



# School Support Services

*A Driving Force for Student Success*

## Post Secondary Information and Resources

Installation Management Command integrates and delivers base support to enable readiness for a globally-responsive Army



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# FAFSA and Residency

## FAFSA

(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

- <https://www.studentaid.gov>
- File as early as October 1 for the following academic year. Financial aid is often given out first-come first serve basis.
- Many early decision college applications and merit scholarships require a FAFSA to submit.
- Deadlines:
  - College Deadlines: Deadlines vary by school.
  - State Deadlines: If applying for aid from your state. <https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/fafsa-deadlines#state>
  - Federal Deadline: June 30 is the last day you can apply for federal aid for the following acad. year.

## In-State Tuition Rules

Higher Education Opportunity Act

- Service member must be on active duty for a period of more than 30 days.
- Domicile or permanent duty station is in the state of the school to which the student is applying.
- The state shall NOT charge the member, spouse, or dependent child tuition for attendance at a public institution of higher education in the state at a rate that is greater than the rate charged for residents of the state.



# Application Preparation

## Create an academic resume for applications and recommenders.

- Academic Summary (GPA, Class Rank, Dual Enrollment, AP Courses, Honors Courses, Special Programs, etc.)
- Honors and Awards (National Honor Society, Certifications, Boy/Girls Scouts, Other Achievements)
- Specific Programs / Things That Stand Out: Out of school sports, arts, scouts, etc.
- School Activities: Clubs, Interscholastic Sports, Academic Programs
- Community Service, Community Engagement, Volunteering
- Employment



# College Application Deadlines

## Early Action/Early Decision

- Early Action Plans are *NON-Binding*: Students receive an early response to their application, but do not have to commit until the reply date of May 1.
- Early Decision Plans are *BINDING*: A student who is accepted as Early Decision *MUST* attend the college.
- October/November deadline timeframe.
- Pros: Can hold on to offer and apply to other schools. High chance of getting accepted and compare financial aid.
- Cons: Few disadvantages to applying early. Not all schools offer early action.

## Regular Decision

- January/February deadline time.
- Pros: More time to prepare, take and retake exams. Can apply to as many as you want.
- Cons: Potentially applying to schools with **MANY** other highly qualified students. Won't know until March or April about acceptance. Possibly more stress.

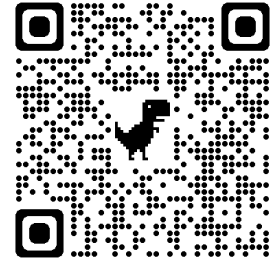
## Rolling Admission

Some schools have an open application window until all spots are filled. Opens Oct/Nov timeframe.



# Scholarships

- Army School Liaison Officer Curated Military-Connected Scholarship List  
<https://sites.google.com/view/militaryconnectedscholarships/home?pli=1>
- Merit Scholarships: Awarded to high-achieving students.
- Scholarship search sites (filter by locality too if possible)
- Libraries and bookstores
- University scholarship pages
- Your high school (and other local high schools)
- Your community/state (local Greek chapters, local organizations, city and state government, local businesses, dentist and doctor offices, local law firms)
- Local military unit and spouse associations
- Also search by interests, hobbies, heritage, family, occupation, etc.



# Post-911 GI Bill (Chapter 33)

## WHAT BENEFITS CAN I GET?

- Tuition and fees: If you qualify for the maximum benefit, VA will cover the full cost of public, in-state tuition and fees.
- Money for housing: VA will base your monthly housing allowance on the cost of living where the school is located.
- Money for books and supplies

## ELIGIBILITY

- You're a dependent child using benefits transferred by a qualifying Veteran or service member:
  - Served at least 90 days on active duty on or after September 11, 2001
  - Received a Purple Heart on or after September 11, 2001 and honorably discharged.
  - Served at least 30 continuous days on or after September 11, 2001 and honorably discharged with a service-connected disability.

## TRANSFERABILITY

<https://www.va.gov/education/transfer-post-9-11-gi-bill-benefits/>

***WHAT IF I QUALIFY FOR OTHER VA EDUCATION BENEFITS?*** *If you're a member of the National Guard or Reserve using the Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR or Chapter 1606) and you decide to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill, you can't switch at some later date to use a different VA Education benefit.*

<https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/>



# Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (Chapter 35)

## WHAT BENEFITS CAN I GET?

- College or graduate degree programs
- Career-training certificate courses
- Educational and career counseling
- Apprenticeships
- On-the-job training

## ELIGIBILITY

- Must be between the ages of 18 and 26. You may be married or unmarried.
- Parent/Guardian that's a Veteran/Service Member must meet ONE of these qualifications:  
Permanently and totally disable due to a service-connected disability. Died while on active duty as a result of a service-connected disability. Missing in action or was captured in the line of duty by a hostile force. Forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign entity. In the hospital or getting outpatient treatment for a service-connected permanent and total disability and I likely to be discharged for that disability.
- Parent will have to release right to student for educational benefits.
- Student will need a letter from the school showing they are currently enrolled.

<https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/dependents-education-assistance/>



# Educational and Career Counseling (VA Chapter 36)

## WHAT BENEFITS CAN I GET?

- Career counseling to help you decide which civilian or military jobs you want.
- Education counseling to help you find a training program or field of study.
- Academic and adjustment counseling to help you address issues or barriers that get in the way of your success.
- Resume support and goal planning.

## ELIGIBILITY

- You're a service member, Veteran, or dependent currently eligible for VA educational benefits.
  - Service member will be discharged under condition other than dishonorable from active duty within 6 months.
  - Service member will be separated from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable not more than 1 year ago.
  - You qualify as a Veteran or service member for educational assistance under a VA educational program.

<https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/education-and-career-counseling/>





# Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) (Chapter 1606)

## WHAT BENEFITS CAN I GET?

- Up to \$407 per month in compensation for up to 36 months.

## ELIGIBILITY

### One of these must be true:

- You have a 6-year service obligation in the Selected Reserve OR
- You're an officer in the Selected Reserve and you agreed to serve 6 years in addition to your initial service obligation.

### All of these must also be true.

- You complete your initial active duty for training (IADT) AND
- You get a high school diploma or certificate of equal value, like a High School Equivalency Diploma or GED, before finishing IADT AND
- You stay in good standing while serving in an active Selected Reserve unit.

<https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/montgomery-selected-reserve/>



# Other Resources

- Veteran Benefits by State:  
<https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/state-veterans-benefits-directory.html>
- Military Scholarships  
<https://fisherhouse.org/programs/scholarship-programs/>
- Fry Scholarship  
<https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/fry-scholarship/>
- Army Reserve Education Benefits  
<https://www.goarmy.com/reserve/benefits/education.m.html>
- Department of Defense SMART Scholarship Program  
<https://www.smartscholarship.org/>
- Gratitude Initiative  
<https://gratitudeinitiative.org/>

