

SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES



Education Benefits for Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families

Learn about the benefits available to you as early as possible in your military career. Some benefits are established when you enlist, others require that you take action while enlisted, and some have time limits that may expire.

Visit FAMEmaine.com/education/audiences/military for information about education benefits for service members, veterans, and their families including web links to specific programs.



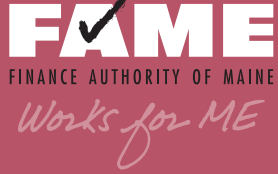
Tuition Assistance Programs

- The **Tuition Assistance Program** is a voluntary education benefit that covers up to 100% of tuition and fees up to a maximum amount.
- **Tuition Assistance Top-Up Program** allows eligible active duty service members to use their Montgomery GI Bill benefits to “top up” tuition assistance benefits when they do not fully cover tuition and fees.

The GI Bill

- **Post-9/11 GI Bill** became effective as of August 1, 2009. Eligibility is based on active duty as of September 11, 2001. The Post-9/11 GI Bill pays tuition and fees (up to a maximum amount), a housing allowance, and a stipend for books and supplies.

- **Montgomery GI Bill** pays a flat monthly fee based on time served.
- **Transfer of Benefits** provision states that Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits may be transferred from service members to their dependents under certain circumstances.
- **Yellow Ribbon Program** supplements the Post-9/11 GI Bill by providing matching funds to participating school funds to cover tuition and fees that exceed the maximum allowable payment amount.
- **Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship** amends the Post-9/11 GI Bill to include the children of service members who die in the line of duty on or after September 11, 2001.
- **College Fund Programs – GI Bill Kicker** provides an additional amount of money that increases an individual’s basic monthly benefit and is included in the monthly GI Bill payment.



Additional Department of Veterans Affairs Education Benefits Programs

- **Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)** provides education benefits to reservists called to active duty post-9/11.
- **Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)** benefits are available to veterans who entered service between January 1, 1977 and June 30, 1985 and elected to make contributions from their military pay to participate in this program. Contributions are matched on a 2:1 basis.
- **The Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) VetSuccess Program** helps veterans with service-connected disabilities reintegrate into the workforce. The VR&E Program provides counseling, training, education, employment and other related services.
- **Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance (DEA)** provides tuition benefits to children and/or spouses of veterans who died in service or, as a result of service, are totally disabled.

Department of Defense Programs

- **Loan Repayment Programs** repay student loans that enlistees have incurred prior to service.
- **National Call to Service Program** is an incentive program that offers new enlistees a choice of financial incentives, including student loan repayment, upon completion of program service requirements.
- **The Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts Program (MyCAA)** provides financial assistance to military spouses who are pursuing degree programs, licenses or credentials leading to employment.

State of Maine Veterans Dependents Educational Benefits

- **State of Maine Veterans Dependents Educational Benefits** is a tuition waiver program at schools in the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System, and Maine Maritime Academy.

Maine National Guard Service Members – Free In-State Tuition

- Maine National Guard Service Members may be eligible for free in-state tuition rates at schools in the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System, and Maine Maritime Academy.

Other Ways to Pay for College

Even though you may be eligible for military benefits, there may be other resources to help pay for college.

- **Federal Financial Aid.** *Receipt of veterans benefits often doesn't prevent you from receiving other types of federal financial aid, so be sure you apply for financial aid by submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov.*
- **Federal Student Aid Benefits for Military Families.** Explore additional federal student aid benefits like grants, reduced student loan interest rates, and special deferments for military families.
- **Scholarships.** Many scholarships are available to veterans and adult learners. Be sure to use terms like veteran, nontraditional student, adult student and returning to school when searching for scholarships.

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