UCLA

Guide to Financial Aid for Veteran Education Benefits Recipients

UCLA Financial Aid and Scholarships office is honored to serve veterans, ROTC cadets, active-duty members of the United States military and their dependents. This guide offers information about using Veteran Education Benefits in conjunction with your UCLA Financial Aid.

Students receiving Veteran Education Benefits can use a combination of financial aid sources including federal, state, institutional, and private scholarships to meet the total Cost of Attendance at UCLA.

You can review the UCLA Cost of Attendance on the Financial Aid and Scholarship's website at: https://financialaid.ucla.edu/how-aid-works/cost of attendance

HOW WILL MY FINANCIAL AID BE AFFECTED BY MY VETERANS EDUCATION BENEFITS?

All sources of student aid have rules that govern how aid should be awarded when a student is receiving Veteran Education Benefits therefore it is important that you notify the Financial Aid and Scholarships office, if you will be receiving Veteran Education Benefits. The Financial Aid and Scholarships office will coordinate the benefits that you receive with your financial aid to ensure that you are not awarded in excess of your eligibility.   By notifying the Financial Aid and Scholarships office of your expected Veteran Education Benefits, you will avoid being over awarded and avoid the need to repay any portion of aid that you receive.

In most cases, students can receive a combination of aid up to the Cost of Attendance. In some instances, Veterans and ROTC students can receive aid in excess of the Cost of Attendance. The Financial Aid and Scholarships office is committed to ensuring that students receive the maximum combination of financial aid and veteran benefits available under the law.

If you expect to receive a Veteran Fee Paying awards, Cal Vet Fee Waiver, or ROTC benefits, please review your Financial Aid Notification (FAN) carefully to ensure that your Veteran/ROTC award is reflected on your award summary. If your FAN does not include your Veteran or ROTC awards, the Financial Aid and Scholarships office is not aware that you are receiving them. It is your responsibility to inform our office. Failure to report these benefits may result in a bill.

You may report an expected Veteran or ROTC benefit electronically on your FAN or in writing by completing a Petition for Re-evaluation form. Your FAN will be adjusted in accordance with federal, state and institutional policies on the treatment of veteran benefits. Under those policies, the treatment of benefits will depend upon whether you are a veteran or are receiving veteran benefits under Transfer of Eligibility (TOE) and whether your award is designed to cover fees or pay for your living expenses.
For students who are veterans and receive University Grant as well as campus-based loans and work study, veteran benefits will impact eligibility for campus based loans and work study   before impacting grant assistance. For students who receive transfer of eligibility benefits, impact on the University Grant may be greater.

Applying for Financial Aid

To apply for Financial Aid at UCLA, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at studentaid.gov by March 2nd every year. Financial aid and Scholarships will notify you via MyUCLA, if you need to submit additional documents.

Continuing students should complete the continuing Student Scholarship Application on MyUCLA . More information on applying for scholarships can be found at https://financialaid.ucla.edu/types-of-aid/scholarships

California Veteran (CAL VET) Fee Waiver

If you are a dependent or spouse of a service-connected disabled or deceased veteran, you may be eligible for the College Tuition Fee Waiver Program (Cal Vet).

For detailed information, see the California Department of Veterans Affairs website: calvet.ca.gov/

Students can apply for a CAL VET Fee Waiver at any California County Veteran Services Office. If approved, students will need to submit their eligibility letter to the VA Certifying Official.

Cal Vet Fee Waivers will waive:
- Tuition
- Student Service Fee
- Professional Degree Tuition

NOTE: Cal Vet Fee Waivers do not apply to tuition and fees for self-supporting programs. Such programs are not supported by state funds and are not subject to state law regarding exemptions for dependents of veterans.

When a student receives a CAL VET Fee Waiver, they cannot also receive another fee paying award. As a result, students who have been awarded both a Cal Grant and a CAL VET Fee Waiver will have the fee portion of the Cal Grant returned to the California Student Aid Commission. University Grant will also be reduced (dollar for dollar) for students receiving a Cal Vet Fee Waiver. Any other aid that results in an over award as a result of a Cal Vet Fee Waiver will be reduced or cancelled.

WHAT GI BILL BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE?

There are many different programs and a wide variety of education benefits offered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs including the Post-9/11 GI Bill (including Transfer of Benefits) Montgomery GI Bill, the Yellow Ribbon Program, and Vocational Rehabilitation Employment, to name a few.
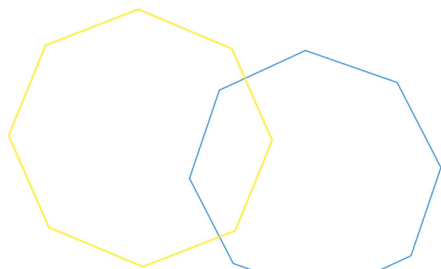
HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM ELIGIBLE FOR VETERANS BENEFITS?

Eligibility for education benefits is determined solely by the VA. See the GI Bill website for answers to most questions regarding benefits. You can also call the VA Education Hotline/Call Center at 1(888) GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) to inquire about education benefits.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR VETERANS BENEFITS?

Apply for veterans education benefits directly with the VA. The GI Bill is available to eligible veterans and eligible dependents/spouses of veterans. You can also call the VA Education Hotline/Call Center at 1(888) GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) to inquire about education benefits. If you are approved for the GI Bill, the VA will send you a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) award letter.

HOW CAN I CERTIFY MY STUDENT ENROLLMENT AT UCLA?

You can find information about UCLA's certification process at https://registrar.ucla.edu/student-records/veteran-services

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Financial Aid and Scholarships
A-129 Murphy Hall
(310) 206-0400
www.financialaid.ucla.edu

MyUCLA Message Center
https//financialaid.ucla.edu/contact-us
Select Topic: Financial Aid — Veteran Benefit Questions

VA Certifying Official
Email: veteran@saonet.ucla.edu

Veteran Resource Center
132 Kerckoff Hall
https://veterans.ucla.edu
Email: veteran@saonet.ucla.edu
Phone: (310) 206-6915

Katherine R. Jakle
Counseling & Psychological Services
John Wooden Center West
221 Westwood Plaza
Email: kjakle@caps.ucla.edu
Phone: (310)825-0768

Edward Mc Closkey
Director
Center for Accessible Education
A-255 Murphy Hall
Email: emcclosk@saonet.ucla.edu
Phone: (310) 267-2004

Center for Scholarships & Scholar Enrichment
233 Covel Commons
www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu
(310) 206-2875

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

As a Veteran, an active-duty member or a dependent, you may be eligible for educational benefits through numerous GI Bill programs. Once you've decided to use your GI Bill benefits it's important to choose the proper school and type of training.

https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs