

# Eastern Illinois University

Veterans Services

# STUDENT VETERAN RESOURCE GUIDE



## WELCOME TO EASTERN!

On behalf of all administrators, faculty, staff, alumni, and students of Eastern Illinois University, thank you for choosing us! Veterans Services is here to provide a **central coordination point** for student veterans, military personnel, and members of military families to enhance military **enrollment**, academic and social **integration**, and future **career opportunities**. We:

- Advocate and Ombudsman for student veterans and military personnel at EIU
- Provide a central coordination point for benefit programs and services
- Coordinate academic and social programs to Enhance opportunities for success
- Provide veteran and military member needs to EIU to better veteran opportunities

As part of this mission, Veterans Services is providing this Resource Guide to ease your transition into Eastern Illinois University, increase your opportunities while you are here, and support your future career!

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## ADMISSIONS

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- [Application for admission](#): Submit [online](#). The application fee is waived for veterans. Complete the online application without submitting payment for the fee, and then contact the Office of Admissions so they can process your application.
- High School Transcripts: Contact your high school administration office to send an official copy of your transcripts to the Office of Admissions.
- College Transcripts: Contact all previous colleges to send official copies of your transcripts to the Office of Admissions. (*Each institution has a different process that may or may not require a fee.*)
- SMART/AARTS Transcripts: [SMART transcripts](#) and [AARTS transcripts](#) are academically accepted documents approved by the American Council on Education (ACE) to validate a service member's military occupational experience and training along with the corresponding ACE college credit recommendations. These are to be submitted to the university as if they were official transcripts from another college.

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Previous institution's catalog or syllabi: This will assist the university in evaluating your transfer credits.
- [Transfer Orientation](#): Transfer students must attend this program which is designed to provide an orientation to campus. This program will allow new students to meet with an academic advisor, register for courses, and complete several other tasks.

Students transferring coursework in from other schools may now use [u.select](#) to determine how those courses will transfer into Eastern Illinois University. Instructions on how to use [u.select](#) can be found [here](#). You must use the "Guest Login" on the lower left of the screen.

Information on transferring coursework may also be found through the [iTransfer](#) website.

For two or four-year College Transcript Evaluations, College Level Examination Program credit, Military Credit, and/or Nursing – RN to BSN program information contact the Registrar & Office of Enrollment Management.

# PAYING FOR COLLEGE

## FINANCIAL AID

Newly arriving veterans should be sure to bring a copy of their Letters of Eligibility with them to Financial Aid and Scholarships in order for the office to begin processing paperwork. Please allow at least 30 minutes during the first visit to financial aid as there will be several different forms to fill out depending on military status and current GI Bill.

The Veteran Benefits Office is located in Financial Aid & Scholarships on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Student Services Building- East Wing. Jenny Stout, the School Certifying Official, can be contacted at:

Phone: (217) 581-7510

Fax: (217) 581-6422

Email: [jlstout@eiu.edu](mailto:jlstout@eiu.edu)

## APPLYING FOR AID

In order to apply for financial aid you must be accepted to EIU and complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#). Also, you must not be in default on any Title IV Aid (federally funded financial aid), and you must maintain [satisfactory academic progress](#).

A common mistake made on the FAFSA is leaving items blank. Nothing should be left blank. If the appropriate response is zero, enter zero. You should always include household size and number of those attending college. Make sure the correct grade classification is listed according to cumulative credit hours from all institutions attended at the start of the academic year.

Federal School Code: 001674

## TYPES OF AID

### GRANTS

[Federal Pell Grant](#): A federally funded grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Education. Complete the FAFSA to apply.

[Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant \(FSEOG\)](#): A federally funded grant awarded by the Office of Financial Aid. Complete the FAFSA to apply.

[Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education \(TEACH\) Grant](#): At EIU, the TEACH Grant Program provides up to \$4,000 a year in grant assistance to undergraduate students who agree to serve for at least four years as full-time “highly qualified” teachers in high-need fields in public or not-for-profit private elementary or secondary schools that serve students from low-income families. Applicant must submit [consideration form](#) to the Office of Financial Aid. Applicants must also complete the FAFSA in order to be considered.

[Monetary Award Program \(MAP\) Grant](#): A state-funded grant awarded by the Illinois Student Aid Commission. Complete the FAFSA to apply.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

EIU's [scholarship search](#) is a helpful tool in assisting student veterans with financial assistance. A complete list of scholarships is available at Appendix B of this Guide.

### TYPES OF LOANS

Financial Aid & Scholarships offers entrance counseling to highlight the loan process and student responsibilities as well as exit counseling to explain the repayment process.

#### Federal Loans

**Federal Perkins Loan:** A low-interest loan to help students pay for their education after high school. It is available for undergraduate and graduate students.

**Federal Direct Loans:** Low-interest loans to help students pay for their education after high school. There are two kinds of direct loans: The subsidized loan is needs-based and the government pays the interest while the student is enrolled at least half-time. The unsubsidized loan is not need-based. It is available to students regardless of financial need. While the student is in school, the interest is capitalized on the unsubsidized loan, or added to the principal balance, if the recipient chooses not to make payments upon the interest. However, students may request to make interest payments while still in school. Both loans are low-interest loans that do not require a cosigner and interest rates are fixed. The money for these loan programs comes from the government. Most students will begin repayment six months after leaving EIU or dropping below half-time.

**Private/Alternative Educational Loans:** If you choose not to fill out the FAFSA, Financial Aid & Scholarships will not process your private/alternative loan until an [opt-out form](#) is completed that explains your decision to not file for federal aid.

**Short-Term (Emergency) Loans:** Available to students currently enrolled through Financial Aid & Scholarships. The loan officer determines a student's eligibility and maximum loan amount. Any loan amount exceeding \$200 requires a co-signer. Loan interviews are conducted on Mondays and Thursdays in Financial Aid & Scholarships. Applications are available in the office or [on-line](#). ([http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/loan\\_forms.php](http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/loan_forms.php))

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

**Federal Work Study:** This program provides on-campus employment for student veterans in college. Veterans who receive Federal Work-Study funds must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) and demonstrate a financial need for work-study. Student veterans are paid the federal minimum wage depending on the type and difficulty of work. If interested in the federal work study program, indicate in the affirmative on your FAFSA.

