The More You Know, The More You'll Grow

Presenter: Natalie J. Ellis, SECO Career Coach
April 29, 2020

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Career exploration
3. Education foundation
4. Education funding
5. LinkedIn Premium
6. Summary and questions

SECO Program Overview

MILITARY ONE SOURCE | SPOUSE EDUCATION & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

How Do I? | Live Chat | About | Log in

CAREER EXPLORATION | EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LICENSING | EMPLOYMENT READINESS | CAREER CONNECTIONS | TRANSITION

Our interactive tools help you reach your education and career goals.

Manage My Individual Career Plan | Research Occupations | Search for Scholarships | Find a School That's Right for You | Build Your Resume | MSEP Job Search

WELCOME MILITARY SPOUSES

The Department of Defense Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program provides education and career guidance to military spouses worldwide and offers comprehensive resources and tools for all stages of your career progression.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

Research your possibilities by using tools and resources to support you through different career stages as you balance the challenges of mobile military life.

LEARN

SECO ASSESSMENTS

Explore your skills and interests by learning how to apply them to your education and career goals.

ADVANCE

CAREER COACH

Access expert career advice from a Career Coach.

SUCCEED

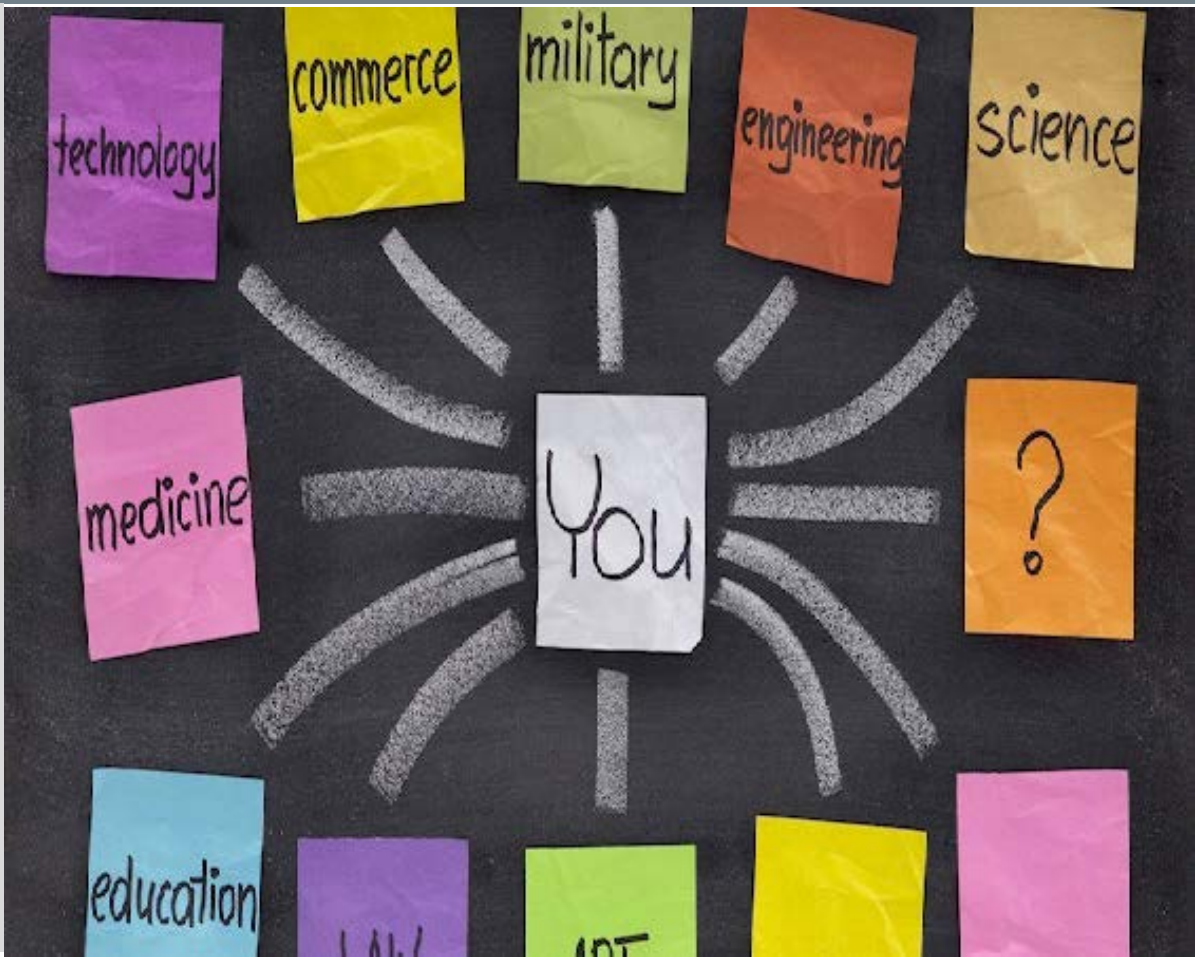
Career Exploration

There is

POWER

in

Self-Exploration



Career Exploration

traitify

Take 90-seconds to complete a visually appealing personality assessment and discover:

