

Military Affiliated Student External Scholarship Opportunities

updated as of 4/2026

Scholarship Name	Regional Focus	Eligibility Summary	Estimated Award	Website Link
Air Force Aid Society (AFAS): General Henry H. Arnold Grant	National	Provides need-based education grants to the dependent children and spouses of U.S. Air Force and Space Force members. This flagship program is designed to help families cover the cost of undergraduate tuition and fees at accredited vocational/technical schools or colleges.	Varies	https://afas.org/haparnoldgrant/
Air Force Association (AFA)	National	Provides a variety of academic scholarships to Air Force and Space Force service members, veterans, and their dependents. These awards range from support for undergraduate and graduate degrees to specific grants for flight training and STEM-focused education. Membership required for most awards.	Varies	https://www.afa.org/scholarships/
AMVETS	National	AMVETS Scholarship Program offers several different scholarship categories for veterans, active-duty personnel, and their children or grandchildren. These merit-based awards are designed to help with the costs of full-time undergraduate or graduate study.	Varies	https://www.amvets.org/scholarships
American Legion	National	The American Legion has an extensive scholarship program including a legacy scholarship for dependent children of Service Members who died while serving on active duty post-9/11, as well as scholarships for Eagle Scouts and participants in the Boys State and Girls State Programs.	Varies	https://www.legion.org/get-involved/scholarships
Anchor Scholarship	National	Provides academic scholarships to the dependent children and spouses of Navy personnel who have served a minimum of six years in units under the administrative control of the Commander, Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Atlantic Fleet or U.S. Pacific Fleet. These awards support undergraduate studies at accredited colleges or universities.	Varies	https://anchorscholarship.org/
Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA)	National	Provides merit-based scholarships to members* of the AAAA and their families, including spouses, children, grandchildren, and unmarried siblings. These awards range from \$1,000 to \$12,000 and support students pursuing college-level education. The foundation also features a dedicated "Families of the Fallen" program specifically for the surviving spouses and children of those killed in action or in training accidents. Membership required.	Varies	https://www.quad-a.org/Scholarship/
Army Emergency Relief (AER)	National	AER Scholarship Program provides need-based grants for the children and spouses of Soldiers (Active Duty, Retired, and deceased). Two primary programs—the Mrs. Patty Shinseki Spouse Scholarship and the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship (for children)—help cover undergraduate tuition, fees, and supplies.	Varies	https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/scholarships/
Army Scholarship Foundation	National	The Army Scholarship Foundation is a charitable, non-profit organization dedicated to providing college scholarships for undergraduate study to deserving children of current and former members of the U.S. Army, and to spouses of currently serving soldiers.	Varies	https://armyscholarshipfoundation.org/
Army Women's Foundation Legacy Scholarship	National	Provides academic grants to women who have served or are currently serving honorably in the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserve, or Army National Guard, as well as their lineal descendants. These merit-based scholarships support students at various levels, including certificate programs, community college, undergraduate degrees, and graduate degrees (Masters or Doctoral), at any accredited institution.	Varies	https://www.awfdn.org/scholarships/general-information/
The Association of the United States Army (AUSA)	National	AUSA Scholarship Program provides significant financial assistance to AUSA members, including active duty, transitioners, and their families. Awards range from \$2,000 grants to full-tuition scholarships for undergraduate and graduate degrees. Eligibility is primarily based on AUSA membership* and academic merit.	Varies	https://www.ausa.org/scholarships

