

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is eligible for the grant?

Children (under age 24) of U.S. Air Force or U.S. Space Force members in the following categories:

- Active Duty, Title 10 Reserve and Guard on extended active duty, and Title 32 Guard performing full-time active duty through December 1 of the academic year.
- Retired due to length of active duty service or disability.
- Retired AGR/Reserve with 20+ satisfactory service years creditable for retired pay and placed on the Air Force or Space Force Reserve Retired list.
- Deceased members who died while on active duty or in retired status.

Spouses of U.S. Air Force or U.S. Space Force members in the following categories:

- Active Duty, Title 10 Reserve and Guard on extended active duty, and Title 32 Guard performing full-time active duty through December 1 of the academic year.
- Deceased members who died while on active duty or in retired status.

What is the minimum GPA (Grade Point Average)?

Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA to be eligible to apply for the grant.

When is the deadline for the grant?

Grant applications are accepted beginning in early January with a deadline of April 30 each year.

What documents are required?

You can review all of the required documentation on pages 5-6 of our application procedures and instructions <https://afas.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Application-procedures-and-instructions-2024-25.pdf>

Why do you require copies of military ID cards?

The Society has verified with Air Force Legal that for purposes of administering military related benefits it is permissible to photocopy ID cards (DODI-1000.13 permits cardholder to photocopy IDs to "administer military related benefits to eligible beneficiaries). ID cards are required to assist in validation of eligibility and should be submitted with the application. Applications received without this documentation may be returned as an incomplete application.

What if I cannot locate my sponsor's orders?

Active Duty members can obtain copies of orders/proof of service statement from their supervisor, officer in charge of records, base MPF, or Virtual MPF through members Air Force Portal account (<https://www.my.af.mil>).

All other categories can obtain Statements of Service at the National Archives Military Service Records at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>.

Are the actual Air Force or Space Force members eligible to apply?

Grant funding eligibility is currently only for dependents and spouses since the Air Force and Space Force provides education assistance for members. See below for links to those resources.

Air Force Education and Training

<https://www.airforce.com/education>

Space Force Military Tuition Assistance (MILTA) Program

<https://www.spaceforce.com/education/officer>

Are dependents of veterans eligible to apply?

Dependents of retired members receiving retired pay from the Air Force are eligible. Dependents of Disabled American Veteran's are not eligible for grant funding, due to pay originating from the Veteran's Administration.

Are traditional Guardsman and Reservists eligible to apply?

Members must have orders for Title 10 Reserve and Guard on extended active duty or Title 32 Guard performing full-time active duty through December 1 of the academic year. Traditional Guardsman and Reservists without the above-mentioned orders are not eligible.

Are dependents of other branches of service eligible to apply?

This program is only for dependents and spouses of Air Force and Space Force members.

For Army members, please visit Army Emergency Relief Scholarships

<https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/scholarships/>

For Navy and Marine Corps, please visit Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Scholarships

<https://www.nmcrcs.org/our-services/scholarships>

For Coast Guard members, visit Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Education Programs

https://mycgma.org/programs/?cat_id=16

If I am not eligible for the grant, what other resources are available to me?

Please visit our other scholarship resources section <https://afas.org/how-we-help/education-support/#other-scholarship-section>.

How many times can I apply and receive the grant?

Students can receive grant funding 4 times and 5 times if they are enrolled in a 5-year degree program. Confirmation of enrollment from the college you are attending is required to confirm enrollment in a 5-year program.

How do you determine the award amounts?

Award amounts vary each year based on the number of applicants, total approved grant budget, applicant's Student Aid Index (SAI) from FAFSA and cost of attendance at a college or university approved by the Department of Education to receive federal funding. The specific amount awarded correlates to a student's particular level of financial need.

Can the grant be used for Graduate degree programs?

Funding for the grant is currently only for students pursuing an undergraduate degree.

What can the grant funds be used for?

Tuition, books, fees and curriculum required materials. Room and board are not covered by grant funding, due to those items being tax deductible.

How will I find out if I am awarded the grant, or not?

We notify applicants via email of their award status (awarded or not awarded) for the grant in June each year. Before funds can be sent to the colleges, applicants must accept the award and confirm the college they will be attending.

How are grant funds distributed?

If you are awarded the grant, funds are distributed via check mailed to the college in early August for the fall semester and early December for the spring semester.