- **Lens through which you see the world**
- **Top blends identifying important features that form your personality**
- **Jobs relating to your personality blends**

Mentor

Visionary

Action-Taker

Naturalist

Analyzer

Inventor

Planner

Building An Education Foundation

CAREER EXPLORATION | EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LICENSING | EMPLOYMENT READINESS | CAREER CONNECTIONS | TRANSITION

(1,959 Ratings)

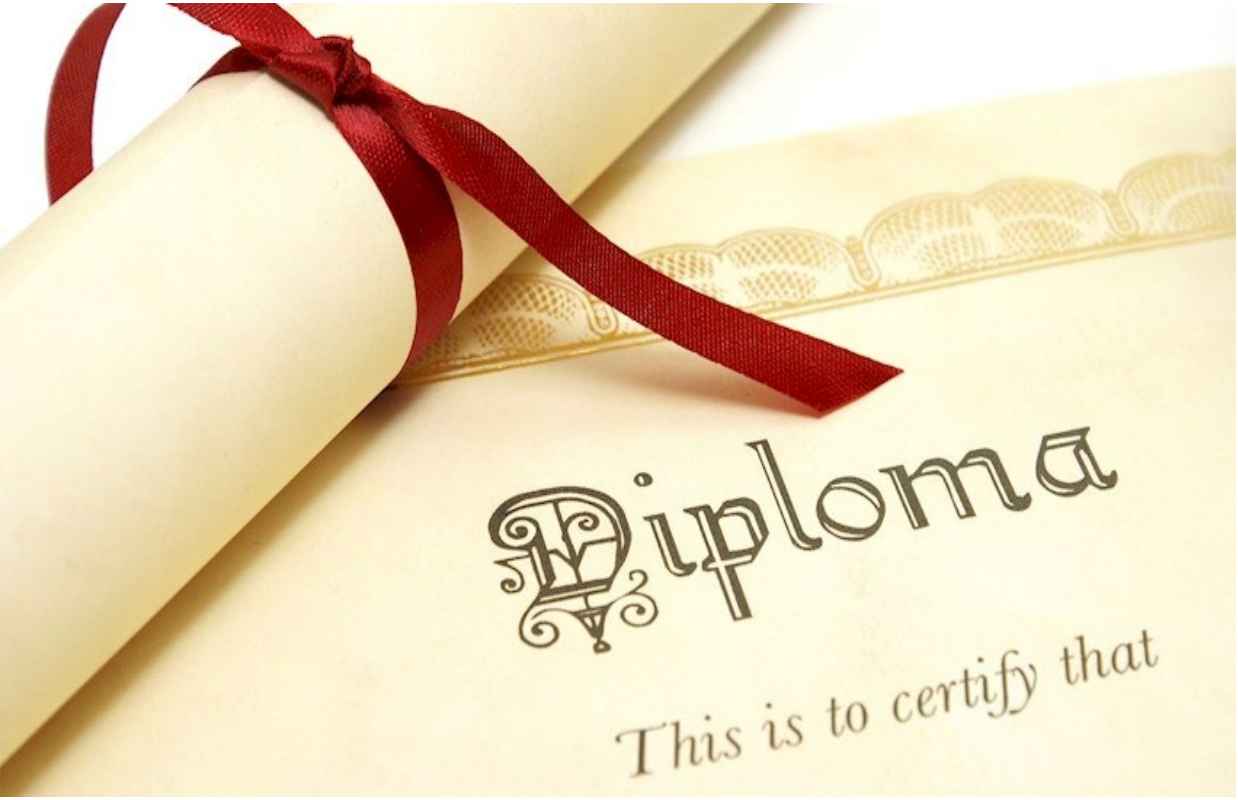
SECO
SPOUSE EDUCATION & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Finding a School That Is Right for You — Your Road Map to Success

The school that is right for you varies depending on the career you are pursuing. To help you meet your career goals, find out which schools in your state offer the license or credential you need. Asking the right questions early can ensure the time and work you put into your education pays off.

