based on merit, financial need, community service, and letters of recommendation.

Amount: Up to \$1,000 for community college and certificate programs; up to \$2,500 for four-year schools and graduate programs

Army Scholarships

[F. Edward Hébert Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program](#)

Who Can Apply: The Army's health professions scholarship program focuses on students earning degrees in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, psychiatric nursing, psychology, or optometry. Qualifying candidates can receive full tuition assistance for up to four years, as well as a \$20,000 signing bonus and a monthly stipend of more than \$2,200. The program considers only full-time students who qualify as commissioned officers.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

[Raytheon Patriot Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This award from the Student Veterans of America and Raytheon honors two Army veterans each year. In order to qualify for this award, students must be entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year of an undergraduate program. Graduate students also qualify. Applicants must have received an honorable discharge and maintain good veteran standing.

Amount: \$10,000

Coast Guard Scholarships

[Captain Ernest W. Fox Perpetual Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This award assists Coast Guard personnel, dependents, and civil service personnel employed at the Coast Guard Aviation Logistic Center. The scholarship funds vocational, undergraduate, or postgraduate education related to work at the center.

Amount: \$1,000

[Coast Guard Foundation Enlisted Education Grant](#)

Who Can Apply: This scholarship supplements funding from the GI Bill. The grant covers books, lab fees, technical equipment, and other college expenses. Applicants must be active duty Coast Guard personnel at the E-3 to E-9 pay grade with at least two years of full-time service. Students may renew the award.

Amount: \$350 per year

[Walter Gore Memorial Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This grant rewards two members of the US Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association who have maintained good standing with the association for at least one year. The association considers candidates attending colleges, universities, and vocational schools. Applicants must complete a 500-word essay.

Amount: \$500

Marine Corps Scholarships

[Marine Corps League National Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This scholarship assists paid members of the Marine Corps League or the Marine Corps League Auxiliary. Candidates must enroll in an undergraduate program as a full-time student. Recipients may apply to renew the award for up to four years.

Amount: Varies

[Women Marines Association Scholarships](#)

Who Can Apply: The WMA offers seven scholarships to candidates who have served in the Marine Corps or Marine Reserves, as well as those who are descendants or siblings of active duty members. Their dependents may also apply. Candidates may receive a maximum of one scholarship per year and up to two lifetime awards. Students may use these funds at any accredited college, university, or vocational school.

Amount: \$1,500-\$3,000

[Marines' Memorial Tribute Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This scholarship is available to Marines' Memorial members, as well as other veterans who have served in any branch of the military. Candidates must pursue an undergraduate degree from an accredited nonprofit institution but may major in any field. The program grants ten awards annually.

Amount: \$5,000

Navy Scholarships

[The Association of the United States Navy \(AUSN\) Scholarship Program](#)

Who Can Apply: The AUSN awards scholarships to undergraduate students who are members, children, and grandchildren of AUSN members and surviving spouses of deceased members. Applicants must have a 2.5 GPA or higher and may apply during their senior year of high school up to their senior year in college.

Amount: \$1,000 - \$2,000

[The Navy SEAL Foundation](#)

Who Can Apply: The NSF offers scholarship opportunities to Naval Special Warfare (NSW) active duty service members, their spouses and dependent children, and SEAL and SWCC post-9/11 veterans. Applicants may be pursuing post-secondary programs, such as Bachelors or Associates Degrees, as well as graduate degree opportunities.

Amount: Varies

[U.S. Navy Health Professions Scholarship Program \(HPSP\)](#)

Who Can Apply: This program is offered to Naval Officers seeking a fully funded education in the fields of medicine, dentistry, clinical psychology, physician assistant, podiatry, or optometry. In return, participants agree to serve on active duty, not in training status, one year for every year of participation, with a minimum service obligation of 3 to 4 years on active duty.

