Virginia Military Survivors and Dependent Education Program

The Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP) provides educational assistance for up to 8 semesters to spouses and children of military service members who were killed, missing in action, taken prisoner or who became at least 90 percent disabled as a result of military service in an armed conflict (includes military operation against terrorism; a peacekeeping mission; a terrorist act; or any armed conflict). A qualified military service member or Veteran is one who meets the domiciliary requirement as defined in the Code of Virginia § 23.1-608. You can find a summary of information in the Veterans Education, Training and Employment flyer.

Tuition Benefits (Tier 1 & Tier 2) *
Eligible students, as confirmed by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS), are guaranteed a waiver of all tuition and mandatory fees for eight semesters at a Virginia public college or university. Please note: Tuition and mandatory fees are waived. Course related fees and the graduation fee are not covered under this provision. Housing, dining, books, and supplies are considered educational expenses and are not waived under this program.

Stipend Benefits (Tier 2 Only) *
Eligible students may receive a stipend to offset educational expenses such as housing, dining, books, and supplies. SCHEV works with DVS and the public colleges and universities in disbursing funds. The amount of the stipend is determined annually by SCHEV and is dependent on the student’s enrollment status; the number of participating students; and the available funding.

*For Tier 1 & Tier 2 definitions and all eligibility requirements, please refer to the Virginia Department of Veterans Services website.

Application Process
You can file the VMSDEP application online through the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependent Education Program with the department of Virginia DVS which also has complete information about the program and its requirements.

It is important that this application process is completed and approved prior to enrolling in courses. William & Mary does not apply waivers retroactively. Eligible waivers are applied to current and/or future terms only.

To learn more about the VMSDEP program - please visit the Virginia Department of Veterans Services website.

VMSDEP Office: Office Location:
Phone: (804) 786-0571 James Monroe Building
Fax: (804)-786-0809 101 North 14th Street, 17th Floor
Email: vmsdep@dvs.virginia.gov Richmond, VA 23219
Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Attention - you may also be eligible for the Federal benefit, Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance program (DEA). Please visit and the VA Survivors and Dependents website for more information and eligibility requirements.