Building An Education Foundation

The Importance of Accreditation



Accreditation is public recognition awarded to a college, university, institution and its programs indicating it has met acceptable levels of educational quality.

Before choosing a school, research how accreditation can affect your future education and career endeavors.

Building An Education Foundation

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

DAPIP Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs

1-855-831-9922
dapip@inovas.net

Help

Search for School/Sites to view accreditation records

Search

ADVANCED SEARCH

The accreditation database is brought to you by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE). The database is provided as a public service without warranty of any kind. The database does not constitute an endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education of any of the educational institutions or programs.

The Database of Postsecondary Institutions and Programs

The Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs contains information reported to the U.S. Department of Education directly by recognized accrediting agencies and state approval agencies. The database reflects additional information as it is received from recognized accrediting agencies and state approval agencies. This reported information is not audited. The U.S. Department of Education cannot, therefore, guarantee that the information contained in the database is accurate, current, or complete. For the most accurate and current information, contact the appropriate agency.

Download Data Files

View the list of agencies

Consider an Associate Degree

Attractive option for Military Spouses

- Complete in two years
- Affordable tuition
- Earn higher pay
- Stepping stone to bachelor's degree

Types of Associate Degrees

Associate of Arts

- Common degree type awarded in the liberal arts
- Generally requires 60 hours of coursework
- Ideal if pursuing more education to a bachelor's degree
- ***Fields of study***: Psychology, Early Childhood Education, History, Sociology, etc.

Associate of Science

- Common degree
- Generally requires 60 hours of coursework, mainly in the sciences
- Ideal if pursuing more education toward a bachelor's degree
- ***Fields of study***: Nursing, Business, Computer Science, etc.

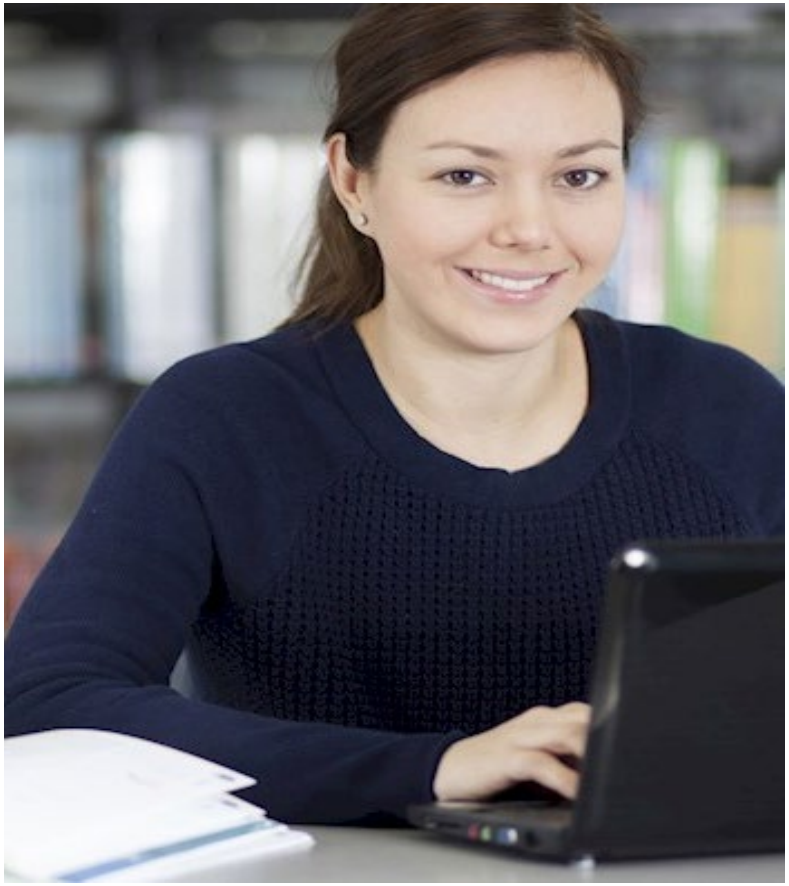
Associate of Applied Science

- Highly specialized area of study
- Prepares grads to enter workforce immediately after graduation
- Does not transfer well into a bachelor's degree
- ***Fields of study***: Dental Hygiene, Graphic/Web Design, Paralegal, Medical Health Tech, etc.