#### **Student Employment Opportunities:**

**On-Campus Positions** [http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/employment\\_list.php?type=oncampus](http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/employment_list.php?type=oncampus)

**Off-Campus Positions** [http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/employment\\_list.php?type=offcampus](http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/employment_list.php?type=offcampus)

## **VETERANS BENEFITS**

**ON-CAMPUS BENEFITS:** All EIU student veterans have priority class registration regardless classification.

### **STATE**

**Illinois National Guard Grant:** Members of the Illinois National Guard are eligible to receive a grant to assist with educational expenses. Applicants must: (a) Be a full-time or part-time undergraduate or graduate student at an Illinois public college or university, (b) have served for at least one year in the Illinois National Guard (Army or Air Force), and (c) apply annually to receive benefits, which cover tuition and mandatory activity fees. For more details, visit [www.collegezone.com](http://www.collegezone.com) or <https://www.isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/illinois-national-guard-grant/eligibility.html>

**Illinois Veterans Grant:** The Illinois Veterans Grant is available to those who have served one year of active duty in the United States Armed Forces as a member of the Army, Navy, Marine Corp, Air Force, or Coast Guard. It can only be used to cover tuition and mandatory fees. Continuing Education delivery fee is not covered. Recipients must have resided in Illinois six months before entering the service and must have returned to Illinois six months after discharge. [Apply for the Illinois Veterans Grant](#) once.

### **FEDERAL**

**Veterans Affairs Work Study:** The VA Federal Work-Study program provides on-campus employment exclusively for student veterans while they attend college.

**GI Bill:** Eligibility for GI Bill educational benefits can be extended to veterans, members of the Selected Reserves or National Guard; and children or spouses of service-connected deceased or totally and permanently disabled veterans under one of the following programs:

**Montgomery GI Bill-Chapter 30:** Individuals who entered active duty after July 1984, participated in the pay reduction, and served honorably for two years or more are eligible for this federal aid.

**Post 9/11 GI Bill-Chapter 33:** The Post 9/11 GI Bill is for individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

**Transfer of Entitlement (TOE) - Chapter 33:** Available to service members to transfer unused education benefits to spouses and dependents. The service member must establish

eligibility for the entitlement and the Department of Defense (DOD) determines eligibility for transferability.

[Montgomery GI Bill for Reservists - Chapter 1606](#): Veterans who enlisted, re-enlisted, or extended an enlistment in the Selected Reserve or National Guard for a period of six years after July 1, 1985 and have completed the initial active duty training are eligible for VA benefits.

[Reserve Educational Assistance Program \(REAP\)– Chapter 1607](#): REAP provides educational assistance to members of the reserve components called or ordered to active duty in response to a war or national emergency as declared by the President of Congress. Reservists who were activated for at least 90 days after September 11, 2001 are either eligible for educational benefits or increased benefits.

[National Call to Service Program – NCS](#): This program is available to members of the National Guard, Reserves, Individual Ready Reserve, AmeriCorps, or other national service. Please note: National Call to Service (NCS) participants are not entitled to additional assistance under Chapter 1606 or Chapter 30 benefits. However, if the NCS participant has eligibility under either of these chapters, he or she may be paid the amount of Chapter 1606 or Chapter 30 benefits minus any amounts paid under the NCS program. The education benefit options will be administered to the extent possible like Chapter 1606 of Title 10.

[eBenefits](#) is a website for Veterans, Service Members, and their families to research, find, access, and manage their benefits as well as personal information. eBenefits offers a personalized workspace called My Dashboard that provides quick access to eBenefits tools. Through eBenefits tools, you can complete various tasks, such as apply for benefits, download your DD 214, view your benefits status, and more. This workspace is available once you have created an eBenefits account. eBenefits also offers a catalog of links to other sites that provide information about military and veteran benefits.



## HOUSING

Since 1908, [the mission](#) of EIU Housing and Dining has been to provide traditional students and veterans with the conveniences of home as they strive for academic success as a college student.

### ON-CAMPUS

**Andrews Hall:** An all-female residence hall that is a nine-story building with laundry facilities on each floor. It is one of four residence halls located in the South Quad. Andrews is designated as an Honors Hall for female students.

**Douglas Hall:** An all-male residence hall that is a four-story building that shares common facilities, including a front desk, with Stevenson and Lincoln Halls. It is one of three halls that provide housing during the longer period school breaks.

**Ford Hall:** A co-ed two-story building that is in short walking distance of the library university Union and a computer lab. Ford is central to campus and is one of three small living communities, commonly called the Triad (Ford, McKinney, Weller).

**Lawson Hall:** An all-female residence hall that is a nine-story building with laundry facilities on each floor. It is one of four residence halls in the South Quad.

**Lincoln Hall:** An all-female residence hall that is a four-story building that shares common facilities, including a front desk, with Stevenson and Douglas Halls. It is one of three halls that provide housing during the longer period school breaks.

**McKinney Hall:** A co-ed two-story building that is in short walking distance of the library university Union and a computer lab. McKinney is central to campus and is one of three small living communities, commonly called the Triad (Ford, McKinney, Weller).

**Pemberton Hall:** An all-female residence hall that is one of two options for female Honors students. It was named in honor of State Senator Stanton C. Pemberton, who was influential in getting the appropriation approved for the building of the residence hall. Pemberton Hall is the oldest women's residence hall in the state of Illinois and is a historical landmark. It is one of two options for female Honors students. It was built in 1909.

**Stevenson Hall:** A ten-story co-ed facility consisting of two and three-bedroom suites with a semi-private bathroom and living room. Male and female residents, while separated by suite, share the same floor space.

**Taylor Hall:** A five-story co-ed facility. Male & female residents live on separate floors. It is one of four residence halls located in the South Quad.

**Thomas Hall:** A two-tower four-story facility that houses women and men on separate floors. It is located in the South Quad and has a relaxed atmosphere. Thomas is designated as an Honors Hall for male students.

**Weller Hall:** A co-ed two-story building that is in short walking distance of the library university Union and a computer lab. Weller is central to campus and is one of three small living communities, commonly called the Triad (Ford, McKinney, Weller).

**Fraternity and Sorority Housing or Greek Court:** Eastern Illinois University's on-campus fraternity and sorority housing complex, which is owned and operated by the Housing & Dining Services. There are 19 Greek organizations residing in this area, representing housing for all three national governing councils: Inter-fraternity Council, Pan-Hellenic Council, and National Pan-Hellenic Council. The cost to live in Greek Court is the same as the residence halls. The individual student contract as well as the staffing is also similar to the residence halls.

**University Apartments:** University Apartments is designated as Family and Graduate Housing. There are 130 one-bedroom efficiency apartments. They are designed to meet the needs of student families and single graduate students. All utilities are included (basic phone, cable, internet, gas, electric, and trash), and it is within walking distance of two bus stops (for school age children), day-care, and has a playground on site.

