



COUNTY OF SONOMA
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

PATRICK J. JOLLY

2250 NORTHPOINT PARKWAY

Veterans

Service Officer

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College Fee Waiver Program

California offers a College Fee Waiver Program to children and dependents of service-connected disabled or service-related deceased veterans. This program is administered locally by the Sonoma County Veterans Service Office.

This fee waiver applies at California State Universities, University of California campuses and California Community Colleges. Benefits are awarded on an "academic year" basis and students are required to reapply each year for continued benefits.

There are three categories used to qualify students for the fee waiver:

1. Plan A may be available to *the spouse, child or unmarried surviving spouse* of a veteran who is totally service-connected disabled, or who has died of service-related causes. The veteran must have served during a "qualifying war period", but not necessarily in a war zone. This plan does not have an income limit. A child must be under 27 years of age (under 30 if the child is also a veteran). There are no age limits for a spouse or surviving spouse. Dependents may not receive this benefit concurrently with Chapter 35 benefits.
2. Plan B may be available to children only, with no age limit, if the veteran has any service-connected disability from the VA, regardless of severity or level of compensation, or had a service-connected disability at the time of death, or who died of service-related causes. The child's income, which includes the student's adjusted gross income plus the value of support provided by parents, if any, for the previous calendar year, cannot exceed \$9,573 for school year 2005-6.
3. Plan C may be available to any dependent or unremarried surviving spouse of any member of the California National Guard, who, while in the line of duty and while in active service of the state, was killed, died of a disability or became permanently disabled resulting from an event that occurred while in active service of the state.

To apply, you will need to complete a DVS 40 (College Fee Waiver Program application) and submit that along with a copy of your birth certificate and a copy your previous year's completed State or Federal Income Tax Return or a statement from either agency verifying the adjusted gross income or stating that a return was not filed.

For further information and assistance in applying for these valuable benefits, please contact the Sonoma County Veterans Service Office at (707) 565-5960.