Certification versus Certificate Programs

CERTIFICATION:

A *time-limited* credential issued by a professional society, educational institution or private certifier after showing proof of required knowledge and skills established by a specific industry.



CERTIFICATE:

A program that provides career training, in a short period of time, on a specific topic or area of study.

Certification versus Certificate Programs

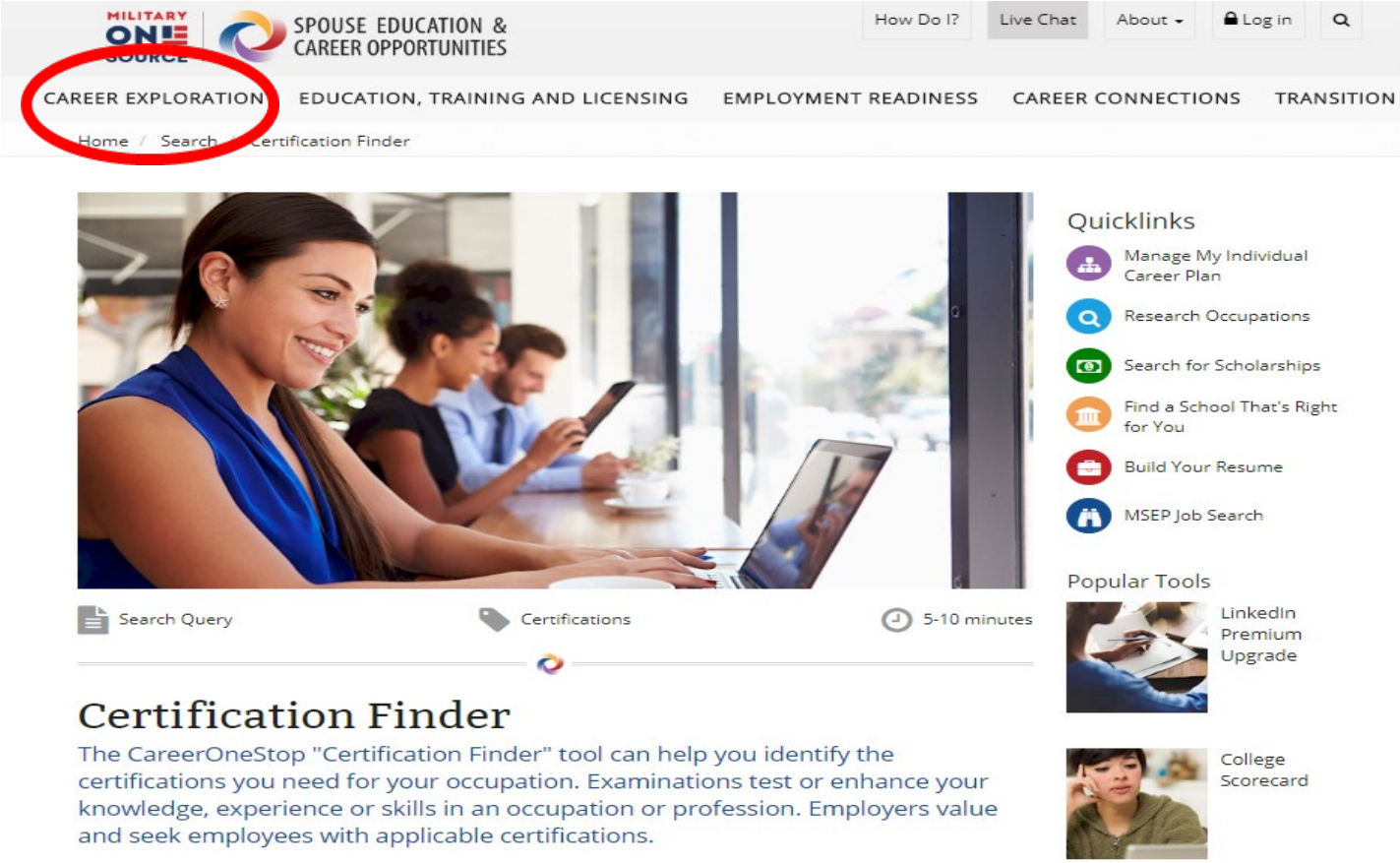
Benefits of Certificate Programs

- ✓ Valuable to military spouses from all backgrounds
- ✓ Professional development
- ✓ Competitive in the job market
- ✓ Short time to completion

