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NGB Education Support Center: 1-866-ARNG-EDU, arnng.esc.gibill@army.mil

VA: 1-888-442-4551, <https://ask.va.gov/>, www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/

Fry Scholarship

What is the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship?

Fry Scholarship provides Post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits to the children and surviving spouses of service members who died on or after September 11, 2001 either in the line of duty on active duty, as a reservist performing training, or from a service-connected disability. Eligible surviving dependents may each receive up to 36 months of Post 9-11 GI Bill benefits at the 100% tier level.

Who is eligible?

- Children
 - A child may begin using at age 18 (or upon graduating high school)
 - Child may be married or over 23 and still be eligible for Fry
 - Children who graduated high school or turned 18 before January 1st 2013, eligibility ends at age 33. For all others, there is no age limit.
 - Children of reserve Soldiers who died from a service connected disability while not on active duty do not have an age limit.
- Surviving spouses
 - Surviving spouses were added to this program on January 1st 2015
 - Eligibility ends upon remarriage

How do the payments work?

- Tuition and Fees
 - 100% of tuition and fees are paid to any public school at the in-state rate
 - Max payment of \$26,381.37/year for a private or out-of-state school
 - Yellow Ribbon may cover excess tuition at participating schools
https://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/yellow_ribbon.asp
- Book Stipend
 - \$41.67 per credit hour, up to \$1,000/yr

- Housing Stipend:
 - Equivalent to BAH of E5 with dependents for school's zip code
 - If attending solely online, \$916.50/mo
 - If attending a foreign school, \$1,833.00/mo
 - Must be attending more than ½ time to receive a housing stipend
- Note: Children will not receive Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC) while using Fry Scholarship. Surviving spouses may continue to receive DIC.

What is the impact of a child or surviving spouse serving in the military?

- A dependent child or surviving spouse who serves in the military must relinquish a GI Bill program of their own to use benefits under the Fry Scholarship.
- Fry recipients serving on active duty will NOT receive the monthly housing stipend.

May I also use Chapter 35 Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA)?

- Children
 - A child whose parent died on or after August 1st 2011 must make an irrevocable election between Fry Scholarship and DEA
 - A child whose parent died before August 1st 2011 may use both if eligible
 - May use all months of eligibility for each. Cannot draw concurrently.
- Surviving spouses
 - Must make an irrevocable election between Fry and DEA if eligible for both
 - Those who used DEA in the past must make their election for classes beginning January 1st 2015 or later.

Where do I apply?

- Carefully compare Fry vs DEA and contact the KYNG Education Office for counselling on which is best for you.
 - Basic Comparison- <https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/>
 - School specific comparison can show benefit rates for student receiving either program- <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>
(To see Fry rates, select Post 9-11 GI Bill and GYSGT Fry Scholarship 100%)
- Apply online: <https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/fry-scholarship/>
- Notify your school you are planning to use the Fry scholarship so they will certify your enrollment to the VA.