

# Financial Aid Tips for **VETERANS**



## 1. **You can receive both the GI Bill AND Financial Aid**

In addition to your GI Bill, you may also qualify for the following financial aid programs:

- Pell Grant— up to \$6,195/year
- Cal Grant – up to \$1,672/year
- Student Success Completion Grant— up to \$4000/year
- Chafee Grant (for former foster youth) – up to \$5000/year
- FSEOG Grant— up to \$500/year
- California Promise Grant— waives \$46 per unit fee
- Federal Work Study— on campus employment
- Federal Student Loans—varies

## 2. **You have to complete the FAFSA to apply ([www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov))**

The information on your FAFSA will be used to determine your eligibility for the programs listed above. Approximately two weeks after you submit your application online, the DVC Financial Aid Office will send a follow-up email to your InSite Portal student email account with further instructions and checklist of items to complete. This checklist will provide a list of additional documentation required to validate certain information on your FAFSA. After you have printed, gathered, and completed all required documentation, contact the Financial Aid Office to submit your documents.

## 3. **You don't have to include your parents' income information**

Veterans are considered independent for the FAFSA and do not have to provide parent's income and asset information on the application.

## 4. **You have the option to file a Reduction in Income Appeal if your income has changed.**

If you were initially denied due to your income but your financial situation has changed and the FAFSA data does not accurately reflect your ability to pay for college expenses, you may qualify for a Reduction in Income Appeal. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

## 5. **Veteran's educational benefits are NOT counted as "income" on the FAFSA**

Do not include VA educational benefits on the income section of the FAFSA. Doing so can reduce the amount of need-based financial aid for which you may qualify. However, Veteran's non-education benefits (including disability benefits, dependency and indemnity compensation, death pension, VA Education Work Study, etc.) must be listed as untaxed income.

### **QUESTIONS?**

Contact Program Coordinator and Financial Aid Veteran Liaison,  
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