



## Dependents Education Assistance Program

Campuses: Searcy, Rogers, International Programs  
School Year: 2023-2024

DEA is not the only educational benefit available to dependents and/or spouses for use at Harding University (or many other schools). For more information, please visit [va.gov/education](https://www.va.gov/education) or contact the SCO.

### Harding's School Certifying Official Contact Information:

Name: Kelley Cox

E-mail: [veterans@harding.edu](mailto:veterans@harding.edu)

Phone: 501-279-4404

Campus location: Administration Building 106 (Registrar's Office)

Mailing address: 915 E. Market Ave, HU 10766, Searcy, AR 72149

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### How do I know if I have any benefits available?

- Go to [va.gov/education](https://www.va.gov/education) and apply for benefits. It may take 20-30 minutes to complete this application and 4-6 weeks to find out the results. The VA will provide a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) once your application has been approved.

### How much money will I receive per semester?

- Students must be certified as a full time student for the full 16 week term to receive their full monthly stipend. This means at least 12 hours at the undergraduate level and 9 hours at the graduate level. If you are less than full time, the VA will prorate your payment in 25% increments
- The following rates are effective from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024.

Full Time: \$1,488

¾ Time: \$1,176

½ Time: \$862

*If you are less than ½ time but more than ¼ time, the VA should pay \$862 for each full month or the cost of tuition and fees (whichever is less).*

*If you are ¼ time or less, the VA should pay \$372 for each month or the cost of your tuition/fees (whichever is less).*

All amounts and information listed above can be found:

<https://www.va.gov/education/benefit-rates/chapter-35-rates/future-rates/>

### Is my major approved for VA benefits?

- Most are approved. Please check with the SCO to ensure eligibility.
- Undergraduate students may be listed as an "Undeclared/Exploratory Studies" major for your first two years, but then must declare a major for the VA to continue to pay. The VA will only pay for Liberal Arts requirements.
- The VA will only pay for courses that are required for your major. For most majors, elective hours will be satisfied by your remaining bible requirements.
- Minors can only be certified if your major requires a minor.

### How do I begin using my benefits at Harding?

- Contact the School Certifying Official
  - They will need a copy of your COE.
- Fill out the VA Certification Form on your Pipeline account. **You will do this each semester you have benefits available to you.** You will have a registration hold placed on your account that will prevent you from registering for the upcoming semester.
  - Go to your Student bar
  - Click on Registrar Forms
  - Click on VA Certification Form
  - Fill the form out and click on Submit. Your form will then be emailed to the School Certifying Official

### Can I use my benefits at more than one school?

- First time transfer: Contact Harding's SCO. They will need a copy of your Certificate of Eligibility and your VA Certification Form found on your Harding Pipeline account (see previous question).
- Transfer and Concurrent Enrollment: All transfer work must first be approved by the Registrar's Office. If the Registrar's Office approves the transfer, and the student wants to use VA benefits at the other school, the SCO will then check to see if the requested classes meet a graduation requirement. If they do, the SCO will contact the other school to let them know they can certify those transfer hours with the VA.
  - Students will need to make sure they are in contact with the other school's SCO to ensure they are certified through their institution.

### Will my benefits pay for me to attend one of Harding's International Programs?

- Yes, you can use your benefits at one of Harding's International Programs.
  - The same rules apply, though. Courses certified must satisfy a graduation requirement in order to be certified for VA benefits.

### Are there any other scholarships available for military dependents?

- There are currently no intuitional scholarships or discounts specifically for military affiliated students.
- All students are encouraged to submit the FASFA to Harding. Harding's Financial Aid Office or Admissions Office will contact the student and inform them of any federal or institutional financial aid for which they are eligible.
- Arkansas residents can apply for the Military Dependents Scholarship (MDS) through the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. The application deadline is usually on or around July 1.
- There are other external scholarships that are available to military dependents, but none directly through Harding. It is recommended that students search for those scholarships that may apply to them.

### Does Harding have a Veteran's group on campus?

Yes. The Harding University Veteran's Association (HUVA) is active every semester and represents all branches of service. You can find them on Facebook or contact the SCO for more information.

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shawn Fisher

Email: [sfisher@harding.edu](mailto:sfisher@harding.edu)

Office: Holland-Waller Center

For more information, please visit [va.gov/education](https://va.gov/education) or contact the SCO.