

# 2026 Hats Off For Veterans Higher Education Scholarship

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### What is the Hats Off For Veterans (HOFV) Higher Education Scholarship?

The HOFV Higher Education Scholarship is a financial award designed to support Texas military veterans who are pursuing their first undergraduate (bachelor's) degree. The scholarship provides supplemental financial assistance to help veterans offset educational and related expenses while transitioning from military service to higher education.

### How much is the scholarship award?

For the 2026 academic year, Hats Off For Veterans will award two scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each.

### Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must be Texas military veterans pursuing their first undergraduate bachelor's degree, enrolled at least part-time at a college or university, and legal residents of the state of Texas. Required documentation includes a DD-214, proof of Texas residency, and proof of enrollment or acceptance for the 2026 academic year.

### Who is not eligible to apply?

Veterans pursuing associate degrees, graduate or postgraduate degrees, or a second bachelor's degree are not eligible. Active-duty service members and spouses or dependents of service members are also not eligible.

### Do I have to be enrolled full-time?

No. Applicants may be enrolled part-time or full-time at an accredited college or university.

### What documents are required?

A completed and signed application, DD-214, proof of Texas residency, proof of enrollment or acceptance, a personal essay, three letters of recommendation, and all supporting documentation listed in the application checklist.

### What are the essay requirements?

A minimum 750-word original essay using 12-point font and 1.5 or double spacing. Essays must not be AI-generated.

### **How many letters of recommendation are required?**

Three letters of recommendation from non-family members with current contact information are required.

### **When is the application deadline?**

Applications must be received by March 31, 2026, at 11:59 PM (CST). Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

### **How can I submit my application?**

Applications may be submitted electronically via email or mailed as a hard copy, provided they meet deadline requirements.

### **How are recipients selected?**

Applications are evaluated using a numerical scoring system by the HOFV Scholarship Committee, with significant emphasis placed on the personal essay.

### **When will recipients be notified?**

Recipients will be notified individually and publicly announced on Friday, April 17, 2026.

### **Will my information be shared publicly?**

Yes. All scholarship applicants are required to sign the Media Release & Public Announcement Authorization Form as part of the application process. If selected as a scholarship recipient, Hats Off For Veterans may publicly share your full name, declared major or field of study, college or university name, and photograph or headshot for scholarship announcements and promotional purposes. HOFV maintains a strict policy of not disclosing sensitive personal information, including mailing addresses, phone numbers, birth dates, or other private details.

### **What if I do not qualify?**

Veterans who do not qualify are encouraged to apply for the HOFV Professional Development Grant.

### **Who can I contact with questions?**

Contact Lisa Adams, CEO of Hats Off For Veterans, at [Lisa@HOFV.org](mailto:Lisa@HOFV.org) or 512-682-5333.