



The City  
University  
of  
New York



# VETERANS

and Military Personnel

# Support for Veterans and Military Personnel at CUNY

## **CUNY Leading the Way**

The City University of New York (CUNY) welcomes and supports the academic endeavors of current and retired service members, including their dependents, across its colleges in New York City.

CUNY defines a veteran as anyone who was in active military service, including basic training, and was released under a condition other than “dishonorable.”

Additionally, CUNY defines military personnel as persons currently serving in the United States armed forces, whether on active duty, in the reserve or in the National Guard.

CUNY recognizes the valuable contributions that veterans bring to academia as engaged citizens and students, both inside and outside of the classroom.

We serve as an advocate and information hub for prospective and enrolled student veterans. Our office is dedicated to fostering a sense of community for the 3,000+ student veterans that are currently enrolled across the CUNY system.

## **Academic Access**

CUNY is composed of over 20 colleges that range from four-year colleges to community colleges and professional schools. Campuses can be found in each of the five boroughs that comprise NYC, offering a rich array of options to enrich student life, including: athletics, clubs, and community service opportunities. Visit [www.cuny.edu/explore](http://www.cuny.edu/explore) to discover the great opportunities at CUNY.

Whether you are a first-time college applicant, a transfer student, a student returning to college to complete a degree, or someone who is simply looking to change or advance an existing career, we look forward to assisting with your college search, enrollment and future graduation plans.

# Guide to Apply

- **Step 1 - Explore CUNY** at [www.cuny.edu/explore](http://www.cuny.edu/explore)
- **Step 2 - Prepare to Apply** at [www.cuny.edu/prepare](http://www.cuny.edu/prepare)
- **Step 3 - Apply to CUNY** at [www.cuny.edu/apply](http://www.cuny.edu/apply)

## Undergraduate Admissions

1. Apply online at [www.cuny.edu/apply](http://www.cuny.edu/apply).
2. Request your Veterans Application Fee Waiver: All veteran, military personnel and future veteran applicants are eligible to receive a waiver for the CUNY Application Fee. After you submit your Admission Application, be sure to select “PAY LATER” in the payment options screen. Then, request the fee waiver by emailing your proof of military service to [vetwaiver@cuny.edu](mailto:vetwaiver@cuny.edu).
3. Send your Supporting Documents to the University Application Processing Center (UAPC). The address is listed at the end of the online application in your application summary packet.
4. Provide Transcript of Military Training and Experience (JST) to CUNY (see details on the next page).

## Graduate Admissions

1. Apply online at the website of your CUNY school of choice.
2. Request your Veterans Application Fee Waiver from the Graduate Admissions office of your CUNY college of choice.
3. Send your Supporting Documents directly to your CUNY college of choice.
4. Provide Transcript of Military Training and Experience (JST) to your CUNY college of choice.

- **Step 4 - After You Apply** visit [www.cuny.edu/afteryouapply](http://www.cuny.edu/afteryouapply)
  - Enroll in the Post-9/11 GI Bill at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)\*
  - Apply for Financial Aid at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)\*
  - Apply for Additional Veterans Benefits\*
    - New York State TAP at [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov)
    - New York State Veterans Tuition Award at [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov)
    - New York National Guard Tuition Benefit before deadline (if eligible) at [www.dmna.state.ny.us/education/](http://www.dmna.state.ny.us/education/)

\*see page 4 for details

- **Step 5 - After You Are Admitted** visit [www.cuny.edu/afteradmission](http://www.cuny.edu/afteradmission)
  - Provide Proof of Military Status to College
  - Request Veterans Commitment Deposit Waiver by contacting your campus veterans representative. A list of veteran representatives can be found at [www.cuny.edu/veterans](http://www.cuny.edu/veterans)
  - Apply for GI Bill Education Benefits
  - Apply for DoD Tuition Assistance
  - Apply for Veteran Work-Study
  - Join Your College's Student Veterans Organization!

## Joint Services Transcript (JST)



CUNY values the training and experience you received during your military experience. Each institution will evaluate your military experience as it applies to their academic requirements for a specific program, at their own discretion.