Certification versus Certificate Programs

Benefits of Certifications

- ✓ Career portability
- ✓ Career advancement
- ✓ Salary increase



No-Cost Skills Training

Information Technology

If you are interested in information technology as a possible career, this is the career track for you. Work with your advisor to gain access to courses for up to one year. If applicable, your exam fees for industry certifications are paid. Some of the available technology courses and certifications include the following:

- CompTIA certifications including Server+, Network+, A+, Security+
- Oracle Database 11G and 12c
- Information Technology Infrastructure Library
- Cisco certifications including Cisco Certified Entry Networking Technician, or CCENT, and Cisco Certified Network Associate, or CCNA

Business Management

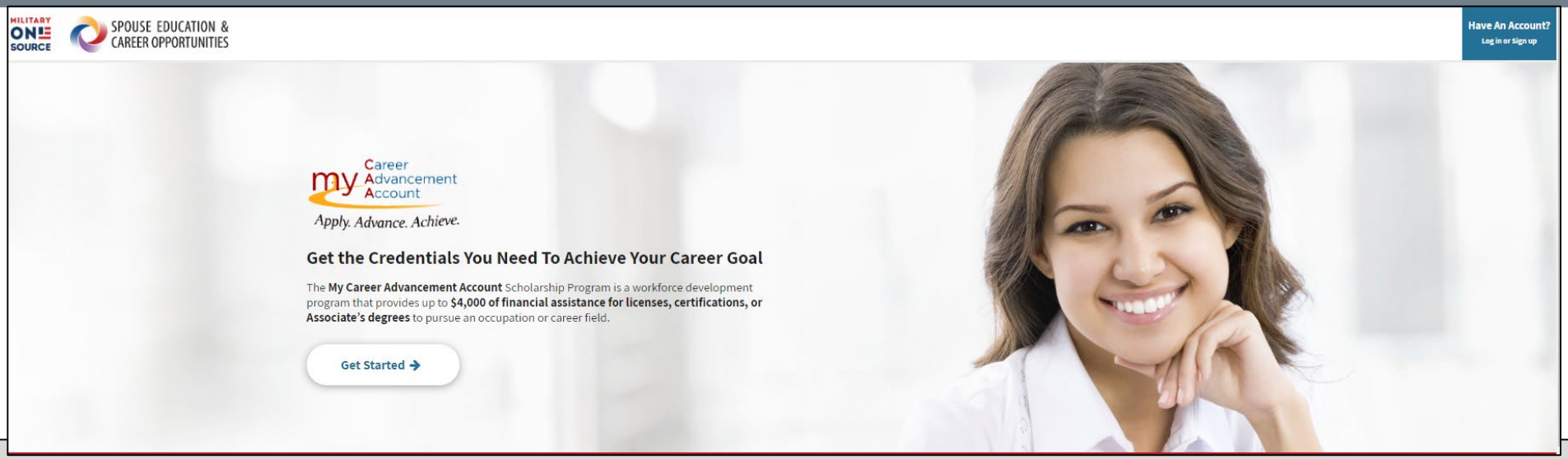
The Business Management track will teach you the necessary skills to assume corporate leadership roles in project management, human resources and Six Sigma Green Belt management. This track will help you build your professional skills and prepare for industry certifications, such as the following:

- Six Sigma Green Belt
- Human resources certifications: Professional in Human Resources, or PHR, and Senior Professional in Human Resources, SPHR
- Project management certifications: Certified Association in Project Management, or CAPM, and Project Management Professional, or PMP

No-Cost Skills Training for Military Spouses

If you are employed and seeking career advancement or change, underemployed or unemployed, consider applying to Onward to Opportunity, formerly known as Veterans Career Transition Program, and receive access to online courses in professional skills tracks, information technology or industry certifications.

Ways to Fund Education



My Career Advancement Account (MyCAA) Scholarship

- Grants spouses of active duty services members, National Guard and Reservists in pay grades E1 to E5, W1 to W2, and O1 to O2 a $4000 scholarship.
- Pays toward tuition costs of licenses, certifications or associate degrees with hundreds of participating schools.
- Speak with a SECO career coach **BEFORE** using the MyCAA Scholarship!

Scholarship and Grant Options

SECO Scholarship Finder

The SECO Scholarship Finder makes searching for education funding and career development opportunities fast and easy. Search for financial assistance resources and professional development opportunities offered specifically to military spouses and family members. Populate the fields below for your results.

If you are having trouble finding the results you want, try using a different keyword to expand search. For example, use the word 'military' instead of 'Navy.'

