



MyCAA FACT SHEET

The Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts Program (MyCAA) is a career development and employment assistance program sponsored by the Department of Defense (DoD). MyCAA helps military spouses pursue licenses, certificates, certifications or Associate's Degrees (excluding Associate's Degrees in General Studies, Liberal Arts, and Interdisciplinary Studies that do not have a concentration) necessary for gainful employment in high demand, high growth Portable Career Fields and Occupations.

As part of the Military Spouse's Career Lifecycle, MyCAA offers the following:

Training and Education Financial Assistance: MyCAA provides a maximum education benefit of \$4,000 with an annual fiscal year cap of \$2,000 to assist eligible military spouses who need professional credentials to meet their Portable Career goals. Annual cap waivers are available if there is an upfront tuition cost that exceeds \$2,000 (up to the maximum education benefit of \$4,000).

Employment Readiness Counseling: Counseling services are provided to all military spouses married to active duty service members of all ranks, regardless of their eligibility to receive MyCAA financial assistance and their desire to pursue higher levels of education. Counseling services help military spouses identify additional sources of federal, state and local financial assistance, expanded career choices and opportunities, and support resources (e.g. child care, transportation, books, computers, equipment, supplies, etc.).

Employment Assistance and Career Services: Referrals are made to networks of military friendly employers for MyCAA spouse participants who have completed their programs of study using MyCAA funding and who are ready to seek gainful employment.

Who is eligible for MyCAA Financial Assistance?

- Spouses of service members on active duty in pay grades E-1 to E-5, W-1 to W-2, and O-1 to O-2 who can start and complete their coursework while their military sponsor is on Title 10 military orders, including spouses married to members of the National Guard and Reserve Components in these same pay grades.
- **Those who are not eligible include:**
 - Spouses married to service members in pay grades: E-6 and above; W-3 and above; and O-3 and above
 - Spouses who are a member of the armed forces themselves currently on Title 10 orders
 - Spouses who are married but legally separated (or under court order or statute of any state or US territory) from a member of the armed forces on Title 10 orders
 - Spouses whose National Guard/Reserve Component military sponsor is in a Warning Orders/Alert, Post Deployment/Demobilization or Transition Status
 - Spouses married to a member of the Coast Guard
 - Spouses who are unable to start and complete their course(s) while their military sponsor is on Title 10 orders

What will MyCAA pay for?

- Tuition costs for education and training courses and examinations leading to an Associate's Degree (excluding Associate's Degrees in General Studies, Liberal Arts, and Interdisciplinary Studies that do not have a concentration), license, certificate or certification at an accredited college, university, or technical school in the United States or approved testing organization that expands employment or portable career opportunities for military spouses.

• **MyCAA will NOT pay for the following:**

- Tuition for courses and examinations that are not included in the spouse's Education and Training Plan and those that have already started or been completed by the spouse
- Reimbursements of any kind
- Books, supplies, equipment, uniforms, computers and electronic devices of any kind
- Student activities, events and entertainment
- Pre-payment/deposits for future courses, unless costs are part of a block of study
- School or college level entrance examinations, comprehensive exams and related preparatory courses
- Courses, tests or fees normally paid by an employer as part of a job training program
- Non-academic credit or ungraded courses, including courses taken on an audit basis or as an internship, practicum, apprenticeship, or clinical supervision; also, orientation programs that are non-academic credit or ungraded
- Courses taken more than one time unless MyCAA has received a full refund from the school
- Academic credit by examination tests (e.g. CLEP, etc.)
- General Studies, Liberal Arts, Interdisciplinary Associate's Degrees that do not have a concentration
- Personal enrichment courses (excluding courses that are academic credit/graded electives in an approved MyCAA Spouse Education and Training Plan)
- Transportation, lodging, child care, and medical services
- Course Extensions (except for approved hardship waivers)
- Study Abroad Programs (excluding programs of study offered by participating MyCAA schools on overseas military bases)
- Private licenses (Example: A private pilot's license would not be covered because it is for recreational use but a commercial pilot's license would be covered because it would be used for an occupation)
- High school completion programs, including online high school completion programs
- CEU's to maintain a standing in a professional organization

How can you establish a MyCAA Account? Visit the MyCAA Spouse Portal online at <https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa>. Provide required Spouse Profile information. A real-time DEERS eligibility check will confirm if you meet MyCAA eligibility requirements so you can move forward and establish your MyCAA Account. Those who do not pass this check will be provided additional guidance.