**University Court Apartments:** This apartment complex offers one and two bedroom furnished apartments for one to four students with a kitchen & dining area, family room, and one or one and a half bathrooms. An outdoor swimming pool is located on site. Each building contains laundry facilities and on-site staff is on call for emergencies 24 hours a day. Utilities must be maintained in the resident's name throughout the term of the contract.

## **OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING**

**Campus Pointe:** At Campus Pointe you will experience our "Best of Class" luxury apartments designed for today's busy student. We offer the best of living arrangements as well as a variety of amenities such as furnished private suites, fully equipped kitchen, washer and dryer and individual leases. We understand the importance of achieving the whole college experience and that is why we offer a resident lifestyle package that rivals any resort. This package includes campus shuttle, high-speed internet access, a game and media room with Nintendo Wii, computer lab, fitness center, tanning bed, and free television service! For more information please call (217) 345-6001.

**University Village:** These units come fully furnished with new stylish furniture including a queen size bed, built-in desk, kitchen table and chairs, kitchen island with bar stools, sofa, love seat, end tables and coffee table. Front and rear lawn, laundry room with full size washer and dryer, and a private porch. All water, cable, internet and trash are included in the rent. For more information please call (217) 345-1400.

**Williams Rentals:** Williams Rentals invites you to drive by the different locations, but to really appreciate the quality of what you see, call or e-mail for an appointment. Houses and apartments are shown Monday-Friday, between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Special arrangements can be made if these times do not work for you.

210 6th St (West Door) P.O. Box 866  
Charleston, IL 61920  
Call (217) 345-7286 or e-mail - [rentals@jwilliamsrentals.com](mailto:rentals@jwilliamsrentals.com).

**Poteete Rentals:** Whether you are looking for a house or an apartment, Poteete Rentals has many different styles and locations available close to the university's campus and in the Charleston community. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday by appointment. The office is located on the corner of Tenth Street and Lincoln Avenue (also called Route 16) in Charleston, IL.

**Petersen Rentals:** Petersen Properties offers a variety of newly remodeled and very clean apartments and houses for rent in Charleston and Mattoon. Each place features spacious living areas, updated decor, washer and dryer on-site, attractive landscaping, and ample parking all at a reasonable price. All apartments and houses for rent in Charleston are located close to the EIU Campus. Faculty and families are welcome also. Call today at (217) 273-8828 or (217) 345-2982.

**Wood Rentals:** Wood Rentals handles a nice, small inventory of rental units to accommodate singles, couples, families, students and non-students, professionals, and the blue-collar. Wood Rentals does not discriminate against any applicants, but you must have good references. For general information to get started, call (217) 345-4489. It is much easier for you to get meaningful answers and gain insight from a personal conversation over the phone. Business hours are 8:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.

**The Carlyle Apartments:** The Carlyle Family provides a selection of rentals from one-bedroom residential units in Charleston. The Carlyle family has been in the residential rental business for over 40 years. Call (217) 348-7746 or (800) 815-2787 or e-mail [carlyleapts@consolidated.net](mailto:carlyleapts@consolidated.net) to get started.

## **DINING SERVICES**

Panther Dining will take care of all Veteran Service members dining needs. All you have to do is grab your Panther Card and enjoy eating at any of the three residential dining centers, University Food Court (fast-food, Java Beanery and Bakery), or two convenience stores (Thomas and Food Pantry).

Dining dollars may be purchased in the Housing & Dining Office located in the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union. A minimum purchase of \$50 is required on the first request to add dining dollars. Afterwards, students can purchase in increments of \$25. Dining dollars are good for one year after purchase.

## FAMILY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

**Child Care Resources** <http://www.eiu.edu/ccrr/>

**Child Care Resource and Referral:** The CCR&R was founded in 1990 at Eastern Illinois University the Family and Consumer Sciences Dept. The CCR&R serves Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Edgar, Moultrie and Shelby counties in Illinois. CCR&R offers referrals of child care providers to parents and families; provides child care resources and technical assistance to parents, families, and child care providers; and assists families in paying for child care. CCR&R is also your source for child care statistics. Call the referral line at (217) 581-6698.

Individuals who meet income guidelines and are working or enrolled in an approved education/training program may be eligible for financial assistance for child care. CCR&R partners with the Department of Human Services in assisting Illinois families with their financial child care needs. The Illinois Department of Human Services offers an [eligibility calculator](#). You may also access a [child care application](#) online and mail it to our office (Child Care Resource and Referral; Eastern Illinois University; 600 Lincoln Avenue; Charleston, Illinois, 61920) once you have completed it. If you prefer, you may call our Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) at 1(800) 643-1026 and speak to a caseworker.

**Charleston Community Daycare (CCDC):** Charleston Community Day Care Center has been serving community children since 1968. They are a not-for-profit learning center dedicated to quality childcare and development—admitting children regardless of race, color, sex, nationality or religious background. Phone: (217) 345-3111

**Eastern Student Parent Association (E-SPA):** The purpose of the Eastern Student Parent Association, both informal and supportive, shall be to promote the academic and social welfare of eastern student parents and establish family oriented events, as well as support for those families.

## HEALTH SERVICES

Health Services offers on campus primary care including routine physicals and check-ups to its students. No emergency services are provided. Women's health services are available by appointment. The fee for these services is automatically billed per semester in each student's tuition and fees. These fees allow students access to medical care at no or low additional cost (additional costs are typically \$8.00-\$35.00). A phone service called Tel-A-Nurse is also available to assess patient's symptoms over the phone at (217) 581-2727. Please call the Pharmacy at (217) 581-7779 to fill any medical prescriptions.

Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. and Saturday 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

**Laboratory Services:** Lab tests requested by physicians not affiliated with Eastern's Health Service Medical Clinic can be performed at our laboratory. Students do not need to see a Health Service provider, they can make appointments directly with the lab. All orders for lab tests must be written on a prescription pad printed with the physician's name, address, phone and fax numbers. All orders must be signed by the ordering physician. There is a small fee associated with lab tests ordered by the Health Service Medical Clinic providers and any outside lab order.

**Health Education Resource Center (HERC)**: The HERC is affiliated with Health Services and provides students, faculty, and staff with a wide variety of health resources and programs. The HERC staff can facilitate presentations, one-on-one consultations, and training events on various health topics. The HERC can help find other resources if the office does not meet your needs. The HERC is located in Booth House on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

# ACADEMIC SUPPORT

**Academic Advising Center**: First time freshmen, undeclared majors, and students not accepted into professional programs are assigned advisors from the Academic Advising Center. Advisors can help provide accurate information and guidance regarding each veteran's specific academic goals.

