



# THE AMERICAN LEGION LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP



*Providing for the children left behind*

*It's the Least  
We Can Do*

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**Send your tax-deductible contributions to:**  
The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund,  
P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

*Opportunities to attend college should not be out of the reach of the children left behind because a parent died on active duty while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. That is why The American Legion established the "American Legion Legacy Scholarship" for the children of active duty United States military and Guard, and Reserve personnel who were federalized and die on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.*

# PROVIDING FOR THE CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND

The terrorist attacks on the United States were unspeakable acts that left families torn apart. As an unfortunate consequence of Sept. 11 and the subsequent war against terrorism, many children of America's active duty military personnel are now members of single-parent families. In most cases, this also means their opportunity to attend college has been greatly diminished.

Children of active duty military killed at war are entitled to receive federal money towards a college education. But it's not enough. The American Legion has fought long and hard to see that our active duty military personnel and their families are looked after. But despite our efforts, there are significant shortfalls in dollars that have been allotted by our government in recent years. The educational benefit provided to surviving children is one of these shortfalls.

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*There are 1.2 million dependent children in the U.S. military; of those nearly 1 million are age 11 or younger.*

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## Help us bridge the gap

The facts are indisputable. The money provided by law has not kept up with what a higher education costs today, let alone what college will cost in years to come. Remember, these children are the direct descendants of people who died while actively protecting our country. Their parents sacrificed their lives. The least we can do is make sure that their children are provided for.

## The American Legion Legacy Scholarship

We are raising funds to fill the gap. Providing for the children that were left behind is our civic duty. Helping to provide for their education is a powerful way to show our thanks. These parents died protecting our country. We owe it to them to see that their children get the opportunity a college education can provide. That is why we have established the American Legion Legacy Scholarship.

## Please join us in our effort

We need the support of many to make The American Legion Legacy Scholarship a reality. Too many men and women in uniform have died in the fight to preserve our nation's freedoms. Together, we can make sure their children have the opportunity these parents were unable to provide. We encourage you to give generously to **The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund**. Help us to bridge the gap and restore the faith of these special children.

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[www.legion.org/support](http://www.legion.org/support)

### Critical Education Gap

4-year, State College	\$51,184
4-year, Out-of-State College	\$105,216
4-year, Private College	\$121,468
Total Military College Benefit	\$36,135

2006-07 school year

As this table illustrates, the total benefit for these survivors is just a little more than \$36,000 to be used for a college education. In today's dollars, this benefit will pay little more than half of what a college education costs in the most affordable category. This gap grows even greater when the cost of a college education in the future is estimated. The most conservative estimates predict that these costs will increase by 5 percent per year, meaning that in 16 years, the most affordable college education will be more than \$106,300. Military compensation will not keep up with these dramatic increases. It is clear these children will need our help.