How can you provide MyCAA with feedback? Visit MyCAAFeedback@militaryonesource.com to send MyCAA your ideas and recommendations. Visit [Contact Us \(https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa\)](https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa) to provide information about your MyCAA program experience once you have found gainful employment.

How can you get additional information or assistance? Call 1-800-342-9647 to speak with a MyCAA Career and Education Consultant or, if you already have an established MyCAA Account, use your Message Box as the fastest way to receive information and assistance. Counselors at Military OneSource Spouse Career Center (MyCAA) are available Monday through Friday from seven am until ten pm (7am-10pm) eastern time and Saturday from ten am until six pm (10am-6pm) eastern time.

School representatives should visit the "For School" resource page on the MyCAA Spouse Portal for program eligibility, participation and contact information.

AEC

SCHOLARSHIPS

10/29/2010

committed to helping veterans close the gap between rising educational costs and GI benefits that have not kept pace. <http://www.veteransfund.org/>

The National Military Family Association's Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships are awarded to spouses of Uniformed Services members (active duty, National Guard and Reserve, retirees, and survivors) to obtain professional certification or to attend post secondary or graduate school. Scholarships range in amount from \$500 to \$1,000, and the number awarded each year varies depending on funding. Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, fees, and school room and board. http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Spouse_Scholarship

Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA) Scholarship Fund The NCOA Scholarship Fund receives no federal or corporate donations and is supported entirely through donations from NCOA members. www.ncoausa.org

THANKS USA ThanksUSA is a non-partisan, charitable effort to mobilize Americans of all ages to "thank" the men and women of the United States armed forces by providing college, technical and vocational school scholarships for their children and spouses. www.thanksusa.org

Severely Injured Service Members and Dependents Scholarship (PURPLE HEART) The Department of Defense dedicated the Severely Injured Joint Operations Center in early February 2005. www.dantes.doded.mil/sfd/index.asp?Flag=True

The VFW Military Family Scholarship is our response to those requests. The program provides twenty-five \$3,000 scholarships each year to VFW members who are currently serving in uniform www.vfw.org/resources/pdf/militaryscholarship.pdf

Commissioned Officers Foundation Scholarship The Commissioned Officers Foundation offers thousands of dollars towards college scholarships for children and spouses of COA members. www.coausphs.org/education.cfm

The American Legion's Education Assistance Program is its scholarship and financial aid guide <http://www.legion.org/search/node/scholarships>

Sentinels of Freedom provides four year "life scholarships" to help vets become self-sufficient. Our vets are finding that once they're released from the hospital, they face the everyday hardships of finding a home, continuing their education, or going to work to support their families. Every American faces the same difficulties, but in the vet's case, the situation is made more difficult because of their sacrifice. <http://www.sentinelsoffreedom.org/>

The Fort Carson Officer Spouses Club (FCOSC) is a private org designed to benefit families of the malaria members. They can provide scholarships from 500 and 1500 dollars to deserving students. They offer 3 categories: High School Seniors, Dependent Child Continuing Higher Education and Dependent Spouse. To request info: fcosc_scholarships@yahoo.com