Location: 2100 9<sup>th</sup> St Hall  
Phone: (217) 581-2313

**Student Success Center**: Provides comprehensive programs and holistic services designed to empower students and to connect them with the resources needed to achieve both academic and personal goals.

SSC Programs:

- **Boost (Building Outreach and Opportunity for Students in Transition)**: Boost is a special admission program for students whose ACT scores and high school grade point averages do not meet Eastern's established admission criteria. Requirements include taking EIU-1111 fall semester, completing testing to determine reading level and need to take GST 1000 (Reading and Study Skills Improvement), meeting as required with BOOST advisor, collecting grades from instructors at least twice each semester to monitor progress, fulfilling academic plan, and completing assessment instruments at the beginning and conclusion of freshman year.
- **EIU 2919: Strategies for Academic Success**: This course is designed to help students create greater success in college and in life. Topics covered include self-assessment, goal-setting, time management, study skills, learning styles and motivation. Enrollment is required for students placed on academic warning for the first time. This course does not count towards graduation.
- **Individualized Consultation**: One-on-one meetings with students seeking help in evaluating and correcting academic challenges including productive use of study time, goal-setting for improved academic success, reading and note taking strategies, overcoming test-taking challenges, and other academic skills. To arrange a consultation please call (217) 581-6696. All consulting appointments are in the Student Success Center at 1301 9th St Hall.
- **Tutoring Schedule**: Tutoring takes place through the departments and the [online tutoring schedule](#) directs students to the location of where the tutoring sessions are being held. For more general information on the tutoring program call (217) 581-6696, or to see a Fall 2016 schedule visit <http://www.eiu.edu/success/tutoring.php>.

**Counseling Center**: EIU's Counseling Center provides personal counseling to over 600 undergraduate and graduate students annually. It is staffed by psychologists, counselors, and graduate students. The services rendered to students are free, voluntary, and confidential. The staff is dedicated to assisting students in their pursuit of personal and academic growth, helping students

gain a better understanding and appreciation of themselves and supporting students as they make important decisions about their lives.

Visit the Counseling Center on the first floor of the Human Services Building Monday-Friday from 8:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M. or call (217) 581-3413. In case of emergency, call the Counseling Center at (217) 581-3413. For an after-hours emergency, contact our emergency number at (217) 549-6483.

**Office of Disability Services:** Is committed to facilitating the provision of equal access and opportunity to all campus programs and services for students with disabilities.

Location: Ninth Street Hall-Room 2006  
Phone: (217) 581-6583

**Office of Minority Affairs:** Minority affairs aims to pursue, promote, and maintain programs that will heighten the awareness, presence, and success of minorities and other under-represented groups at Eastern. The office was created in 1990 to coordinate a variety of minority programs and to deal with the problems and concerns of a diverse student population. The staff provides support for minority students to excel at the collegiate level.. Additionally, the office monitors campus climate, collects data and acts as general ombudsman for minority student problems.

Location: 1122 Blair Hall  
Phone: (217) 581-6690

**New Student & Family Programs (NSFP):** Committed to providing services to cultivate new students and family connections and engagement in the community. Eastern views orientation as an ongoing and multi-faceted transition process which involves academic, intellectual, civic, and personal development. NSFP builds collaboration between students, families, and the institution for the common goals of student learning, development, and success.

Location: 1715 University Union  
Phone: (217) 581-6435

## **TEXTBOOK RENTAL**

Textbook Rental Service provides all students quality textbooks at an affordable cost of \$9.95 per credit hour enrolled. The textbook rental fee is included with all other university fees. This service enables all students, regardless of their financial resources, to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered at the university because of its low cost. Visit <http://www.eiu.edu/textbks/> for a full list of rules.

Location: 975 Edgar Drive  
Phone: (217) 581-3626

## **CAREER COUNSELING**

**Career Services:** Career services offer many opportunities for returning veterans seeking assistance in preparing themselves for life in the civilian workforce through mock interviews, cover letter and resume critiques, etc. They are located on the 1st floor of the Human Services Center, Room 1301, on the south end of EIU's campus ([map](#)).

**Graduate Assistants (GA's):** Graduate assistantships are offered in most graduate programs as well as non-academic units such as [Housing and Dining](#) and the [Center for Academic Technology Support](#) (CATS). Assistantships provide a monthly stipend in exchange for duties performed in research, teaching and service, as well as a tuition waiver scholarship. The scholarship waives tuition only, not fees.

Submit [online application](https://www.eiu.edu/graduate/GAapplication/GAappl.php) (<https://www.eiu.edu/graduate/GAapplication/GAappl.php>).

**Panther Recruiting:** EIU student veterans can use Panther Recruiting to find and apply for full time jobs and internships, to store resumes and cover letters for safe keeping and easy access (with a one-time \$40 fee), to schedule campus interviews, and to perform many more employment related functions.



# CAMPUS LIFE

## TRANSPORTATION

**EIU Panther Shuttle:** The EIU Panther Shuttle is on-campus transportation that allows students to move between the 9<sup>th</sup> Street lot, Andrews Hall, University Apartments (North and South), Coleman Hall, McAfee Gymnasium, Pemberton Hall, County Market, Downtown Square, Wal-Mart, MLK Student Union, and Greek Court (East). This is a free service; all that is required is your student ID.

**Bus Service:** The MLK University Union offers a bus service traveling to the Chicago suburbs. Buses do not run every weekend. The Ticket Office is located in the union and is open weekdays from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. The Ticket Office is where students can purchase a round trip ticket for \$59.90. Visit [http://www.eiu.edu/union/bus\\_ticket\\_office.php](http://www.eiu.edu/union/bus_ticket_office.php) for an online schedule.

**Amtrak:** Veterans are offered a 15% discount on the lowest available rail fare on most Amtrak trains to any of their destinations. Must have a Veteran's Advantage Membership Card in order to receive this discount. You may apply online at <https://www.veteransadvantage.com/vauser3/register?va30=true&partner=amtrak>. The nearest hub is in Mattoon, IL.

**Greyhound Bus Service:** The Greyhound bus line picks up at Checker Top Cab, located at 1904 Broadway, Mattoon, IL 61938. Call (217)234-3333 for more information.

## PARKING SERVICES

Permits may be purchased at the University Police Department, Parking Services Division on campus or through your PAWS account. A valid EIU parking permit must be displayed during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, in all lots, except for those that are specifically marked 24 hour lots or metered lots.

Temporary permits and day passes may be issued and purchased on a limited basis at the discretion of the University Police Department with an appropriate charge to be determined by the University Police Department.

