



"Veterans Working for Veterans"

VETERAN

DEPENDENTS

COLLEGE FEE

WAIVER PROGRAM



One of the most rewarding benefits the California Department of Veterans Affairs administers is the Dependents Fee Waiver program (previously referred to as the Veterans Dependents Educational Assistance Program).

The basic benefit is the waiver of mandatory system wide tuition fees at any State-owned college, or university. These schools include any campus of the University of California (UC), California State University (Cal-State) including the California Maritime Academy, or California Community College.

Local County Veterans Service Officers are authorized to administer the College Fee Waiver Program for the Veterans' Dependents. Considering the fees at California's universities and colleges, this program is a valuable benefit to our veterans and their families.

The Waiver of fees applies at California State Universities, University of California campuses, and California Community Colleges. Benefits are awarded on an "academic year" basis, and students are REQUIRED to re-apply each new academic school year.

There are basically 3 different and distinct plans available under the Dependents Fee Waiver Program. Plan A, Plan B, and Plan C.

Plan A – Who May Qualify?

The **CHILD** of a war-time veteran who is totally disabled due to service-connected disabilities), or whose death was officially rated as service-connected. The CHILD must be over 14 years of age and under 27 years of age, unless the child is a veteran, and then the age limit is extended to age 30 or;

The **SPOUSE** of a war-time veteran who has been rated as service-connected totally disabled. Note that there are NO age limits restrictions, or;

Any DEPENDENT of any veteran who has been declared "Missing in Action", or captured in the line of duty by hostile forces, or forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power.



PLAN A – Specifics

War-time service is required for any veteran who has been declared “Missing in Action”, captured in the line of duty by hostile forces, or forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power. The veteran must have service of at least one day of active duty during a period of war as declared by the U.S. Congress, or during any time in which the veteran was awarded a campaign or expeditionary medal.

Specific age requirements must be met for an otherwise eligible CHILD.

Concurrent receipt of benefits under Plan A, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, Chapter 35 benefits, is **PROHIBITED**. In order to receive benefits under Plan A, a dependent must sign an “election statement acknowledging this fact.

PLAN B – Who MAY Qualify?

A **CHILD** of a veteran who has a service-connected disability rating, or had a service-connected disability at the time of their death, or died of service-related cause. The **CHILD’S** income, which includes the child’s adjusted income, plus the value of support provided by a parent, can not exceed the national poverty level.

PLAN B – Specifics

- (1) War-time service is not required
- (2) No specific age requirements
- (3) No prohibition against concurrent receipt of fee waiver benefits and USDVA Chapter 35 benefits
- (4) CHILDREN are the **ONLY** dependents eligible under this plan
- (5) Concurrent Academic Year entitlement is based upon the previous calendar years “income”



PLAN C – Who MAY Qualify?

Any dependent, or surviving spouse who has not remarried, of any member of the California National Guard, who in the line of duty, and while in the active service of the state, was killed, died of a disability resulting from an event that occurred while on active service to the state, or is permanently disabled as a result of an event that occurred while on the active service to the state. Active service of this type means that the member was activated by proclamation of the Governor or the President of the United States.

PLAN C – Specifics

This program applies **ONLY** to dependents and surviving spouses of members of the California National Guard.

The application **MUST** be approved by the California Department of Veterans Affairs which is located in Sacramento, California. Authorization for local approval is not authorized.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM

Parent or Step-parent must be a **DISABLED** veteran rated by the Veterans Administration with a Service Connected Disability Rating of 0% percent or higher.

The student “**MUST**” be a California **RESIDENT** (minimum of 1 year).

The student **MUST** meet **INCOME** limit guidelines.

A completed DVS-40 application must be signed.



A copy of the child's birth certificate & SS Card must accompany the DVS-40 application

The relationship of the veteran to the student must be verified with a Marriage Certificate and SS Card of the mother

A letter of Acceptance must accompany the DVS-40 application for any and all 4 year colleges.

A copy of the student's SIGNED IRS Tax Form 1040, 1040-A, of any form used to report their income to the IRS.

If student does not have reported income, then the student must provide a form letter from the IRS using Form 4506-T.

NO EXCEPTIONS!! INCOME MUST BE VERIFIED BEFORE ISSUE OF THE DVS-40 WAIVER CERTIFICATE.