

Resources for Active Duty Military, Veterans, and their Dependents

Education and Training
Employment Benefits
Health Information
Additional Resources
Education and Training
VA Programs
Education

Montgomery GI Bill

<https://benefits.va.gov/gibill>

Montgomery GI Bill may be used while on active duty. Veterans with a general discharge do not qualify and eligibility expires after 10 years. All participants must have a high school diploma. The maximum number of months veterans can receive payments is 36 months at the full time rates or the part time equivalent.

Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/veap.asp

For veterans who served on active duty on October 9, 1996. Participated in VEAP, and contributed money to an account, or elected the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) by October 9, 1997. And paid \$1,200. Also for veterans who participated in VEAP on or before October 9, 1996 through April 1, 2000, elected MGIB by October 31, 2001, and contributed \$2,700 to MGIB.

Post 9/11 GI Bill - The Post 9/11 GI Bill

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911_gibill.asp

Is a new education program for service members and veterans who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Benefits are payable for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009.

Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow_ribbon.asp

This program assists eligible students with payment of their tuition and fees in instances (private school) where costs exceed the most expensive in-state undergraduate tuition at a public school. Students must be eligible to receive 100 percent of the benefits provided under the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

VA Work-Study Program

www.vets.gov/education/work-learn/workstudy/

Veterans, who are full-time or 3/4 time students in a college degree program, or a vocational or professional program, can work for VA work-study. The VA will select students for the work-study program based on different factors including disability of student; ability of student to complete the work-study contract before the end of education benefits; job availability within normal commuting distance to the student.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E)

www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp

The VR&E program assists veterans who have service-connected disabilities obtain and maintain suitable employment. Independent living services are also available for severely disabled veterans who are not currently ready to seek employment.

Illinois Troops to Teachers

www.proudtoserveagain.com

The Illinois Troops to Teachers Program can help eligible veterans with at least six years of honorable service transition from a military background to K-12 public school teaching.

The Illinois Troops to Teachers office provide:

- Educational and teaching career advisement
- Information resources for earning state teacher certification

Job hunting assistance

Illinois Troops to Teachers can also provide financial assistance of \$5,000 to eligible veterans enrolled in a certification program or a bonus of up to \$10,000 for teachers who serve a three-year commitment in any high-needs school across the state. For more information, call the Illinois Troops to Teachers Program manager at (866) 372-3157 or e-mail at Troops.Teachers@illinois.gov.

Illinois Veterans Grant (IVG)

www2.illinois.gov/veterans/benefits/Pages/education.aspx

The Illinois Veterans Grant (IVG) provides 120 units at any state-supported college or university to veterans who entered military service from the State of Illinois and returned to Illinois within six months following discharge.

Illinois National Guard Grant (ING)

www2.illinois.gov/veterans/benefits/Pages/education.aspx

The (ING) provides any enlisted person, lieutenant, or captain with at least one year of service in the Illinois National Guard, with eight semesters or 12 quarters of full-time or part-time undergraduate study at any state-controlled university or college.

Illinois Children of Veterans Tuition Waiver

<https://osfa.illinois.edu/types-of-aid/children-of-veterans-tuition-waiver>

Each county will be awarded annually, one honorary scholarship at the University of Illinois, for the benefit of children of Veterans of WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam War periods, the Gulf War and the War on Terror with preference being given to the children of deceased and disabled veterans.

Illinois Bright Start Fallen Heroes Scholarship

www.illinoistreasurer.gov/Individuals/Fallen_Heroes

The State of Illinois will deposit \$2,500 in a Bright Start account for each child of a fallen service member who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Enduring Freedom upon the request of a surviving family member.

Illinois Educational Aid for Children 10-18 years old

www2.illinois.gov/veterans/benefits/Pages/education.aspx

Aid is available annually from the (IDVA) Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs for children between the ages of 10 and 18 of a veteran who died or became totally disabled as a result of service in the Armed Forces.

Illinois MIA/POW Scholarship

www2.illinois.gov/veterans/benefits/Pages/education.aspx

This program is administered by the (IDVA) Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs and is open to spouses, natural children, legally adopted children, or stepchildren of eligible veterans or service members. The program provides four calendar years of full time enrollment to any state controlled college or university.

Illinois High School Diplomas for WWII, Korea and Vietnam Veterans

<http://ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=096-0088>

Veterans of WWII, Korea and Vietnam may receive a high school diploma if they do not possess one and if they left high school in order to serve in the Armed Forces.

Leave No Veteran Behind

www.leavenoveteranbehind.org/

A 501(c) (3) non-profit service run by veterans that works to relieve the educational debt of veterans who are serving and have served in the U.S. Military. Leave No Veteran Behind takes private donations and applies them directly to veterans' student loan accounts. In return, we require that all veterans helped through our program give back 100 hours of community service.

Employment Benefits

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E)

www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp

The VR&E program assists veterans who have service-connected disabilities obtain and maintain suitable employment. Independent living services are also available for severely disabled veterans who are not currently ready to seek employment.

Veterans Preference for Federal Jobs

www.dol.gov/vets/programs/vetspref/main.htm

To receive preference, veterans must have been discharged or released from Active Duty in the U.S. Armed Forces under Honorable Conditions. Preference is also provided for certain widows and widowers of deceased veterans who died in the service such as spouses of service-connected disabled veterans, and mothers of veterans who died under honorable conditions on active duty, or have permanent and total service-connected disabilities. For each of these preferences, a specific criterion is required.

Veteran Preference for State Employment

www2.illinois.gov/sites/work/Pages/default.aspx

Preference given to honorably discharged veterans when applying for state employment with Central Management Services (CMS).

Jobs for Vets

www.ides.illinois.gov/Pages/default.aspx

The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) provides a trained veterans representative to help veterans receive training and job placement assistance. IDES and its partner agencies have a variety of resources that can help veterans find jobs and transition back to the civilian work force.

Veterans Tax Credit

<http://tax.illinois.gov/QuestionsAndAnswers/755.htm>

The State of Illinois and or Federal Government may provide a tax credit to businesses, which hire a veteran.

Illinois Re-employment Rights

www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/rights/veterans.html

Illinois National Guard members called to active duty will be protected under state law in addition to Federal Law unless performing state active duty in which case only State Law applies.

Health Information

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) & Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

www.va.gov

Illinois Warrior Assistance Program

www.illinoiswarrior.com

The Illinois Warrior Assistance Program offers a 24-hour; toll-free helpline at 1-(866)-554-IWAP (4927), which is staffed by health professionals to assist veterans, day or night, with the symptoms associated with PTSD and provides TBI screening to all interested Illinois Veterans, especially those returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. If you or someone you know is suffering from stress, please call 1 (866)-554-4927 or visit www.illinoiswarrior.com for more information.

National Resource Directory (NRD)

<https://nrd.gov/>

The NRD provides access to services and resources at the national, state and local levels that support recovery, rehabilitation and community reintegration.

Additional Resources

The L&C Veterans Services department has collected the following additional resources that also might be helpful. Lewis and Clark does not control any of these sites, nor do we accept responsibility for site content.

Army Emergency Relief - www.aerhq.org/

Air Force Aid Society - www.afas.org/

Navy Marine Corps Relief Society - www.nmcrs.org/

Coast Guard Mutual Aid - www.cgmahq.org/

Madison County Veterans Assistance Commission 618.296.4554

www.co.madison.il.us/departments/veterans_assistance_commission

Lewis and Clark Community College

Terry Lane, Career and Veteran Services, Baldwin Hall Room 2418, 618.468.5500 tdlane@lc.edu