## **ATHLETICS/INTRAMURAL/RECREATION CENTER**

**Athletics:** The mission of the Eastern Illinois University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is to provide an environment in which student-athletes complete their undergraduate college education and achieve athletics success at the highest possible level. The Department is committed to offering a first-class competitive athletics program at the NCAA Division I (FCS) level that promotes the values of Eastern Illinois University mission.

**Intramural:** Campus Recreation offers structured intramural team sports participation opportunities for eligible Veteran Service members of EIU. Team sports offered include flag football, soccer, volleyball, dodge ball, wiffle ball, basketball, softball, kickball, flick ball, and bowling.

**Student Recreation Center (SRC):** The mission of Campus Recreation is to provide students with informal and formal recreational activities regardless of ability. We wish to promote a safe and enjoyable environment, encourage participation and promote healthy lifestyles. A link to our list of fitness classes offered can be found at <https://www.eiu.edu/campusrec/fitness.php>.

The Student Recreation Center is a 6.4 million dollar, 70,500 square-foot, air-conditioned facility. The SRC opened in Fall of 1991 and is the most popular place where students enjoy spending time outside of the classroom. The SRC has six basketball courts, which may also be used as volleyball or badminton courts. Court 6 is enclosed for soccer, dodgeball, kick ball and wiffle ball. There is an 1/8 mile suspended jogging track, as well as three multi-purpose areas for aerobic dance sessions, martial arts, or other activities. The center includes two free-weight areas, a cardio area, an area a bag boxing area, Tread Wall climbing machine, 34 Nautilus selectorized machines, and Circuit Express. The cardio theater also has 23 TVs and two stretching areas with medicine balls and exercise balls. In addition, the Student Recreation Center has a student lounge with a big-screen television and 32 security cameras for safety.

Outdoor Facilities include a disc golf course, four softball diamonds, four football/soccer fields, an outdoor pavilion, 16 outdoor basketball hoops, and tennis courts.

## REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Being a part of an organization enhances communication skills and integrates veterans into college life. There are 200+ Registered Student Organizations spanning interests which include academic, athletic, honorary, multicultural, political, religious, service, social, and more.

The [Eastern Illinois University Registered Student Organization Booklet](#) is a major asset offered to new and recurring organizations. This booklet has a wealth of information ranging from the building blocks of a new organization to the benefits available to RSOs.

There are several veteran organizations on and off campus which promote comradeship, support, and provide a social community for any student veteran or interested student who wants to participate.

Student Veterans of Eastern (SVE)

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

## CAMPUS ENTERTAINMENT

[Doudna Fine Arts Center](#), is Charleston's new architectural landmark. Doudna boasts a 300 seat theatre, a 175 seat studio theatre, a 600 seat concert hall, a 150 seat recital hall, and several gallery corridors. Visitors are welcome. Doudna Fine Arts Center is home to the College of Fine Arts and houses the Music, Art, and Theatre Departments.

The [Tarble Arts Center](#) presents a year-round schedule of changing visual arts exhibitions, education and outreach programs, lectures and demonstrations by visiting artists and speakers, chamber music concerts and other performing arts, and special events including poetry or fiction readings by visiting writers.

The [Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Bowling Alley](#) is located in the basement of the union and is open until 11pm Sunday-Thursday and Midnight Friday-Saturday. The space offers several pool tables and has a Playstation 3 rental service that rents the console in addition to several popular and current game titles. For more information contact the Bowling Lanes manager at (217)581-7457.

## CHARLESTON COMMUNITY

## **Attractions**

### **[Lincoln Log Cabin](#)**

400 South Lincoln Highway Rd

Lerna, IL

Phone: (217) 345-1845

*Lincoln Log Cabin Historic Site was the 1840s home of Thomas and Sarah Bush Lincoln, father and stepmother of Abraham Lincoln. The site includes a working, historic farm developed around a two-room cabin.*

### **[Lincoln Douglas Debate Museum](#)**

Located on the Coles County Fairgrounds

126 E St

Phone: (217) 348-0430

### **[Charleston Tourism Office](#)**

520 Jackson Ave.

Phone: (217) 348-0430

*The tourism office is located on Charleston's downtown square, which has been the site of the Coles County seat since 1835. As a young lawyer, Abraham Lincoln practiced law in a previous version of the courthouse. Today the late 19th century Romanesque courthouse sits at the center of the square.*

## **Outdoor Recreation**

### **[Fox Ridge State Park](#)**

18175 State Park Rd.

Phone: (217) 345-6416

*With miles of rugged, scenic hiking trails, playgrounds, picnic shelters, fishing, hunting, and camping, Fox Ridge State Park is the perfect place to get back to nature. Daily Hours: April 1-September 30, 7:30 am to 10:00 pm, October 1-March 31, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. Located 8 miles south of Charleston on IL Highway 130.*

Lake Charleston

Phone: (217) 348-0430

*Lake Charleston is located one mile south of Charleston on IL Highway 130. Lake Charleston covers 440 acres and has a fishing pier, gazebo, dock, boating, and pavilions. No wake in the entire reservoir. Hours: Open Daily, 6:00 am to 10:00 pm.*

Charleston Country Club

8355 Country Club Rd.

Phone: (217) 345-6603

*The Charleston Country Club offers an 18-hole, 6,700 yard, par 72 golf course on 134 acres with distinct landscapes. Each golf season offers a full golf schedule with men's and women's leagues, tournaments, golf events for all ages, and a junior golf program. Adult and youth lessons are available.*

Charleston Speedway

Phone: (217) 345-2929

*Charleston Speedway is a 3/8 mile semi-banked dirt oval. Races run on Saturday nights in April to September, featuring UMP Hornets, Street Stocks, and UMP Modifieds. The speedway is located three miles east of Charleston on IL Highway 16 between Charleston and Ashmore.*

Bent Tree Golf Course  
South 4th St. Lincoln Highway Rd.  
Phone: (217) 348-1611

*The Bent Tree Golf Course is a public 18 hole golf course with both men's and women's leagues starting in May. Carts are available for rental and drinking is allowed on the premises although, you must bring your own as the club does not currently have a liquor license.*

**Surrounding Area:** Charleston, Illinois is located 45 minutes from three medium-sized shopping/entertainment districts. To the north is Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, home of the University of Illinois; 30 minutes south is Effingham, Illinois; and to the east is Terre Haute, Indiana, home of Indiana State University. It is also three hours south of Chicago, Illinois, two hours northeast of St. Louis, Missouri, and two hours west of Indianapolis, Indiana.