The Daniels Fund Scholarship Program consists of the **Daniels Scholarship** and the **Daniels Opportunity Scholarship**. **Daniels Scholarships** are awarded in the spring to graduating high school seniors and are supplemental after other federal, state, institutional, and private financial aid and scholarships. Students may use their scholarship at any two- or four-year accredited nonprofit college or university intention to complete a bachelor's degree. **Daniels Opportunity Scholarships** are distributed to two- and four-year colleges and universities in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming that provide scholarships to support non-traditional students including adults entering or returning to college; students from alternative schools, juvenile justice facilities and youth offender programs; GED recipients; former foster care youth, returning military, and others. For more information, use the scholarselection@danielsfund.org, or call 1-877-791-4726 (toll free). <http://www.danielsfund.org/Scholarships/index.asp>

Army Emergency Relief (AER) Scholarships: 1-866-878-6378. Dependent children and spouse assistance. Visit website: <http://www.aerhq.org/education.asp>

Military Order of the Purple Heart Scholarship (MOPH) it is for MOPH members, their spouses and their direct descendants. The scholarship fund can be used to tuition, books, incidental fees, room and board, and other direct associated costs of higher education except transportation expenses. www.purpleheart.org 1-703-642-5360

FEDERAL AID

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

You must apply for a pin at www.pin.ed.gov and then complete the FAFSA at the below web site. For additional information call 1-800-4-FED-AID. Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education, ensures that all eligible individuals can benefit from federally funded or federally guaranteed financial assistance for education beyond high school. <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/?ID=admission>

TRIO . Southern Colorado Educational Opportunity Center. Call for an Appointment Today. 719-502-3028. Free Service. Bring to your appointment: Federal income tax with W2's, TANF benefits, Unemployment, Workers' Comp., Child Support, Investment (non taxable), LES, Social Security SSI, Veterans Disability, ID – drivers license and Social Security Card and a list of all people living in your household. Address: PCCC, 4675 S. Academy Blvd. Room A106, COS, CO 80906.

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP INFO

The FastWeb Scholarship Search is the largest, most accurate and most popular free scholarship search site, with more than 35 million registered users. It is also the most frequently updated and provides automatic email notification of new scholarships that match the student's profile. The FastWeb Scholarship Search was the first scholarship database available for free on the web and is the most innovative and student-focused of all the scholarship search sites. <http://www.fastweb.com/>

The **College Board's** scholarship database lists scholarships and other types of financial aid programs from 3,300 national, state, public and private sources. The database is updated annually. http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp

The **Peterson's** scholarship search lists awards from about 2,000 sponsors. This is the same database used to update Peterson's *Scholarships, Grants and Prizes* book. The web site was a little slow and the match precision very low, forcing one to dig through a lot of irrelevant awards. Otherwise the coverage of available awards was very good. Peterson's was acquired by Nelnet, an education lender, in July 2006. <http://www.petersons.com/ss/code/prompt.asp>

NextStudent offers a free scholarship search as a loss leader to attract students to their student loan products and services. Their scholarship search is based on the scholarship database formerly known as Scholarships101. The search results lists each named award from the same award program separately, leading to a large number of matches that correspond to a single application form <http://www.nextstudent.com/scholarship-search/scholarship-search.asp>

Scholarship Experts offers a free online scholarship search and college search service. (ScholarshipExperts dropped their membership fee in December 2005.) The size claims for this database appear to be exaggerated by about a factor of 5 (number of awards) to 10 (total dollar amount of awards). The award listings include detailed information about the awards and also allow one to look at a separate list of expired awards. The web site is supported by advertising. ScholarshipExperts was acquired by Goal Financial, an education lender, in May 2006. <http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/>

The list of **Major-Specific** Databases provides information for specific majors or career interests, such as art, computer science, journalism, or nursing. FinAid also provides pages describing scholarships and other forms of aid available. <http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/majors.phtml>

Scholarship info mainly for African, Latino, Asian, and Native Americans. <http://www.allabroad.us/funding2.php>

Career One Stop State Scholarships

<http://www.careerinfonet.org/acinet/cr/library.aspx?LVL2=132&LVL3=n&LVL1=19&CATID=772&PostVal=2>

Military One Source

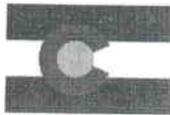
<http://www.militaryonesource.com/MOS/FindInformation/Category/MilitarySpouseCareerAdvancementAccounts/MilitarySpouseFinancialAidResourceList.aspx>

MILITARY SCHOLARSHIP INFO

Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship 1-888-442-4551, www.gibill.va.gov This scholarship is for children of military personnel who died in the line of duty since September 11, 2001.

Prospective Military Students. Are you an active duty member, honorably discharged or retired veteran of a United States military service branch? Whether you served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or National Guard, tuition assistance may be available. You may be able to qualify for the *Imagine America* Military Award Program to help fund attendance at a participating career college. The *Imagine America* Military Award Program offers tuition assistance for military personnel who decide to pursue career college training. <http://www.imagine-america.org/scholarship/02-military-students.asp>

The Fund for Veterans' Education was established to provide scholarships to veterans from all branches of the United States Armed Forces who served in Afghanistan or Iraq since September 11, 2001 and who are now enrolled in college or vocational-technical school. We are



Colorado HB1162

[Title 22 Article 60.5 Part 111-7.5] (2008)

What the legislation does:

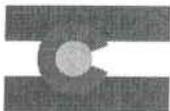
- Provides provisional licenses for military spouses who are licensed educators in another state. The provisional license allows a school district to employ a military spouse who is certified or licensed in another state, but has not completed the licensure process in Colorado.
- The Dept. of Education shall issue the interim authorization NLT 90 days after receipt of the initial application.
- The interim authorization is valid for one year and it can be renewed for an additional year.
- The school district may provide an induction program for the military spouse so he or she may apply the completion of the induction program toward meeting the requirements for a professional educator license.
- The employing school district may include the period during which a person works under a military spouse interim authorization toward the three full years of continuous employment requirement needed to cease being a probationary teacher.
- The Dept. of Education may contract with a qualified third party to work with a military spouse to meet background check requirements.

What spouses need to know and do to apply:

- The Colorado Dept. of Education may issue an interim authorization to a person who:
- Is certified or licensed or is eligible for certification or licensure as a teacher, special services provider, principal or administrator in another state; and
- Is a military spouse

What occupations are covered:

Elementary and secondary school teachers



Colorado HB 1175

[24-34-102 (8) with the section for the appropriate occupation] (2010)

What the legislation does:

License by endorsement and allows acceptance of other means of competency other than current employment. In addition to the legislation, by agreement the Director of Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) can issue endorsements for the boards, so applicants do not have to wait for board approval when license is in good standing.

What spouses need to know and do to apply:

Upon application for a license to practice in an occupation regulated by the DORA the board shall issue a license to any person who furnishes evidence to the board that:

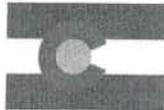
- The applicant can provide verification of an active license in another state, territory of the U.S., District of Columbia, commonwealth of Puerto Rico or a province of Canada, and
 - The applicant possesses credentials and qualification that are equivalent to this state's requirements for licensure by examination, and
 - Has practiced three of the five years immediately preceding application OR has demonstrated competency in a specific occupation or profession as determined by the
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board/director in lieu of a requirement that the applicant has practiced in that profession for a period of time prior to the application for endorsement.

- The applicant has not been convicted of a crime that would be grounds for refusal, suspension or revocation of a license.

What occupations are covered:

All regulated occupations, with the exception of teachers and attorneys



Colorado HB 1059

[Title 24] (2012)

What the legislation does:

Law allows military spouses to practice under an out-of-state license or certificate for the first year residence in Colorado.

What spouses need to know and do to apply: Spouse must notify agency responsible for licensure or certification of the date individual began practicing in Colorado as well as where the individual is employed.

What occupations are covered:

All professions except, engineers, surveyors, and architects; pyrotechnics; medical practice; optometrists; real estate; teachers and attorneys
