



California Military Department GI Bill Award Program



A state-funded grant for up to 1,000 Service Members in the California Military Department or as many participants as the annual budget will allow.

Eligibility

All Applicants must:

- Agree to remain an active member in the CMD throughout the participation period in the Program;
- Agree to attend a qualifying institution as defined by section 69432.7(l) of the California Education Code and with an active Institutional Participation Agreement with the California Student Aid Commission;
- Agree to maintain enrollment in at least three (3) academic units per term;
- Agree to maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) annually;
- Maintain California residency as determined by the institution;
- Agree to not receive Cal Grant award funds for the same academic year; and
- Agree to use the award to obtain a certificate, degree, or diploma that is currently not held.

What is it?

This program is a state-funded grant. The California Student Aid Commission makes payments to eligible institutions.

The amounts may change each year based on state budget. For the 22-23 AY, the amounts were:

- Up to \$1,648 at Community Colleges (per Cal Grant B)
- Up to \$5,742 at the California State University (per Cal Grant A)
- Up to \$13,104 for non-public institution (per Cal Grant A)

Graduate students who entered the program prior to the 2020-2021 academic year, may receive an additional \$500 for books and supplies.

For detailed information, including the FAQs, please visit the CMD GI Bill website at <https://calguard.ca.gov/education/>.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Clarita Cortez and Ms. Angelica Barajas at cmd.gi.bill@cmd.ca.gov

How to Apply:

Initial applicants must submit the Program's Initial Application, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the Statement of Understanding (SOU), a Letter of Recommendation, and an annual Service Commitment Acknowledgment prior to the April 30 deadline to be considered a priority applicant. These become available at the website below in mid-January. Applicants who do not complete all 5 steps by the April 30 deadline can apply as first-come, first-serve applicants by completing the Program's Initial Application, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the Statement of Understanding (SOU), and a Service Commitment Acknowledgment by April 30 of the current academic year, or until all awards have been exhausted.

Renewal participants must complete the CMD GI Bill Renewal Application and the Renewal Statement of Understanding and, if the applicant entered the program during the 2020-2021 academic year or later, the annual Service Commitment Acknowledgment. Renewal paperwork is available from mid-January through the deadline date of June 1. Failure to renew by the deadline will result in withdrawal from the CMD GI Bill. The links for the application process are found on the CMD GI Bill website at

<https://calguard.ca.gov/education/>.