Amount: Varies

National Guard Scholarships

[Dedicated Army National Guard Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: The Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) gives students the unique opportunity to simultaneously serve in both the Army National Guard and Army ROTC while enrolled in school. Successful candidates receive full tuition assistance, up to \$1,200 for books, and a monthly living stipend of \$350-\$500 depending on their academic level. Additionally, recipients earn the same drill pay as a sergeant, which comes to roughly \$225 per month. Sophomores, juniors, seniors, and graduate students may apply.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

[Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This scholarship mainly assists college students entering their junior year with a 2.5 GPA or higher. If accepted, students must join the SMP for the Army ROTC unit on their campus. The scholarship covers full tuition, \$1,200 for books, and a monthly allowance of \$450-\$500. Recipients also earn drill pay.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

[National Guard Tuition Assistance](#)

Who Can Apply: Both the Army National Guard and Air National Guard offer tuition assistance to current members. Undergraduate students receive top priority, but master's students may also earn financial support if funding is available. Students may receive up to \$250 per credit.

Amount: Up to \$4,000 per year

National Guard Scholarships

[NGAUS AFBA Active Life Member Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: Co-sponsored by the Armed Forces Benefits Association, this annual award is open to members of the National Guard Association of the United States. Candidates must enroll full-time in an undergraduate or postgraduate program. This merit-based award considers academic performance, standardized test scores, and applicant essays. The association awards two scholarships each year.

Amount: \$5,000

[Van Hipp Heroes Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: The National Guard Education Foundation grants this scholarship to National Guard members wounded in action during Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. Candidates must attend an accredited U.S. institution, which includes American schools in overseas territories. The scholarship may cover tuition, room and board, fees, and books. Students may renew the award for up to four years.

Amount: \$1,000 per year (\$4,000 maximum)

ROTC Scholarships: Introduction

The [Reserve Officers Training Corps \(ROTC\)](#) program was established in 1916 to prepare postsecondary students for military service. More than 1,700 colleges and universities across the country host ROTC programs. The Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy all offer ROTC pathways, while the Coast Guard provides a similar program (keep reading for more details). Students may join two-, three-, or four-year ROTC programs, depending on their chosen military branch.

ROTC candidates receive full financial support for college tuition, fees, books, and lab materials. They may also receive a monthly living stipend. While in school, ROTC students take courses related to their branch of the military and attend trainings during the summer. They must also commit to full-time postgraduate military service in order to receive educational aid. Those who successfully complete ROTC programs enter the military as commissioned officers.

ROTC Scholarships

[Air Force ROTC Scholarships](#)

Who Can Apply: Air Force ROTC scholarships cover the recipient's tuition, lab fees, and books. The scholarship also awards a monthly \$500 stipend. In exchange, students must enroll in Air Force ROTC at the beginning of their first fall term and attend a 24-day summer training course at some point during their college program. Once they have completed their degree, recipients must accept a commission as an Air Force officer and commit to at least four years of active duty.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

[Army ROTC Scholarships](#)

Who Can Apply: The Army offers a four-year ROTC scholarship for incoming students, as well as two- and three-year scholarships for students who have already completed some coursework. Recipients must either enroll in a basic ROTC course at their school or complete the leader's training course held in Fort Knox, Kentucky. Regardless of how long they receive scholarship funding, students must commit to four years of full-time postgraduate service in the U.S. Army.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

ROTC Scholarships

[College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative \(CSPI\)](#)

Who Can Apply: While the Coast Guard does not offer a traditional ROTC program, the CSPI program serves a similar function. Qualifying college juniors and seniors receive two years of full tuition assistance in exchange for four hours of weekly Coast Guard service while they are enrolled. Upon earning their bachelor's degree and graduating from Officer Candidate School, students receive commission as a U.S. Coast Guard officer.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

[Marines ROTC Scholarships](#)

Who Can Apply: The U.S. Navy administers the Marine Corps' ROTC program. Candidates must be U.S. citizens between the ages of 18 and 28. The Marines ROTC program includes courses in naval science, national security policy, and American military history. Students must attend summer training sessions at Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia. Freshmen and sophomores complete two six-week summer sessions, while juniors complete one 10-week summer session. Graduates must commit to at least three years of active duty service.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

ROTC Scholarships

[Navy ROTC Scholarships](#)

Who Can Apply: U.S. citizens between the ages of 17 and 27 may enroll in Navy ROTC programs. In addition to their normal course load, Navy ROTC students take classes in subjects such as calculus, physics, national security, and naval science. Candidates also undergo training sessions each summer. Students who complete a Navy ROTC program receive commission as ensigns in the U.S. Navy. Recipients must commit to five years of postgraduate active duty.