**Nightlife:** The Charleston/Mattoon area is home to social and entertainment spots that cater to a variety of demographics. Most are located around Charleston square, which is within easy walking distance from campus. There are several local restaurants throughout town, as well as bowling at Charleston Lucas Bowling Alley. There is a 10 screen movie theater located midway between Charleston and Mattoon on Route 16 where students and local residents enjoy the low-cost of watching the latest movies.

### [School District](#)

#### **Elementary Schools:**

Mark Twain Elementary School (Early Childhood, K)  
Student population of about 200

*\*Parents can choose from a half day or a full day Kindergarten option.*

1021 13<sup>th</sup> St; Charleston, IL 61920  
(217) 639-8000

Ashmore Elementary School (K, 1, 2, 3)

Student population of about 125  
313 South Ohio Drive; Ashmore, IL 61912  
(217) 349-3000

Carl Sandburg Elementary School (1, 2, 3)  
Student population of about 570  
1924 Reynolds Drive; Charleston, IL 61920  
(217) 639-4000

Jefferson Elementary School (4, 5, 6)  
Student population of about 640  
801 Jefferson St; Charleston, IL 61920  
(217) 639-7000

### **Middle School**

Charleston Middle School  
Student population of about 398  
Average Class Size: 24  
920 Smith Drive; Charleston, IL 61920  
(217) 639-6000

### **High School**

Charleston High School  
Student population of about 870  
Average Class Size: 22.8  
1615 Lincoln Avenue; Charleston, IL 61920  
(217) 639-5000

Immunizations- For more information on required immunizations, visit the following website:  
[www.charleston.k12.il.us/Nurses/immunizations.html](http://www.charleston.k12.il.us/Nurses/immunizations.html).

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

### Transportation

#### [DMV \(Department of Motor Vehicles\)](#)

1010 E St  
Charleston, IL 61920  
(217) 345-7401

### Health Care

#### [Mattoon VA Outpatient Clinic](#)

501 Lake Land Blvd.  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
Phone: (217) 258-3370  
Fax: (217) 258-3379  
Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### Services offered:

- Primary care services for veterans in Mattoon/Charleston metro area.
- Behavioral Health services, including individual, group and family counseling, and programs such as Quit Smart Smoking Cessation.
- Laboratory: Blood drawing services available.
- Prescriptions: Routine prescriptions processed through the mail or [My HealtheVet](#).

#### Department of Human Services (DHS)

119 W. State St.  
Charleston, IL 61920  
Phone: (217) 345-2188

#### [Sarah Bush Walk in Clinic Mattoon](#)

114 Dettro Drive  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
Phone: (217) 238-3000  
Hours: Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

#### [Sarah Bush Walk in Clinic Charleston](#)

2040 Lincoln Avenue  
Suite 100  
Charleston, IL 61920  
Phone: (217) 345-2030  
Hours: Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m

## APPENDIX A: IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT

Academic Advising Center  
2100 Ninth St. Hall  
Phone: (217) 581-2313  
<http://www.eiu.edu/advising/>

B.A. in General Studies Admissions  
2138 Blair Hall  
Phone: (217) 581-5618  
Fax: (217) 581-7076  
Email: [bgsba@eiu.edu](mailto:bgsba@eiu.edu)  
<http://www.eiu.edu/bgs/>

Career Services  
1301 Human Services Building  
Phone: (217) 581-2412  
Fax: (217) 581-2222  
<http://www.eiu.edu/careers/>

EIU Counseling Center  
1200 Human Services Building  
Phone: (217) 581-3413  
<http://www.eiu.edu/counsctr/>

Financial Aid & Scholarships  
Student Services Building, East Wing  
Phone: (217) 581-3713  
Email: [finaid@eiu.edu](mailto:finaid@eiu.edu)  
<http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/>

Graduate Admission  
1201 Blair Hall  
Phone: (217) 581-2220  
Fax: (217) 581-6020  
Email: [graduate@eiu.edu](mailto:graduate@eiu.edu)

Health Services  
1406 Human Services Building  
Phone: (217) 581-3013  
<http://www.eiu.edu/health/>

Housing & Dining Services  
MLK Jr. University Union  
Phone: (217) 581-5111  
<http://www.eiu.edu/housing/>



Military Student Assistance Center  
University Union, Rm 1715  
Phone: (217) 581-7888  
<http://www.eiu.edu/veterans/>

Minority Affairs Office  
Phone: (217) 581-6690  
Fax: (217) 581-7300  
<http://www.eiu.edu/minoraff/>

New Student and Family Programs  
1715 MLK Jr. University Union  
Phone: (217) 581-6435  
<http://www.eiu.edu/nsp/>

Office of Disability Services  
2006 Ninth St Hall  
Phone: (217) 581-6583  
Fax: (217) 581-7208  
<http://www.eiu.edu/disablty/>

Office of the Registrar & Office of Enrollment Management  
1220 Old Main  
Phone: (217) 581-3511 or (217) 581-3831  
Email: [records@eiu.edu](mailto:records@eiu.edu)  
<http://www.eiu.edu/registra/>

Organizational and Professional Development Admissions  
4020 Klehm Hall  
Phone: (217) 581-6271  
<http://www.eiu.edu/techopd/index.php>

Readmissions  
1230 Old Main  
Phone: (217) 581-2223

RN to Nursing Admissions  
2230 McAfee  
Phone: (217) 581-7049  
Fax: (217) 581-7050

Scholarship Coordinator (Office of Financial Aid)  
Student Services Building, East Wing  
Phone: (217) 581-7424  
Fax (217) 581-6422  
<http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/scholarships.php>

Textbook Rental Service  
975 Edgar Drive  
Phone: (217) 581-3626  
Fax: (217) 581-3590  
<http://www.eiu.edu/textbks/>

Transfer Admissions  
1221 Old Main  
Phone: (217) 581-2120  
Phone: (877) 581-BEIU  
Fax: (217) 581-6452  
<http://www.eiu.edu/admissions.php>

Undergraduate Admissions  
1230 Old Main  
Phone: (217) 581-2223  
Phone: (217) 581-BEIU(2348)  
Email: [admissions@eiu.edu](mailto:admissions@eiu.edu)

Veterans Benefits (Office of Financial Aid)  
Student Services Building, East Wing  
Phone: (217) 581-7510  
[http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/veteran\\_benefits.php](http://www.eiu.edu/finaid/veteran_benefits.php)

## APPENDIX B: SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

### **EIU SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS**

The [Kenneth E. Coffey, Jr. Memorial Scholarship \(pdf\)](#) was established by friends and family in memory of Ken Coffey. This award was created to give financial assistance to students who completed high school in Coles, Edgar, Clark, or Cumberland County. The recipient must be a full-time student at Eastern Illinois University in good academic standing. Preference will be given to applicants with a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher. Financial need is a consideration as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Preference will be given to students who are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant. The scholarship deadline is 1 April.