Keyword

Provider Name

Browse Alphabetically

Application Start Date

Application End Date

Location

Select a State

Applicant Type

Select an Applicant Type

Resource Type

Select a Resource Type

Service

Select a Service

Degree Types

Select a Degree Type

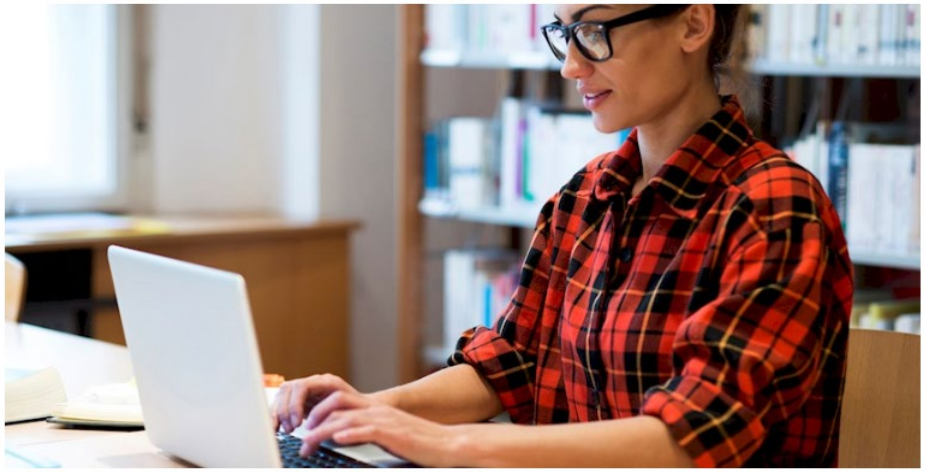
Search | Clear Search

Scholarship and Grant Options

National Military Family Association

The National Military Family Association is a nonprofit organization devoted to strengthening military families by providing spouses with helpful resources, scholarships and more.

- Scholarships for military spouses from $500 to $2500.
- All that's needed is a military ID to be eligible!



Finding Scholarship Money for Portable Career Degrees

Finance your education and jump-start your portable career with these great tips.

- Contact your school
- Company scholarships
- Search the internet

CareerOneStop Scholarship Finder

careeronestop
your source for career exploration, training & jobs
Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor. A proud partner of the americanjobcenter network.

Español

Search CareerOneStop

Explore Careers | Find Training | Job Search | Find Local Help | Toolkit | Resources For

Scholarship Finder

Your Search

Search by keyword

military spouse

Search

Filter By

Level of Study

Bachelor's Degree (103)
Graduate Degree (40)
Professional Development (12)
Vocational (11)
Associate Degree (3)
High School (3)

Award Type

Scholarship (111)

We found **124** awards for **military spouse**.

Award Name	Level Of Study	Award Type	Award Amount	Deadline
FMA-FEEA Scholarship Program Organization: Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund Purpose: To provide financial assistance for the educational pursuits of current civilian employees and retirees who are FMA members and their dependent family members.	Graduate Degree	Scholarship	$1,000 $5,000	March
Lewis-Clark State College - Military Order of the Purple Heart Organization: Lewis-Clark State College Purpose: To provide educational assistance for students intending to pursue a career in Special Education.	Bachelor's Degree	Scholarship		March
Leonard Hawk Founders Scholarship Organization: American Rental Association Foundation Purpose: To provide scholarships to promising young students looking to enter the rental industry.	Bachelor's Degree Graduate Degree Vocational	Scholarship	$5,000	March

Graduate Degrees

Tuition reimbursement/employer contributions:
Employer agrees to pay an amount toward education expenses or contributes part/all of tuition costs.

Graduate assistantship:
Student works on campus in an area related to the major field of study and earns money that goes directly toward tuition.

Fellowships:
Usually a merit-based financial award for advanced studies that will subsidize college expenses. Highly competitive.

LinkedIn Premium

Eligibility:

- All military spouses, caregivers and Coast Guard spouses are eligible for a free, 12-month upgrade to a premium account
- Make professional connections with LinkedIn
- Access LinkedIn Learning to:
  - address gaps in skills set
  - explore specific learning opportunities
  - find study materials for exam prep
  - enhance skills/bridge skill gaps

Questions? Feedback?

We'd like to hear from you!

Connect with us:

Facebook – https://www.facebook.com/DoDMilSpouse

Twitter – https://twitter.com/DoDMilSpouse

LinkedIn – https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4159976

SECO Career Center: 800-342-9647
Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. EDT
Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT

SECO Events Calendar:

https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Home/EventDetails