Amount: Varies based on tuition

Scholarships for Veterans, Dependents, and Spouses

[Mike and Gail Donley Spouse Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: Spouses of active duty Air Force, Air Force reserve, Air National Guard, or Department of Air Force civilian personnel may receive this one-time scholarship award. Air Force veterans and Air Force ROTC students are not eligible. Candidates must enroll in an undergraduate or graduate program with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher. Applicants should also submit a 600-word essay and two signed letters of recommendation. The program awards two scholarships each year.

Amount: \$2,500

[Army Nurse Corps Association \(ANCA\) Scholarships](#)

Who Can Apply: The ANCA supports undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees in nursing or anesthesia. In order to qualify, applicants must be the spouse, child, or parent of a U.S. Army service member or veteran. The ANCA awards up to 17 scholarships each year.

Amount: Varies

Scholarships for Veterans, Dependents, and Spouses

Fallen Patriots Scholarship

Who Can Apply: This scholarship assists the children of military personnel killed in the line of duty. Eligible candidates include children by natural descent, marriage, or adoption. The award covers all five military branches, including reservists, and the National Guard. Applicants must submit a copy of the casualty report, information regarding their family's VA benefits, and an official college transcript. Money from the scholarship may pay for tuition and fees, books, room and board, and other expenses. Since its inception, the Fallen Patriots program has provided aid to more than 1,000 recipients.

Amount: Up to \$6,250 per year

Corvias Foundation Scholarships

Who Can Apply: The Corvias Foundation provides multiple scholarships for the children and spouses of active duty service members. Child applicants must be high school seniors between the ages of 16 and 19. These candidates must plan to enroll in an undergraduate program the following fall. Spouses must enroll in an undergraduate or graduate program during the next fall term. The parent or spouse must be stationed at [one of 13 military bases](#) in the U.S. The foundation awards 30 scholarships annually.

Amount: \$5,000

Scholarships for Veterans, Dependents, and Spouses

[Colonel Aaron Burgstein Memorial Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This nonrenewable scholarship assists minor dependents of active duty, retired, or reserve personnel in all five military branches and the National Guard. The scholarship prefers applicants whose parent or guardian served for at least eight years, died in the line of duty, or officially registered with the Air Force Wounded Warrior program. Applicants must submit a 600-word essay, a letter of recommendation, and a college transcript displaying a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

Amount: \$1,000

[Lt. Col. Romeo – Josephine Bass Ferretti Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: This award assists minor dependents of Air Force personnel, active duty Air Force Reserve service members, Air National Guard enlisted airmen, and Air Force veterans. Candidates must enroll in an undergraduate STEM degree. The program selects recipients based on academic achievement and financial need. Application requirements include a 600-word essay, a letter of recommendation, and high school transcripts.

Amount: \$5,000

Scholarships for Veterans, Dependents, and Spouses

[Colonel Hazel Elizabeth Benn U.S.M.C. Scholarship](#)

Who Can Apply: The Fleet Reserve Association Education Foundation sponsors this nonrenewable scholarship award. In order to qualify, applicants must be unmarried dependents of current or retired enlisted Navy medical personnel who served with the Marine Corps. Only freshmen and sophomores enrolled in undergraduate programs at accredited institutions may apply. The foundation awards between one and five scholarships each year.

Amount: \$1,000-\$2,000

[Wings Over America Scholarships](#)

Who Can Apply: These scholarships assist dependents of Navy aviation personnel. Candidates must enroll in an undergraduate program. ROTC students and full tuition scholarship recipients cannot receive the award. Recipients must use the scholarship only for tuition and fees. Wings Over America awards multiple scholarships per year, but applicants may receive the award only once.

Amount: \$3,000 on average

Scholarships for Veterans, Dependents, and Spouses

[Leonardo DRS Guardian Scholarship Fund](#)

Who Can Apply: This scholarship provides funding to the children of National Guard members killed during operational or training missions during Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. Candidates must attend postsecondary U.S. institutions, including schools in overseas territories. Students may renew the award for up to four years.