The [College Access Foundation of California Scholarship \(pdf\)](#), established in 2005, was created to give financial assistance to students who may not otherwise be able to attend college. The recipient(s) must be a full-time, undergraduate student accepted to Eastern Illinois University. An initial granted scholarship recipient must be an incoming freshman. Financial need is the primary consideration determined by FAFSA. Preference is to students who are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant. The award will not exceed one-half of the cost of tuition and fees to attend EIU as a full time, undergraduate student and payable 1/2 fall semester and 1/2 spring semester to the University and applied against tuition and fees. The recipient may be eligible to receive the scholarship for all four years provided the student remains in “good academic standing.” The deadline for this scholarship is 1 May.

The [McKenna Secondary Education Scholarship \(pdf\)](#), established in 1988, shall be granted to a full-time student enrolled in the field of English or History who is pursuing secondary teaching certification. The recipient shall be a junior or senior who is currently enrolled in or has completed at least one education course required for the secondary teaching certification. The recipient shall have at least a 3.1 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Financial need shall not be a criterion. The recipient shall have demonstrated an interest in research either in his/her major field or in secondary education. Applications along with a letter of recommendation from a professor in the applicant’s field of study should be sent no later than 15 March.

The [Kate Booker Stapp Scholarship \(pdf\)](#), established in 1948, serves to assist a female student who is a widow (or whose husband is incapacitated) and who has at least one child under the age of 18 living at home. The recipient should be teaching or be planning to teach. Students eligible to apply for this scholarship must be majoring in one of the following areas: early childhood education, elementary education, kinesiology and sports studies, master teacher, math education, middle level education, science with teacher certification, secondary education and foundations, social science teaching or special education. This scholarship is non-renewable. The recipient will be selected in spring and awarded in the fall semester.

[The Leona Stanford Vollintine Charitable Scholarship Fund \(pdf\)](#) , established in 2011, was created to award full-time students pursuing a career that promotes general public welfare to include, but is not limited to, education, criminal justice, health care, business administration, engineering, and various areas of science. Recipient(s) must maintain an overall 3.0 GPA and demonstrate financial need verified by the EIU Office of Financial Aid. The \$2,500scholarship

amount will be applied to the student's account and applied towards tuition, fees and other educational expenses. The deadline to apply for this scholarship is 31 January.

## **MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **NAVY/MARINE**

[NMCRS Gold Star Scholarship Programs](http://www.nmcrs.org/goldstar.pdf): Offered to children (under age of 23) of a Sailor/Marine who died while serving on active duty or after retirement and un-remarried Navy and Marine Corps spouses of a service member who died while serving on active duty or after retirement. <http://www.nmcrs.org/goldstar.pdf>

[Society of Sponsors of the United States Navy Centennial Scholarship Program](http://www.nmcrs.org/sponsors.pdf): Available to combat wounded Sailors or Marines that served in Iraq or Afghanistan and are pursuing a degree leading to license and certification as a teacher. <http://www.nmcrs.org/sponsors.pdf>

[Joseph A. McAlinden Divers Scholarship Program](http://www.nmcrs.org/divers.pdf): Offered to Active duty Navy or Marine Corps qualified divers as well as the children (under the age of 23) and spouses of active duty or retired Navy or Marine Corps divers. <http://www.nmcrs.org/divers.pdf>

Other Resources: <http://www.fra.org/>

### **COAST GUARD**

[Coast Guard Exchange System Scholarship Program](http://www.uscg.mil/mwr/hqrec/CGESScholarshipProgram.asp): Recognizing the value of education and the benefits it brings to the Coast Guard Family, the Coast Guard Exchange System (CGES) Scholarship Program was established to provide additional financial resources to dependent children of Coast Guard personnel embarking on undergraduate college/university studies. Annually a \$1,500 scholarship is awarded to the outstanding applicant, \$750 to the first runner-up, and \$500 to the second runner-up. A scholarship is awarded on a one-time basis. <http://www.uscg.mil/mwr/hqrec/CGESScholarshipProgram.asp>

Other Resources: <http://www.fra.org/>

### **AIR FORCE**

[Pitsenbarger Awards](http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/pit.asp): Provides a one-time grant of \$400 to selected top active duty Guard and Reserve USAF enlisted personnel graduating from the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) who plan to pursue a baccalaureate degree. The grants coincide with the CCAF graduation ceremonies held each spring and fall. <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/pit.asp>

[Lt Col Romeo and Josephine Bass Ferretti Scholarship](http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/Ferretti.asp): Is made possible by a bequest from the estate of Lt Col Romeo and Josephine Bass Ferretti and was established for minor dependents of Air Force active duty, Reserve or Air National Guard enlisted airmen pursuing an undergraduate degree in the area of science, technology, engineering or math (STEM). The recipients will be selected based upon high academic standards, good character and financial need. <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/Ferretti.asp>

[Captain Jodi Callahan Memorial Scholarship](http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/callahan.asp): Provides financial assistance and recognition to an active duty Air Force full time guard or reserve (officer or enlisted) person who is pursuing a Master's degree in a non-technical field. <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/callahan.asp>

[Spouse Scholarships](http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/spouse.asp): The Air Force Spouse Scholarship program is designed to encourage Air Force spouses worldwide to pursue associate/bachelor undergraduate or graduate/postgraduate degrees. <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/spouse.asp>

[Federal Tuition Assistance](#): The Air National Guard can pay up to 100% of your college tuition and general fees, up to \$4,500 per year—that's up to \$18,000 over four years. The amount is based on in-state public institution tuition rates, and can be applied to the other financial assistance programs listed below. In addition, many states also offer college funding such as State Tuition Waivers that reduce a percentage of the cost of tuition even more. Ask your recruiter about state tuition assistance.

[Student Loan Repayment Program \(SLRP\)](#): For Soldiers and officers who have an existing student loan obligation at the time of enlistment in the Air National Guard, the Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) may pay up to \$50,000 for certain jobs, with a six- or eight-year enlistment as a member of a unit. In addition, current Guard members who extend their enlistment contract for a minimum period of six years are also eligible for this program, provided they meet certain requirements, including being in a valid Military Occupational Specialty (MOS). This incentive is also available to applicants entering Officer Candidate School (you must have at least 90 college credit hours and agree to an eight-year commitment).

