



The Helping Heroes Grant: ([On-line Application](#)) at www.collegepaystn.com

The award amount is \$1,000 per semester for a student who successfully completes twelve (12) or more semester hours with no failing grade as the final grade for the course. The student shall receive \$500 per semester for successfully completing six (6) to eleven (11) semester hours with no failing grade as a final grade for the course. The student shall not receive an award if enrolled in fewer than six (6) semester hours.

The Helping Heroes Grant is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to be eligible, the student must:

- Be an honorably discharged veteran who had formally served the armed forces of the United States, or a former or current member of a reserve or Tennessee National Guard unit who was called into active military service of the United States
- Be a Tennessee resident for one year preceding the date of application for this grant
- Be awarded the following:
 - Iraq Campaign Medal;
 - Afghanistan Campaign Medal; or
 - Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, on or after Sept. 11, 2001
- Enroll at an eligible 2-year or 4-year postsecondary institution
- Have not earned a baccalaureate degree;
- Not be in default on a federal Title IV educational loan or Tennessee educational loan;
- Not owe a refund on a federal Title IV student financial aid program or a Tennessee student financial aid program;
- Be in compliance with federal drug-free rules and laws for receiving financial assistance;
- Not be incarcerated;
- Meet each qualification relating to this grant and applicable to the student; and
- Not be required to meet any academic standard at the time of enrollment in order to be eligible for this grant.
- Award of a Helping Heroes Grant shall be made after the completion of a semester, so long as the student successfully completes the course with a non-failing grade as the final grade for the course.

Application Deadline:

Complete the application for a Helping Heroes Grant for each academic year. The application processing deadlines are: September 1 for fall enrollment, February 1 for spring, or May 1 for summer enrollment. Please mail your DD-214 to the address below or fax it to the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation at (615) 741-6101.

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1510
Nashville, TN 37243

Continuation Requirements:

- Successfully complete a course while enrolled at an eligible 2-year or 4-year postsecondary institution with no failing grade as the final grade for the course
- Grant may be awarded for a maximum of eight (8) “full” semesters
 - 6-11 semester hours completed constitutes ½ semester
- Grant is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis

Award Termination Criteria:

- Receive the award for eight (8) full semesters have passed; or
- Eighth anniversary of the veteran’s honorable discharge from military service; whichever comes first; or
- Earning a baccalaureate degree, whichever comes first

Special notes:

1. There is generally no funding available for summer.
2. Since payments are based on grades, certification is not done until after grades are posted. Therefore, awards are not disbursed until at least 14-18 business days after certification.
3. Even if you are getting the Helping Heroes Grant, you may still apply for and receive other federal and state aid (based on eligibility). Therefore, it is in your best interest to complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in a timely manner each year.
4. The contact person for this grant program at TSAC is Jana McCall. At JSCC, Jennifer Byrd handles certification and disbursement of the grant. Our VA Benefits coordinator is Tracy Morton. You may contact Jennifer or Tracy with questions and we will be glad to assist you. You may reach Jennifer at jbyrd@jsc.edu and Tracy at tmorton@jsc.edu.