Service to our country has always been considered service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

For that reason, veterans, servicemembers, and their families have traditionally received special consideration through many state financial aid programs. Access to a postsecondary education can open doors to career opportunities not available to high school graduates or those with only military training and experience.

PHEAA conducts its student loan servicing activities nationally as FedLoan Servicing and American Education Services (AES).

PHEAA.org

These materials have been developed and paid for by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA). The information contained in this document is believed to be accurate at the time of printing.
Military Families

Military Family Educational Program (MFEP)

Launching in the 2020-21 Academic Year, MFEP is an educational grant program benefitting the family members of eligible Pennsylvania National Guard (PANG) servicemembers or eligible former members who enter into an additional 6-year service agreement with the PANG.

MFEP awards full-time or part-time students a grant which is the lesser between the in-state tuition rate plus technology fee charged by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) or the cost of the program in which the student is enrolled. The MFEP grant can be used for approved degree-granting curricula or certificate-granting courses of study, or training programs required for entrance into a specific career at an approved institution of higher learning for up to 5 academic years. The PA Guard Member can assign the entire benefit to one dependent or divide it amongst multiple dependents.

For more information, visit PHEAA.org/MFEP or contact the Pennsylvania National Guard at 800-GO-GUARD.

Postsecondary Educational Gratuity Program (PEGP)

This program assists birth or adoptive children of Pennsylvania police officers, firefighters, rescue and ambulance squad members, corrections employees, and National Guard members who died in the line of duty since January 1, 1976 through a tuition waiver. PEGP recipients also include the birth and adoptive children of sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, National Guard members, or other individuals who were on federal or state active military duty and died after September 11, 2001, as a direct result of performing their official duties. First-time applicants must be 25 years of age or younger.

Legislation was amended in 2006 to include unmarried, surviving spouses of National Guard servicemembers or airmen who were killed or who died as a result of injuries while in federal or state active duty. A spouse may receive the benefit up to 10 years after their member’s death.

These programs waive cost of attendance not covered by other grants and scholarships at Pennsylvania community colleges, state-owned universities, and state-related postsecondary institutions.

For more information, visit PHEAA.org/PEGP.

National Guard Servicemembers

Pennsylvania National Guard Educational Assistance Program (EAP)

In cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA), PHEAA jointly administers EAP for members of the PANG. This program provides financial assistance for students who enter into a 6-year service commitment with PANG.

Recipients must attend a Pennsylvania school, enroll in an approved program of study, and maintain at least part-time enrollment. Students with a bachelor’s degree may still be eligible for a part-time award toward another credential. The maximum EAP benefit is determined each year using the annual tuition rate which is defined as the in-state tuition plus technology fee charged at a PASSHE school.

More information, visit PHEAA.org/EAP or contact the Pennsylvania National Guard at 800-GO-GUARD.

Veterans

PA State Grant Program

The PA State Grant Program provides grants to eligible Pennsylvania residents who are in need of financial aid so that they can attend an approved postsecondary institution. Recipients must be undergraduate students who have not received a bachelor’s degree and who enroll at least half-time in a program of study that is at least 2 academic years in length. PA State Grants are also available to students who enroll in summer sessions.

If a student meets the veteran status requirements, s/he will be automatically considered for the highest award amount possible based on the postsecondary institutions allowable college costs.

For more information, visit PHEAA.org/StateGrant.

Pennsylvania Targeted Industry Program (PA-TIP)

PA-TIP provides need-based awards to students enrolled in short-term programs in the following career areas: energy, health, advanced materials and diversified manufacturing, and agriculture and food production fields. Students cannot receive both a PA State Grant and a PA-TIP award for the same program of study.

The veteran awarding process for PA-TIP automatically considers the student for the highest PA-TIP amount possible based on the costs reported by the postsecondary institution.

For more information, visit PHEAA.org/PA-TIP.

Need More Information?

Check out the Funding Opportunities section of PHEAA.org for more information on PHEAA-administered programs.

You can also contact PHEAA staff at 800-692-7392.