

The loss or disability of a veteran can make it especially difficult for surviving family members to afford to pursue higher education. We help surviving family members determine whether they are eligible for the College Fee Waiver Program, which provides financial benefits to attend California State Universities, University of California campuses, and California Community Colleges.

All services are offered through the County of Ventura, and therefore are free of charge.



COUNTY of VENTURA

Human Services Agency

The County of Ventura Human Services Agency provides public services that offer support, hope and opportunity for improved well-being. Our programs and services help ensure the protection of children, older adults, and dependent adults. We also provide a safety net for individuals and families who need assistance with basic necessities, such as food, housing and health care. Additionally, we help people secure employment through education, training, job search skills, and job placement.

County of Ventura Veteran Services Main Office

2000 Outlet Center Drive, Suite C-220, Oxnard, CA 93036

Phone: 805-477-5155

Fax: 805-477-5418

Field offices are located throughout Ventura County.
Call 805-477-5155 to schedule an appointment
or for more information.



Referral line for health, human
& community services.



vchsa.org/veterans

Veteran Services Office

California College Fee Waiver Program



Making College Affordable



Making the dream a reality

The Veteran Services Office was established in 1937 by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to provide assistance to veterans, their dependents and survivors in obtaining benefits from federal, state and local agencies.



Affording a College Education

The Veteran Services Office is here to help

For the family of a veteran who became disabled or was fatally wounded in a service-related incident, there may be additional financial strain when the dependents are ready for college. To help families of veterans off-set educational costs, a grateful State of California offers a College Fee Waiver Program, which is administered by the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA).

Those who may be eligible to receive benefits under this program include dependent children, a spouse, or the un-remarried surviving spouse of a veteran with a service-connected disability or of a deceased veteran whose death was service connected.

Eligibility

College Fee Waiver Program

To qualify for these benefits, a student must be a resident of the State of California. The fee waiver program applies only at California State Universities, University of California campuses, and California Community Colleges. Eligible students are awarded benefits on an academic-year basis, and they are required to reapply each year for continued benefits.



Requirements

Students must meet all the requirements of at least one of the following plans:

Plan A

- The student must be a child, spouse, or un-remarried surviving spouse of a veteran who is totally (100%) disabled or has died of service-related causes.
- The veteran must have served during a qualifying "war period."
- There is no income limit.
- A child must obtain basic eligibility before the age of 21, and cannot be over 26 years of age, unless the child is also a veteran.
- There is no age limit for a spouse or for an un-remarried surviving spouse.
- The student cannot receive benefits under this plan and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Chapter 35 benefits during the same academic year.

Plan B

- The student must be a child (no age limit) of a veteran who is disabled or has died of service-related causes.
- The child's annual income cannot exceed a specified limit set forth by California Department of Veteran Affairs (calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/College-Fee-Waiver.aspx). The child's annual income is defined as the total of the adjusted gross income and the value of support provided by a parent during the previous calendar year.

Plan C

- The student must be a dependent or un-remarried surviving spouse of a member of the California National Guard who was killed in the line of duty while in the active service of the state, who is permanently disabled due to an event that occurred while in the active service of the state, or who died from a disability resulting from an event that occurred while in the active service of the state.
- "Active service of the state" means a member of the California National Guard activated pursuant to section 146 of the Military and Veterans Code.

Applications & Required Forms

To apply for the College Fee Waiver Program, the student must submit the application form, along with a complete copy of their previous year's federal income tax form 1040 or state income tax form 540 and proof of acceptance by Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or Franchise Tax Board (FTB). If the student had no reportable income and did not file a tax return, a statement from the IRS or FTB must be provided. To obtain the statements, call the FTB office at 800-829-1040 or the IRS at 800-852-5711, after the tax deadline.

If you or someone you know may be eligible to receive benefits through the College Fee Waiver Program, please contact the Ventura County Veteran Services Office for more information at 805-477-5155. Or, call the California Department of Veterans Affairs at 800-952-5626.