Children of Fallen Patriots	National	Children of Fallen Patriots provides college scholarships and educational counseling to military children who have lost a parent in the line of duty. They aim to cover the "gap" in funding between government benefits (like the Fry Scholarship) and the actual cost of college, ensuring students graduate debt-free.	Varies	https://fallenpatriots.org/
Chisholm Chisholm & Kilpatrick LTD	National	Child of an American Veteran Scholarship is awarded annually by the law firm Chisholm Chisholm & Kilpatrick to the child of a U.S. military veteran. The award supports students pursuing an undergraduate degree who can demonstrate academic achievement and a commitment to their community.	\$1,500	https://cck-law.com/undergraduate-scholarship/
Coast Guard Foundation	National	Provides merit-based financial aid to the children of active-duty, reserve, and retired Coast Guard members. These grants support students pursuing undergraduate degrees or vocational/technical training at accredited institutions.	Varies	https://coastguardfoundation.org/scholarships
Coast Guard Mutual Association	National	CGMA offers several forms of financial support for the Coast Guard community, including the Supplemental Education Grant (SEG) and the CGMA Stafford Loan Subsidy. These programs are designed to assist active duty members, retirees, and their dependents with the costs of higher education and professional development.	Varies	https://mycgma.org/programs/?cat_id=16
Daughters of the Cincinnati	National	Provides need-based scholarships to the daughters of career commissioned officers of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard (active duty, retired, or deceased). These awards are designed to support students throughout their four-year undergraduate education at accredited colleges.	Varies	https://daughters1894.org/scholarships/
Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund	National	Provides merit-based scholarships to civilian federal and postal employees, as well as their spouses, children, and legal dependents. These awards support students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees at accredited institutions, with special tracks available for first-generation college students and through partnerships with various federal unions and associations.	Varies	https://feea.org/our-programs/scholarships/
Fisher House	National	Fisher House Scholarship Programs offers two primary grants: Scholarships for Military Children (for dependents of active duty/reserve/retired personnel) and Heroes' Legacy Scholarships (for children of fallen or disabled service members). These merit-based awards help cover tuition, books, and fees at accredited colleges and universities.	Varies	https://fisherhouse.org/programs/scholarship-programs/
Fleet Reserve Association (FRA)	National	Provided by the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA), this program awards approximately \$90,000 annually to students affiliated with the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard. Eligibility is based on the applicant's own service or that of a spouse, parent, grandparent, or great-grandparent. While some awards are open to any affiliated student, FRA members and their families are eligible for a broader range of specialized scholarships.	Varies	https://www.fra.org/fra/web/
Folds of Honor	National	Provides academic scholarships to the spouses and dependents of fallen or disabled U.S. service members and first responders. Support is available for K-12 private school tuition, tutoring, and higher education (undergraduate and graduate).	Varies	https://foldsofhonor.org/scholarships/
Fort Hood Scholarship Fund	Central Texas	Provides merit-based academic and vocational scholarships to the graduating high school seniors and military spouses of active duty, retired, and Gold Star families stationed at or associated with Fort Hood, residing in the surrounding Central Texas counties (Bell, Coryell, McLennan, Williamson). The program supports students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees and qualifying technical certifications in a wide range of fields.	Varies	https://forthoodscholarship.org/

Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund	National	Provides academic scholarships to the dependent children of U.S. military personnel who were killed in action, became 100% totally and permanently disabled as a result of a combat mission or training accident, or were classified as a Prisoner of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA). These awards support students pursuing their first undergraduate degree or vocational/technical certificate at accredited institutions.	Varies	https://fascholarship.com/
Hats Off for Veterans (HOFV)	Texas	Provides supplemental financial assistance to honorably discharged veterans in Texas who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree at an accredited college or university. The program is designed to bridge the gap in educational expenses, helping veterans achieve their higher education goals and successfully transition into new careers.	Varies	https://ohofv.org/educational-scholarships
The John S. McCain International Scholarship for Military Families (Gilman-McCain Scholarship)	National	The Gilman-McCain Scholarship provides awards of \$5,000 for child and spousal dependents of active or activated US military personnel during the time of application to study or intern abroad on credit-bearing programs. Applicants must be recipients of any type of Title IV federal financial aid during the time of application or provide proof that they will be receiving Title IV federal financial aid during their study abroad program or internship. Supplemental awards for STEM and Critical Need Language (CLNA) are available.	Varies	https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/program/gilman-mccain-scholarships/
Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation	National	Provides need-based scholarships to the children of Marines and Navy Corpsmen who served with Marine units. These awards support students pursuing undergraduate degrees or vocational/technical certificates at accredited institutions across the country.	Varies	https://www.mcsf.org/
Marines Memorial Association & Foundation	National	Offers several scholarship programs for Veterans, Active Duty service members, and the children or grandchildren of Association members*. These merit and need-based awards support students pursuing undergraduate, graduate, or vocational/technical degrees at accredited institutions.	Varies	https://marinesmemorial.org/members/scholarships/
Military Family Support Trust	Florida	Provides 4-year scholarships ranging from \$4,000 to \$12,000 for Florida high school seniors who are children or grandchildren of military members (Active, Retired, or Veteran). Applicants must meet specific rank requirements (E-5 and above) and have a minimum 3.0 GPA.	Varies	https://www.milfamilysupport.org/scholarships
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Educational Assistance	National	Provides interest-free loans and grants to the children of military officers and senior NCOs to assist with the costs of a first undergraduate degree. The program is designed to supplement other financial aid and requires that the student or parent be a member* of the Military Officers Association of America.	Varies	https://charities.moaa.org/scholarship-fund/loan-programs/
National Guard Association of Texas (NGAT) Scholarships	Texas	Provides financial assistance to members of the National Guard Association of Texas and their families. These scholarships are awarded annually to help cover the costs of undergraduate or graduate education for active Guard members, their spouses, children, and grandchildren.	Varies	https://ngat.org/benefits/
National Military Family Association	National	Provides versatile financial assistance to military spouses of all eight Uniformed Services who are pursuing various educational and professional goals. These awards can be used for degree programs (from GED to PhD), professional licenses, certifications, clinical supervision hours for mental health careers, and even start-up expenses for spouse-owned businesses.	Varies	https://www.militaryfamily.org/
Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS)	National	Offers need-based grants and interest-free loans to the spouses and children of Sailors and Marines. Support is available for undergraduate and master's degrees (spouses only), as well as career and technical education at accredited U.S. institutions.	Varies	https://www.nmcrcs.org/our-services/financial-assistance-loans

Navy Supply Corps Foundation	National	Provides financial assistance for undergraduate studies to the families of current or former Navy Supply Corps personnel. Eligible applicants include spouses, children, and grandchildren of regular, retired, reserve, or prior-service Supply Corps officers, as well as spouses and children of active-duty or retired enlisted members with a supply-related rating (e.g., LS, SK, CS). These awards include one-time and multi-year grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000, and \$20,000 memorial scholarships for children of Supply Corps officers who died while on active duty.	Varies	https://navysupplycorpsfoundation.org/
No Greater Sacrifice	National	No Greater Sacrifice (NGS) Scholarship is dedicated to children of fallen and wounded post-9/11 service members. This scholarship covers "unmet need"—costs not covered by other aid—including tuition, room and board, and books, to ensure students can graduate debt-free from an undergraduate or trade school program	Varies	https://nogreatersacrifice.org/
Operation Second Chance	National	Provides need-based financial assistance to the unmarried dependent children of veterans who are deceased, or who have a combat-related VA disability rating of 70% or higher. These one-time grants of up to \$5,000 are awarded to high school seniors to aid in the pursuit of a first undergraduate degree or a vocational/technical certification at an accredited institution.	Varies	https://operationsecondchance.org/scholarships/
Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)	National	PVA Educational Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) members and their immediate families. Awards are available for both full-time (\$2,500) and part-time (\$1,000) students enrolled in accredited U.S. colleges or universities.	Varies	https://pva.org/find-support/scholarship-program/
Pat Tillman Foundation	National	Tillman Scholars Program: A premier scholarship and leadership program for high-achieving veterans and military spouses. It provides funding for tuition, fees, and living expenses, while connecting "Tillman Scholars" to a lifelong network of leaders dedicated to public service and community impact.	Varies	https://pattillmanfoundation.org/
Society of the First Infantry Division Scholarship	National	Provides national academic scholarships to the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of soldiers who are currently serving or have served in the 1st Infantry Division ("The Big Red One"). These competitive awards—including the Huebner and McCormick scholarships—support students pursuing undergraduate degrees or vocational/technical training at any accredited institution in the country.	Varies	https://www.1stid.org/scholarships
Special Operations Warrior Foundation	National	Provides a comprehensive "cradle-to-career" educational suite for the surviving children of fallen Special Operations personnel and Medal of Honor recipients. Their higher education program covers the full cost of a student's post-secondary education, including tuition, room and board, books, fees, and even a laptop.	Varies	https://specialops.org/what-we-do/educational-programs/
Student Veterans of America	National	Provides a variety of scholarship opportunities for student veterans pursuing higher education through partnerships with various organizations and private donors. These awards are designed to support veterans at different stages of their academic journey, offering financial assistance for degrees in fields such as STEM, mental health counseling, and leadership.	Varies	https://studentveterans.org/programs-events/scholarships/
Tailhook Educational Foundation	National	Provides over 150 merit-based academic scholarships annually to the families of Naval Aviation personnel. Eligible applicants include the children and grandchildren of current or former U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard Naval Aviators, Flight Officers, and Aircrewmen, as well as individuals (and their families) who have served aboard a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier. Awards range from \$3,000 to \$20,000 for undergraduate studies at accredited institutions.	Varies	https://www.tailhook.net/tef
VFW: Help A Hero	National	Provides financial assistance to active-duty service members and veterans to help them complete their educational goals without student loan debt. These scholarships of up to \$5,000 are awarded to qualified applicants across all branches of the military who have at least a rank of E-5 or below.	Varies	https://vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support