## **ROTC**

[Reserve Officers' Training Corps \(ROTC\) Scholarships](#): ROTC is a college elective that allows you to earn a commission straight out of college as a second lieutenant in the Army. This leadership program also provides a way to help hold down the cost of college by offering two-, three- and four-year [ROTC scholarships](#), as well as monthly allowances for some cadets. All ROTC scholarships require a [service commitment](#). Your local recruiter or your school's military science department can furnish complete details.

## **ARMY**

[Legacy Scholarship](http://www.awfdn.org/programs/legacyscholarships): The Army Women's Foundation Legacy Scholarship program recognizes the importance of education and helping recipients to achieve their educational goals. The Legacy Scholarship program offers financial support toward community college coursework and undergraduate degrees to Army women and their lineal descendents. Scholarships are based on merit, academic potential, community service and need. The Legacy Scholarships are available for tuition assistance at the community college level or four year academic institutions. Community College Legacy Scholarships are in the amount of \$1,000. College/University Legacy Scholarships are in the amount of \$2,500. <http://www.awfdn.org/programs/legacyscholarships>

## **MILITARY DEPENDANTS**

[The Samsung American Legion Scholarship](#): Available to high school juniors who participate in and complete the Boys State or Girls State programs and are direct descendants (or legally adopted children) of wartime veterans eligible for American Legion membership. Students who qualify for and are interested in the Samsung Scholarship must submit a completed application to program staff upon their arrival to Boys State or Girls State.

<http://www.legion.org/scholarships/159495/legion-awards-nine-20000-scholarships>

[Military Spouse Scholarships](#): The National Military Family Association recognizes the unique challenges today's military spouses face in pursuing additional training or education. Frequent moves make it difficult to complete programs and establish a career. We are here to help ease the financial obstacles that accompany pursuing a higher education.

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/military-spouse-scholarships/>

[Scholarships for Military Children Program](#): A minimum of one \$1500 scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location where qualified applications are received. More than one scholarship per commissary may be available based on response and funding. The scholarship provides for payment of tuition, books, lab fees and other related expenses.

<http://www.militaryscholar.org/sfmc/index.html>

[Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship](#): The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship program to support the children of our warriors. These scholarships are awarded to 15 students annually who excel in academics and volunteer in their communities.

[http://www.alaforveterans.org/what\\_we\\_do/scholarships/Pages/NatPresScholECW.aspx](http://www.alaforveterans.org/what_we_do/scholarships/Pages/NatPresScholECW.aspx)

[Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund](#): The Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund is an umbrella that supports three separate scholarship opportunities for participants in American Legion Auxiliary programs. One is for American Legion Auxiliary Junior members; another is for the Honorary National Junior President; and one is for participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation program.

[AMVETS National Scholarship Program \(Entering College Freshmen\)](#): Must be used for full-time study at either an undergraduate college or university or an accredited technical/trade school leading to a certification or degree.

[AMVETS National Scholarship Program \(JROTC / \\$1,000\)](#): AMVETS offers the following one-year scholarship for graduating Junior ROTC (JROTC) cadets. It must be used for full-time study at either an undergraduate college or university or an accredited technical/trade school leading to a certification or degree.

[Heroes' Legacy Scholarships](#): The Heroes' Legacy Scholarship program honors not only those who have fallen in battle, but all who have died or have become disabled through their active military service since September 11, 2001. The program is open to dependent unmarried children under age 23.

## **OTHER VETERAN SCHOLARSHIPS**

[American Legion Auxiliary Non-Traditional Student Scholarship](#): One annually per Auxiliary geographic division in the amount of \$1,000. Applicant must be a member of The American Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion. Dues must have been paid for the two preceding years and for calendar year in which the application is made. The applicant may be pursuing training in a certified, trade, professional, or technical program, or a two-year or four-year degree program.

[Student Veterans of America STEM Scholarship Program](#): The STEM Scholarship will be awarded to one (1) recipient for \$10,000 and will incentivize students pursuing STEM degrees to achieve academic excellence. It will also encourage potential STEM students to enter the field and endure the rigorous course work. Eligible students must maintain a minimum of a 3.3 GPA in an accredited science, technology, engineering, or mathematics program. The SVA STEM Scholarship will be awarded to one (1) student veteran for the 2012-13 academic year.

[AMVETS National Scholarship Program](#): Must be used for full-time study in the pursuit of undergraduate studies, graduate studies or a certification/degree from an accredited technical/trade school. The purpose of this scholarship is to financially assist veterans who have exhausted government aid, or who might not otherwise have the financial means to further their education. \$1,000 will be awarded each year for a maximum of four years contingent upon maintaining the schools prescribed academic standards and showing evidence of enrollment. AMVETS will not make more than a \$1,000 payment per year even if the student is on an accelerated schedule. The scholarship must be used in its entirety within five years of the award date. Any amount remaining unused within five years will be forfeited. A total of three scholarships of this level will be awarded nation wide. Applicants must meet all of the eligibility requirements listed and submit the completed application postmarked on or before April 15. For questions regarding the application, required documents, or application process, please contact AMVETS toll free at 877-726-8387.

[Dr. Aurelio M. Caccamo Family Foundation Memorial Scholarship](#): Two \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded nationwide, per year, for the duration of the grant. The scholarships are for veterans, including members of the National Guard and Reserves, seeking new skills in order to be more competitive in the job market. The onetime \$3,000 award may be used for part time or full time undergraduate courses, accredited degree or certificate programs, including online schools.

[Illinois Patriot Education Fund](#): The mission of the IPEF is to raise scholarship funds on behalf of spouses and children of Illinois military service men and women who have given their lives or have become disabled while serving our country. We also further the educational dreams of those men and women currently serving in the Armed Forces, by providing financial assistance beyond what is offered by the Post-911 GI Bill.

## **Military Loans**

[Vice Admiral E. P. Travers Loan Program](#): Available to children (under age of 23) of active duty and retired Sailors/Marines (including reservists serving on active duty over 90 days) and active duty Navy/Marine Corps spouses (residing within the United States).

<http://www.nmcra.org/travers.pdf>

[Admiral Mike Boorda Loan Program](http://www.nmcrcs.org/boorda.pdf): For those Sailors/Marines participating in the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) or the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program (MECP). <http://www.nmcrcs.org/boorda.pdf>

[Spouse Tuition Aid Loan Program](http://www.nmcrcs.org/stap.pdf): Available for active duty Navy or Marine Corps spouses stationed with the service member outside the 50 United States. <http://www.nmcrcs.org/stap.pdf>