

## What educational Benefits are available to veterans?

### Education Benefits

#### *Tuition waiver for all Massachusetts veterans to all state colleges and universities*

##### *M.G.L. ch. 15A, s.19*

Veterans of Massachusetts, as defined by M.G.L. ch. 4, s.7, clause 43, may be eligible for any state-supported course in an undergraduate degree program or certificate program offered by a public college or university. To be eligible, a veteran must also be a legal resident of Massachusetts and must not be in default of any federal student loans.

Veterans will be eligible on a space-available basis for a waiver of full or partial tuition based on proper documentation of the eligibility of the veteran. Space availability shall be determined in accordance with normal practices and procedures as published by each institution, i.e., the individual college or university. Contact the veterans' representative at the college or university for details.

#### *National Guard tuition and fee waiver*

##### *Acts of 2005 ch. 130*

Members of the National Guard are eligible for a waiver of both fees and tuition at all state colleges and universities. Please contact the college or university veterans' representative for details about this program.

#### *Public service scholarship programs*

##### *M.G.L. ch. 15A, s.16*

Scholarships will be awarded to:

- Children of prisoners of war or military or service persons missing in action in Southeast Asia whose service was between February 1, 1955 and the termination of the Vietnam campaign; and
- Children of veterans (as defined by M.G.L. ch. 4, s.7) whose service was credited to the Commonwealth and who were killed in action or otherwise died as a result of such service. Scholarships will be for undergraduate studies at an institution of higher education in the Commonwealth.

Contact information:

Office of Student Financial Assistance

454 Broadway, Suite 200

Revere, MA 02151

Tel: 617-391-6070

[www.osfa.mass.edu](http://www.osfa.mass.edu)

### ***Post 9/11 GI Bill***

Veterans who served for a minimum of 90 days active duty on or after September 11, 2001, may qualify for the Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33). This new federal program provides increased benefits for veterans pursuing an approved education program at an approved degree-granting institution.

To be eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill, veterans must have received an honorable discharge; and served at least 90 aggregate days on or after September 11, 2001; or discharged with a service-connected disability

after 30 continuous days.

This federal benefit has state-specific implications since the cost of tuition and fees varies by state and is based on the highest in-state undergraduate rate. A monthly housing allowance based on the zip code of the

college/ university and a book stipend of \$41.67 per credit of up to 24 credits or \$1,000 per academic year is also part of the program.

For information and to apply, call Toll-Free: 1-888-442-4551 or go to [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

### ***Veterans Upward Bound Program***

The Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) Program has two locations in Massachusetts: UMass Boston and Suffolk University. VUB is a free pre-college program to help veterans develop the academic and personal skills

necessary for success in a program of post-secondary education.

### ***Eligibility***

In order to qualify, an applicant must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
- Have served over 180 days on active military duty or have a service-connected disability (Reservists serving on or after September 11, 2001, shorter terms of service may provide eligibility);
- Have a military discharge other than dishonorable;
- Have academic need.
- Applicants must qualify in one of the following two ways:
  - They must be a potential first-generation college graduate (their primary caregiver had not graduated from a four-year higher education institution before the applicant turned 18); or

• They must meet income guidelines for the program. These are based on federal taxable income and family size. Please call for detailed guidelines.

*Contact information:*

**Veterans Upward Bound**

**UMass Boston**

**100 Morrissey Boulevard**

**McCormack Hall, 3rd Floor, Room 704**

**Boston, MA 02125**

**Tel: 617-287-5870**

**[www.veterans-ub.umb.edu](http://www.veterans-ub.umb.edu)**

**E-mail: [veteransupwardbound@umb.edu](mailto:veteransupwardbound@umb.edu)**

**Veterans Upward Bound**

**Suffolk University, 73 Tremont, Suite 7025**

**Boston, MA 02108**

**Tel: 617-725-4100**

**[www.suffolk.edu/offices/39470.html](http://www.suffolk.edu/offices/39470.html)**

**E-mail: [vub@suffolk.edu](mailto:vub@suffolk.edu)**

***Massachusetts Soldiers Legacy Fund***

**The Massachusetts Soldiers Legacy Fund provides funds for current and future college/university students whose parents were killed on deployment during Operations Enduring or Iraqi Freedom.**

**Contact information:**

**Massachusetts Soldiers Legacy Fund**

**Toll-Free: 1-866-856-5533**

**[www.msllfund.org](http://www.msllfund.org)**

**E-mail: [info@msllfund.org](mailto:info@msllfund.org)**