VFW: Voice of Democracy	National	The Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy program is open to all 9-12 grade students, and awards one national first-place winner a \$30,000 scholarship to a U.S. university, college, or vocational/technical school. National scholarships range from \$1,000-\$16,000, and a first-place winner from each state VFW wins an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, DC.	Varies	https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships
Wells Fargo Stacey Milbern Scholarship	National	Administered by Scholarship America, this program supports students with disabilities who are pursuing an undergraduate degree at an accredited two-year or four-year college or university. The scholarship is renewable and aims to help students with long-term or recurring disabilities (which impact one or more major life activities) gain the education and training necessary for their chosen career paths.	Varies	https://scholarshipamerica.org/scholarship/pwdscholarship/
Wells Fargo Veterans Scholarship	National	Administered by Scholarship America, this program provides scholarships of up to \$5,000 to help honorably discharged veterans, or the spouses/widows of disabled veterans, fill unmet financial needs after using military benefits. The awards support full-time undergraduate or first-time master's degree study at accredited two-year or four-year colleges, universities, or vocational schools.	Varies	https://scholarshipamerica.org/scholarship/wellsfargoveterans/
Wells Fargo Veterans Emergency Grant Program	National	Administered by Scholarship America, this program provides one-time grants of up to \$1,000 to help student veterans (and spouses/widows of disabled veterans) manage unexpected financial setbacks. These funds are specifically designed to cover emergency costs—such as housing, medical bills, childcare, or car repairs—that might otherwise force a student to drop out of their degree or vocational program.	Varies	https://info.scholarshipamerica.org/emergency-grants-student-veterans
Wings Over America	National	Provides college scholarships to the dependent children and spouses of Navy personnel who have served in U.S. Navy Aviation. These merit-based awards support students pursuing their first undergraduate degree at accredited community colleges, trade schools, or four-year universities.	Varies	https://woasf.org/

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Students are responsible for:

- Verifying all eligibility requirements and deadlines directly with the scholarship provider.
- Reviewing the privacy policies and terms of service of any external website.
- Ensuring the security of any personal information shared during the application process.

To protect our military-connected community, please remember:

- No Fees: Legitimate scholarships will never ask for an application fee, "processing fee," or "redemption fee."
- No Sensitive Data: Be cautious of any application asking for your Social Security Number (SSN) or bank account information upfront.
- Too Good to be True: Avoid organizations that "guarantee" an award or claim you have won a contest you never entered.

If you find a broken link or believe a listed organization is no longer active, please contact Nadia Mahannah at mahannah@southwestern.edu so we can update this resource for your fellow students.