The first step to obtaining credits is to view an unofficial copy of your military transcript and request an official copy at:

- Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard:  
<https://jst.doded.mil/>
- Air Force:  
[www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp](http://www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp)

Each CUNY college has a veterans coordinator who will assist in the transfer of credits and other steps needed to complete your enrollment and obtain your benefits.

Visit [www.cuny.edu/veterans](http://www.cuny.edu/veterans) for more information about the Joint Services Transcript.

# Financial Aid for Veterans

At CUNY, there are many options for financial assistance for veterans. If you seek financial assistance, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). You may apply as early as January 1 prior to the academic year you are planning to attend.

New York State residents should also complete a Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) application for NY state aid, which is available at [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov). Visit [www.cuny.edu/financialaid](http://www.cuny.edu/financialaid) for further information on financial aid programs.

The following pages list many of the financial aid opportunities that are available to veterans at CUNY.



## Federal Aid

### Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act (Chapter 33)

The Post-9/11 GI Bill took effect on August 1, 2009. The new chapter provides up to 36 months of educational benefits for individuals who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Eligibility for benefits is extended to 15 years from the last period of active duty. Benefit entitlement is determined by length of active duty service after September 10, 2001. In addition to tuition and fees (not to exceed the most expensive in-state undergraduate tuition at a public institution), there are provisions for a monthly housing allowance equal to E-5 basic allowance for housing with dependents (based on college zip code) and a yearly stipend of \$1,000 for books and equipment.

The Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship amended the Post-9/11 GI Bill to include the children of service members who died in the line of duty after September 10, 2001. Eligible children are entitled to 36 months of benefits at the 100% level, have 15 years to use the benefit beginning on their 18th birthday, and may be married and over 23 and still be eligible. Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for more information.

### Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty (Chapter 30)

The MGIB-AD program provides up to 36 months of education benefits payable for 10 years following release from active duty. This benefit may be used for degree and certificate programs, flight training, apprenticeship/on-the-job training and

correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved.

To apply, use VA Form 22-1990 or apply online at [www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp](http://www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp). Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for more information.

### Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606)

The MGIB-SR program provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserve, including the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve, and the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. This program does not require a person to serve on active duty to qualify. To apply, obtain a Notice of Basic Eligibility (DD Form 2384 or 2384-1) from your unit and complete VA Form 22-1990. Visit [www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp](http://www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp) to apply online. Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for more information.

### Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607)

REAP is an education program that provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserves, Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) and National Guard who are called to active service. The educational assistance allowance payable under REAP is a percentage of the MGIB rate based on the number of continuous days served on active duty. To apply, complete VA Form 22-1990 and indicate you are applying for REAP. Visit [www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp](http://www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp) to apply online. Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for more information.

## **Veterans Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 32)**

VEAP is available if you first entered active duty between January 1, 1977 and June 30, 1985 and you elected to make contributions from your military pay to participate in this education benefit program. Your contributions are matched on a \$2-for-\$1 basis by the government.

To apply, complete VA Form 22-1990 or apply online at [www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp](http://www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp). Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for more information.

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

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans who died or are permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. Spouses have 10 years from the date the VA establishes eligibility to use the benefit. Surviving spouses of veterans who died while on active duty have 20 years from the date of the veteran's death to use the benefit. Children may use the benefit while they are between the ages of 18 and 26. Time limits can be extended under certain circumstances.

To apply, complete VA Form 22-5490 or apply online at [www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp](http://www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp). Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for more information.

## **Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Chapter 31)**

The VR&E Program aids veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find and keep suitable jobs. If any training is needed, the VA will pay your training costs, such as tuition and fees, books, supplies, equipment and, if needed, special services. While in training, the VA will also pay a monthly benefit called a Subsistence Allowance to help with living expenses. Those who are eligible for both VR&E (Ch.31) and the Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) may choose that bill's monthly housing allowance instead of Subsistence Allowance. To receive an evaluation for VR&E services, a veteran must have received, or be scheduled to receive, a discharge that is other

than dishonorable and have a service-connected disability rating of at least 10 percent.

