

Military Benefits and Graduate Financial Aid

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Benefit programs

The U.S. government offers a variety of education benefits for veterans and active service members. The most commonly used programs are outlined below.

Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill offers higher-education and training benefits to veterans and service members who served after Sept. 10, 2001, as well as to their families. Benefits include:

- payment of tuition and fees up to an annual maximum
- a monthly housing allowance
- a stipend for books and supplies

Tuition funds are paid directly to the school, while the housing allowance and book stipend are paid directly to the student. For more information, see the [VA's Education and Training website](#) (link is external).

The Post-9/11 GI Bill allows service members to transfer all or some unused education benefits to their spouse or dependent children. For more information, see the [VA's Web page on transferability options](#) (link is external).

Yellow Ribbon program

The Yellow Ribbon Program supplements Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits at participating private universities, like Yale. Yellow Ribbon provides additional funding for tuition costs above the 9/11 GI Bill maximum. Students must qualify for 100% of the 9/11 GI benefit to receive the Yellow Ribbon supplement. For more information, see the [VA's Education and Training website](#)

The amount of Yale's Yellow Ribbon funding for students differs by school. For details on the maximum benefit provided for Yale College and for the graduate and professional schools, see the [VA's Yellow Ribbon benefits table](#) (link is external).

Applicants for the Yellow Ribbon benefit must complete Yale's Yellow Ribbon application form.

[2016–2017 Yellow Ribbon application form](#)

Montgomery GI Bill

The Montgomery GI Bill offers higher-education and training benefits to veterans and service members who agree to a specified reduction in pay during their first year of active service. For more information, see the [VA's Education and Training website](#) (link is external).

Vocational Rehabilitation

Veterans and service members who have service-connected disabilities may be eligible for education benefits under the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program. For more information, see the [VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program website](#) (link is external).

Applying for VA benefits

Choosing a program

You may qualify for more than one type of VA education benefit. Because applying for a certain education benefit could affect your eligibility for others, you should consider your options before selecting a benefit program. The VA provides resources to help you choose the best benefits for you and your family:

- [Comparison of education-benefit programs](#)(link is external)
- [Benefit estimate calculator](#)(link is external)

Certificate of Eligibility

The first step for using your educational benefits at Yale is to provide us with the Certificate of Eligibility you received from your VA benefits administrator. See the [VA website for instructions on how to apply for this certificate](#) (link is external). For assistance, contact [your regional VA office](#) (link is external).

Copies of your Certificate of Eligibility should be submitted to the Assistant Dean, Student Affairs Office.

Additional resources

- [Dept. of Veterans Affairs: Education and Training](#)(link is external)
- [Federal Student Aid: Aid for Military Families](#)(link is external)
- [Yale Veterans Association](#)(link is external)
- [The Warrior-Scholar Project](#)