



Massachusetts Department of Higher Education State Approving Agency for Veterans Education

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STATEWIDE EDUCATION BENEFITS FOR VETERANS & ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS

Tuition Waiver for Veterans & Active Duty Members

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for a **Categorical Tuition Waiver**, a student must:

- Be a permanent legal resident of Massachusetts for at least one year prior to the opening of the academic year;
- Be a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
- Be in compliance with applicable Selective Service Registration laws;
- Not be in default of any federal or state student loan or owe a refund on any previously received financial aid;
- Be a member of an eligible category as defined below:

Veteran: As provided in M.G.L. Chapter 4, Section 7(43), shall mean: (1) any person whose last discharge or release was under honorable conditions, and who served for not less than 180 days active service; or

(2) Any person whose last discharge or release was under honorable conditions and who served in the army, navy, marine corps, coast guard, or air force of the United States, or on full time national guard duty under Titles 10 or 32 of the United States Code or under sections 38, 40 and 41 of chapter 33 for not less than 90 days active service, at least 1 day of which was for wartime service, including: Spanish War, World War I, World War II, Korean, Vietnam, Lebanese peace keeping force, Grenada rescue mission, the Panamanian intervention force, or the Persian Gulf.

***For purposes of tuition waivers, "veteran" shall also include any individual who served for not less than ninety days at least one of which was served in theatre for "Operation Restore Hope" and whose last discharge or release was under honorable conditions.*

Armed Forces: An active member of the Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force or Coast Guard stationed and residing in Massachusetts.

- Present documentation of categorical waiver eligibility to the appropriate college officials;
- Enroll in at least three undergraduate credits per semester in a state-supported undergraduate degree or certificate program; and
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress in accordance with federal and institutional standards.

Unlike the G.I. Bill, the Categorical Tuition Waiver does not expire. Assistance can continue as long as the student meets the eligibility criteria.

How to Apply?

To apply, students should contact the financial aid office at the institution that they are attending or plan to attend for application requirements or deadlines. Students can also contact the Massachusetts Office of Student Financial Assistance at (617) 391-6070 to obtain more information.

Eligible Institutions

Community Colleges	State Universities	University of Massachusetts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berkshire Community College • Bristol Community College • Bunker Hill Community College • Cape Cod Community College • Greenfield Community College • Holyoke Community College • Massachusetts Bay Community College • Massasoit Community College • Middlesex Community College • Mount Wachusett Community College • North Shore Community College • Northern Essex Community College • Quinsigamond Community College • Roxbury Community College • Springfield Technical Community College 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridgewater State University • Fitchburg State University • Framingham State University • Massachusetts College of Art and Design • Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts • Massachusetts Maritime Academy • Salem State University • Westfield State University • Worcester State University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Massachusetts Amherst • University of Massachusetts Boston • University of Massachusetts Dartmouth • University of Massachusetts Lowell • University of Massachusetts Medical Center