To apply, complete VA Form 28-1900 or apply online at [www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp](http://www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp). For more information, visit [www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/vrs.htm](http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/vrs.htm).

## **Veterans Work-Study Program**

To be eligible for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs work-study program recipients must be receiving full-time GI Bill benefits and training in a college degree, vocational, or professional program at least three-quarters time. Work-study students may work up to 750 hours per year. Depending on eligibility, the pay rate is either the Federal minimum hourly wage or the minimum wage for the state in which you are working. Additionally, these students can work at a CUNY designated site or at any VA facility, including the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Veterans Health Administration (VHA), National Cemetery Administration (NCA), Veterans Centers (VC) and Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC).

For more information, visit [www.benefits.va.gov](http://www.benefits.va.gov) and search for work-study; or call the toll-free number at 1-888-GIBILL-1(1-888-442-4551).

## **Tutorial Assistance**

The Department of Veterans Affairs will pay up to \$100 per month for your tutorial assistance in addition to your regular monthly educational benefits. The maximum amount payable is \$1,200. If you are training under Chapter 33 or Chapter 35, the VA will not charge you any entitlement for tutorial assistance. If you are training under Chapter 30, 32 or 1606, the VA will not charge entitlement for your first \$600 of tutorial assistance. For tutorial assistance over \$600, the VA will charge one month of entitlement whenever you receive an amount equal to the full-time monthly rate you get for going to school.

For more information, call the VA's toll-free number at 1-888-GIBILL-1(1-888-442-4551).

## **Tuition Assistance Program**

Armed Forces Tuition Assistance is a benefit paid to eligible members of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard. Congress has given each service the ability to pay up to 100% for the tuition

expenses of its members. Each service has its own criteria for eligibility, obligated service, the application process and restrictions.

Visit [www.military.com/education](http://www.military.com/education) for more information.

### **MyCAA Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts**

The MyCAA program offers a maximum financial aid benefit of \$4,000 with a fiscal cap of \$2,000. Programs of study are limited to Associate Degrees, Certification and Licensures. Spouses of active duty service members in pay grades E-1, E-2, W-1 – W-2, and O1 – O2 as well as the spouses of activated Guard and Reserve members within those ranks are eligible. The MyCAA program does not include Coast Guard spouses.

Visit <https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa/> for more information.

### **Army Continuing Education System (ACES)**

The Army Continuing Education System (ACES), through its many programs, promotes lifelong learning opportunities and sharpens the competitive edge of Army members. ACES is committed to excellence in service, innovation, and deployability. Its mission promotes lifelong learning, readiness and resilience through flexible and relevant education programs, services and systems in support of Army members and their families. The goal of ACES is to be the premier education enterprise solution within the Department of Defense.

Visit <https://www.hrc.army.mil/> and search for ACES for more information.



## **State Aid**

New York State Veterans Tuition Awards (VTA) provide aid to eligible veterans matriculated in an undergraduate or graduate program or an approved vocational training program within NYS. Eligible veterans for this program are NYS residents honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces who have served in:

- Vietnam/Indochina between 12/22/61–5/7/75
- Persian Gulf on or after 8/2/90
- Afghanistan during or after 9/11/01
- Veterans who served in hostilities after 12/22/61 and received an Armed Forces, Navy or Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal

Eligible veterans receive full undergraduate tuition coverage at CUNY through New York State Veterans Tuition Awards (VTA). CUNY part-time students receive awards that are prorated by credit hour. Students must apply yearly for payment by completing the FAFSA, TAP and NYS Veterans Tuition Award Supplement.

Visit [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov) then click Military Corner.

**New York Army National Guard Federal Tuition Assistance Program**, formerly the ACES Program, is not specifically a veterans program but offers NY ARNG soldiers from \$250 per semester hour to \$4,500 annually per soldier, not to exceed the cost

of the course or program taken. The institution must be accredited but may include public/private colleges, universities, vocational, technical or trade schools within and outside of NYS. ARNG also funds non-degree study at accredited institutions. While professional degrees are eligible, doctoral programs are not.

Visit [www.dmna.ny.us/education](http://www.dmna.ny.us/education) to learn more.

