

Veteran Services

The Hood College Financial Aid Office provides services to veterans and dependents of veterans eligible for educational benefits. **Educational benefit programs include:**

- Chapter 30, Montgomery GI Bill
- Chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation
- Chapter 33, Post-9/11 GI Bill: Hood College participates in the Yellow Ribbon program
- Chapter 35, Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance
- Chapter 1606, Selected Reserve

For information on each of these programs, current payment rates, availability of benefits or approvals call the local Regional VA Office at 1-888-442-4551.

- **Hood College Yellow Ribbon Scholarship**

Hood College participates in the Department of Veterans Affairs Yellow Ribbon program and accepts an unlimited number of eligible students. The Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement program (Yellow Ribbon program) is a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. Participating students remain in the Yellow Ribbon program throughout their enrollment at Hood College and remain eligible for Yellow Ribbon program scholarship as long as each of the following applies: Hood College continues to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, the students remain in good academic standing, and the students have remaining entitlement.

- **ROTC scholarship - Room and board**

The ROTC Scholarship is awarded to students who receive a full-tuition scholarship from Army ROTC for study at Hood College. This award covers tuition and fees. Hood College will provide an institutional grant for ROTC students living on campus to cover room and board. The ROTC Scholarship replaces any previously awarded Hood merit scholarship.

- **Federal Aid**

Students interested in obtaining additional assistance beyond their VA benefits can apply for assistance from the federal government by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (www.fafsa.gov). In completing the FAFSA students may be eligible to receive a federal Direct Loan and/or federal PELL grant, as well as institutional need-based grants and scholarships.

Please note: Federal aid does not affect your eligibility for VA benefits.

In order to complete the FAFSA, both students and parents (if dependent) will need an FSA ID (a username and password combination). With an FSA ID students and parents can sign the FAFSA, check the status of the application, correct FAFSA information, reapply for financial aid, view information about federal loans and grants, and conduct other business with the U.S. Department of Education. To obtain an FSA ID please apply online at www.fsaaid.gov.

For more information regarding federal aid, please visit www.studentaid.gov.

- **State of Maryland** (www.mhec.state.md.us)

The State of Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) offers a number of scholarships and/or grants for Maryland residents. Below is a listing of a few programs offered by MHEC:

Senatorial Scholarships

Delegate Scholarships

Howard P. Rawlings Educational Assistance Grant

Edward T. & Mary A. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program and Jean B. Cryor Memorial Scholarship Program

Available to the son, daughter, stepchild, or the surviving spouse (who has not remarried) of a member of the United States Armed Forces who died as a result of military service or who suffered a service-connected 100% permanent disability as result of military service; a veteran who suffers a service-connected disability of 25% or greater, as a result of military service, and has exhausted or is no longer eligible for federal veterans' educational benefits

Veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship

The Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship Program is designed to provide financial assistance to United States armed forces personnel who served in the Afghanistan or Iraq Conflicts, and their sons, daughters, or spouses who are current high school seniors, and full-time or part-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students enrolled in an eligible accredited Maryland postsecondary institution.

For more information about eligibility and additional programs, please refer to the Maryland Higher Education Commission's website or contact Maryland's Office of Student Financial Assistance at (800) 974-0203.

- **Scholarship websites**

The following Web sites may help you in your scholarship search. All offer free searches. We do not endorse any particular site. We do encourage students to obtain information from more than one source or site to maximize their options for scholarships and aid.

www.fastweb.com

www.collegeispossible.org

www.finaid.org

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill

www.goarmy.gov

www.MyScholly.com

www.Central-Scholarships.org

www.Scholarship.com

- **Required Forms for Certification of VA benefits**

All students must submit the following forms for certification of VA benefits as well as institutional aid:

Declaration of Intent - Submitted for each semester that benefits are being used

Available in the Financial Aid Office or on College website (www.hood.edu/applications).

To avoid delays in processing claims, it is extremely important to submit all information including any changes.

Susan Erb, Associate Director of Financial Aid
301-696-3414
Fax: 301-696-3812
erb@hood.edu

Yvette Rood, Financial Aid Counselor
301-696-3319
Fax: 301-696-3812
rood@hood.edu