Amount: Up to \$6,250 per year, or \$25,000 for four years

[Heroes Tribute Scholarship Program for Children of the Fallen](#)

Who Can Apply: The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation gives funding to the children of Marines or Navy corpsmen who died in the 9/11 terrorist attacks, in subsequent combat or training operations, or by suicide due to post-traumatic stress disorder. Candidates must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, and their family's annual income may not exceed \$98,000. Students may renew the award for up to four years.

Amount: \$7,500 per year, or \$30,000 for four years

Tuition Assistance: Military Reserve

According to the [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#), active duty personnel work for the military full-time, reside on military bases, and may be deployed at any time. Reserve duty personnel, or reservists, participate in one weekend drill per month and two week-long sessions each year. Reservists also fill in for active duty personnel who have been deployed. Each branch of the military has its own reserve component.

Reservists in the Air Force, Army, and Coast Guard may receive tuition assistance (TA). This financial aid program helps personnel pay for some or all of their tuition and fees at a college or university. Each branch administers TA individually. The Navy and Marine Corps offers TA to select reserve and active duty personnel. All 50 states offer TA funding to National Guard members. National Guard personnel may also receive fee waivers, student loan repayment assistance, and other educational incentives that vary from state to state.

Tuition Assistance: Army Reserve

Amount: Reserve service members receive 100% tuition funding up to \$250 per semester credit or \$166 per quarter credit. The annual award caps at \$4,500. Army officers seeking a bachelor's degree qualify for 75% tuition assistance up to \$250 per semester credit or \$166 per quarter credit, for an annual cap of \$4,500.

Eligibility: Drilling Army reservists in good standing may receive TA for an academic degree that exceeds their highest current credential. Both enlisted soldiers and warrant officers must have sufficient time remaining in their term of service to complete their studies. Commissioned officers pursuing a bachelor's must have at least four years of remaining service.

Tuition Assistance: Air Force Reserve

Amount: Air Force Reserve [personnel](#) seeking an associate, bachelor's, or master's degree qualify for TA. Those seeking an undergraduate degree receive 100% tuition support up to \$250 per semester credit or \$167 per quarter credit. Reservists pursuing a master's degree qualify for 75% tuition support up to the same amount. Air Force Reserve TA caps at \$4,500.

Eligibility: Air Force reservists seeking degrees from accredited on-campus and online institutions may receive TA. Recipients must actively serve the Air Force Reserve in good standing. All candidates must provide a degree plan before receiving TA funding.

Tuition Assistance: Coast Guard Reserve

Amount: Eligible Coast Guard reservists receive 100% tuition assistance for up to \$250 per semester credit or \$167 per quarter credit. The annual award caps at \$4,000. The Coast Guard imposes a [lifetime credit](#) limit of 130 credits for undergraduate programs and 40 credits for graduate programs.

Eligibility: In order to qualify for TA, Coast Guard Reservists must be on long-term orders that exceed 180 days in length. Recipients may pursue an associate, bachelor's, or master's degree. Students must also maintain satisfactory academic progress while receiving TA support.

Tuition Assistance: Marines Reserve

Amount: Eligible Marines reservists may receive 100% tuition support of up to \$250 per semester credit or \$167 per quarter credit. TA funding caps at \$4,500.

Eligibility: Not all Marine reservists qualify for TA funding. In order to qualify, [candidates](#) must be reservists on continuous active duty, enlisted reservists who have been ordered to active duty for at least 120 days, or reserve officers ordered to active duty for at least two years. First-time TA recipients may enroll in one course that term. The cap for subsequent terms is two courses. Recipients must also have at least two years left in their term of service.

Tuition Assistance: Navy Reserve

Amount: Navy Reserve TA candidates receive 100% tuition support for up to \$250 per semester credit or \$167 per quarter credit. Candidates may also receive up to \$16.67 per clock hour for certificate and diploma programs. TA funding caps at \$4,500 per recipient.

Eligibility: Navy TA is open to reservists on continuous active duty, reservists ordered to 120 days of active duty or more, and reserve officers ordered to at least two years of active duty. Other Navy reservists are not eligible. Recipients must serve on active duty for the duration of their studies and attend accredited institutions. Students must reimburse funds for all courses that result in W or F grades. Additionally, officers who receive TA must commit to at least two years of active duty service once they complete their coursework.

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