**Military Service Recognition Scholarship (MSRS)** offers awards for spouses, children and financial dependents of a service person whose parent/spouse was severely and permanently disabled or killed at any time on or after 8/2/90 and was a New York State resident at that time. The awards allow for direct costs (tuition, fees, on-campus room and board, commuter students allowance, books, supplies and transportation) at a public/private university up to the cost of CUNY tuition. The MSRS award may not exceed the cost of attendance and additional awards may result in its reduction. Students must complete the FAFSA application, the TAP application and the NYS Military Service Recognition Scholarship Supplement.

Visit [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov) then click Military Corner.

**NYS Regents Award for Children of Deceased and Disabled Veterans** will grant \$450 to eligible students whose parent(s) served during specific periods of time and died or suffered 40 percent or more disability, or is/are classified as missing in action or a prisoner of war. Parent(s) must be current NYS resident(s) or have been NYS resident(s) at the time of death/classified status. The FAFSA application, TAP application and NYS Children of Veterans Award Web Supplement are required. Students born with spina bifida whose parent(s) is a/are Vietnam veteran(s) are also eligible and should contact HESC for detailed application instructions. Students should also request a Scholarship & Grant Payment Application to request payment.

Visit [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov) then click Military Corner.

**Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (RIRP)** is a tuition benefit for active NYS National Guard members. It provides eligible, qualified applicants who have completed advanced

individual training within NYS Military Forces (Army and Air National Guard, Naval Militia) the cost of tuition up to \$4,350 per calendar year. It will cover tuition after all other financial aid has been applied to charges. Students complete the FAFSA, TAP and DMNA96-1 form (available from one's individual National Guard unit).

Visit [www.dmna.ny.us/education](http://www.dmna.ny.us/education) for more information.

**Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)** is a New York State vocational rehabilitation program for students with disabilities. ACCES-VR Counselors guide individuals through service programs they need to reach their employment goals.

Visit [www.acces.nysed.gov](http://www.acces.nysed.gov) to learn more.



**Note:** New York State residency eligibility for awards is waived for a dependent or spouse of the service person who is on full-time active duty and is stationed in New York State.

Questions regarding eligible service or documentation may be directed to the HESC Scholarship Unit at **1-888-697-4372**.

# In-State Tuition and other Benefits



CUNY recently passed a resolution which provides out-of-state veterans with an In-State Tuition benefit. This resolution applies to Freshman, Continuing and Transfer student veterans with a discharge other than dishonorable. However, at this time, it excludes reservists and National Guard.

In order to continue receiving In-State Tuition, these students must have established New York State residency (as defined by the CUNY Tuition & Fee Manual) by the end of the 18-month period. Also, there is no retroactive benefit for prior semesters.

## **Grades**

A student who is called to active duty in the armed forces of the United States after having attended regularly for 13 or more weeks or having completed 85% of the term's work through acceleration may be given full credit for each course in which he or she has received a grade of C or better.

## **Readmission Fee**

Upon return from military service, a student will not be charged a readmission fee to register at the same college.

## **Refunds**

Students called to active duty or drafted who do not meet attendance requirements sufficient to earn a grade are entitled to a 100% refund of tuition and fees, except application fees.

## **Special Continuing Problems**

If students are unable to resolve their issues at their home campus, they may contact CUNY's Office of Veterans Affairs at (646) 664-8835.

# CUNY Resources

## Visit Our Website

The CUNY Office of Veterans Affairs website is a one-stop source of information for returning military veterans and their families. It is a guide to educational benefits, entitlements, counseling, advocacy resources and the latest news, which will aid you in attaining your academic, personal and professional goals.

[www.cuny.edu/veterans](http://www.cuny.edu/veterans)

## CUNY Welcome Center

217 East 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10017  
212-997-CUNY (2869)  
[vetwaiver@cuny.edu](mailto:vetwaiver@cuny.edu)

## CUNY Office of Veterans Affairs

CUNY Office of Veterans Affairs  
555 West 57th Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Suite 1401  
New York, NY 10019  
(646) 664-8835

[veterans@cuny.edu](mailto:veterans@cuny.edu)

## Contact a Campus Veterans Coordinator

Visit [www.cuny.edu/veterans](http://www.cuny.edu/veterans) and follow the link for “**Campus Representatives**” to find contact information for a specific CUNY college.



CUNY is a proud member of NYC Serves, a free referral network that connects veterans to the best local resources, all from one website. Connect to education, housing, legal, healthcare and other services at [www.nycserves.org](http://www.nycserves.org).

# Other Veterans Resources

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

DoD Direct Veterans Hotline  
(800) 497-6261

DoD Gulf War Veterans Hotline  
(800) 796-9699

VA Gulf War Helpline  
(800) 749-8387

VA Medical/Health Care Hotline  
(877) 222-VETS

VA Women Veterans Health Care  
(855) VA-WOMEN / (855) 829-6636  
[www.womenshealth.va.gov](http://www.womenshealth.va.gov)

Veterans Crisis Line  
(800) 273-8255, Press 1  
[www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

## BENEFITS

Health Benefits Provided by VA  
(877) 222-VETS

VA Benefits Hotline  
(800) 827-1000

## EDUCATION

NYS Higher Education  
Services Corporation (HESC)  
(888) 697-4372  
[www.hesc.ny.org](http://www.hesc.ny.org)

NYS Division of Military and Naval Affairs  
(DMNA) Education Office  
(518) 272-6349  
[www.dmna.state.ny.us](http://www.dmna.state.ny.us)

VA Education & Training Hotline  
(888) 442-4551

## GOVERNMENT

Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs  
(212) 442-4171

NYS Division of Veterans Affairs  
(888) VETS-NYS / (888) 838-7697  
[www.veterans.ny.gov](http://www.veterans.ny.gov)

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
(877) 222-VETS / (877) 222-8387  
[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

## MULTIPLE SERVICES

Samaritan Village  
(718) 206-2000  
[www.samaritanvillage.org](http://www.samaritanvillage.org)

## FITNESS

Team Red, White & Blue (RWB)  
[www.teamrwb.com](http://www.teamrwb.com)

## EMPLOYMENT

NYS Department of Labor  
(800) 342-3358  
[www.labor.ny.gov](http://www.labor.ny.gov)

Goodwill's Operation Good Jobs  
Vet Success Program  
(718) 361-5415

[OGJ@goodwillnynj.org](mailto:OGJ@goodwillnynj.org)

## COUNSELING & PSYCHIATRY

SUS's Operation Constant Courage (OP:CC)  
(844) SUS-OPCC / (844) 787-6722

VA Vet Center Program  
(877) WAR-VETS / (877) 927-8387  
[www.vetcenter.va.gov](http://www.vetcenter.va.gov)

NYU Langone Medical Center's  
Steven and Alexandra Cohen Veteran Center  
(877) 698-3299

NYU Langone Medical Center's  
Military Family Clinic  
(855) 698-4677  
[militaryfamilyclinic@nyumc.org](mailto:militaryfamilyclinic@nyumc.org)

## LEGAL SERVICES

VA Life Insurance Hotline  
(800) 669-8477

Veteran Advocacy Project  
(646) 602-5620

## HOUSING

Services for the Underserved (SUS)  
(212) 633-6900  
[www.sus.org](http://www.sus.org)

## COACHING

Stand Beside Them  
(212) 706-VETS / (212) 706-8387  
[www.standbesidethem.org](http://www.standbesidethem.org)

**Baruch**  
COLLEGE



**Brooklyn** The City University of New York  
**College**

The City College  
of New York



The City University of New York  
**CUNY GRADUATE SCHOOL**  
OF JOURNALISM

**CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW**

**CUNY School of Professional Studies**

**CUNY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**THE GRADUATE CENTER**  
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK



**HUNTER**  
The City University of New York

**JOHN JAY** COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE



**MACAULAY**  
HONORS COLLEGE AT CUNY



**QUEENS**  
COLLEGE

**QUEENSBOROUGH**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**YORK** College

**CUNY** Welcome Center



[cuny.edu/undergraduate](http://cuny.edu/undergraduate)