

# Army Emergency Relief

Army Emergency Relief (AER) was incorporated in 1942 by the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff. AER is the Army's own emergency financial assistance organization and is dedicated to "Helping the Army Take Care of its Own."

AER provides commanders a valuable tool to help accomplish their basic command responsibility for the morale and welfare of Soldiers.

AER is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to provide financial assistance to Army Soldiers in times of valid emergency need.

AER's Scholarship Program is a secondary mission to help Army families with the cost of education.

# Scholarship Programs

**Spouse Education Assistance Program** provides need-based scholarships for Spouses of Soldiers. Recipients are eligible to receive scholarships for up to 4 years of full-time enrollment or 8 years of part-time enrollment in an accredited college or university. Funds may be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies, ESL and GED classes, CLEP and TOEFL tests. Scholarships may not be used for second undergraduate degrees or master's programs. **Spouses may now apply year-round.**

**MG James Ursano Scholarship Program for Dependent Children** provides need-based scholarships for Children of Soldiers. Recipients are eligible to receive scholarships for up to 4 years of full-time enrollment in an accredited college or university. Funds may be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies, and room and board. Scholarships may not be used for second undergraduate degrees or master's programs.

# Scholarship Eligibility

- Spouse or dependent Child of a Soldier on active duty, a retired Soldier, or a Soldier who died on active duty.
- Spouse or dependent Child of the sponsoring Soldier must be registered in DEERS.
- Applicant must be pursuing their first undergraduate degree and maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Spouse Program applicant may be enrolled part-time or full-time. (*Part-time = 6 credit hours per semester/term. Full-time = 12 credit hours per semester/term.*)
- Dependent Child applicant must be enrolled full-time.
- Dependent Child applicant must be under the age of 23 and have graduated from high school or received a GED by the beginning of the 2018-2019 academic year.

# Scholarship Procedures

- Visit the AER website, [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org), click on "Apply for Scholarship." Read all instructions and complete the online application by the applicable deadline date.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) after 1 October at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov), and upload the resulting Student Aid Report (SAR) into your AER application. *Scholarship award amounts are based on financial need as demonstrated by the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) on the applicant's SAR.*
- Submit transcripts reflecting all coursework through the most recently completed college semester. (New college freshmen must submit high school transcripts through the most recently completed high school semester).
- Submit all other documents as requested on the application website by the deadline date.

# Scholarship Timeline

- 1 January** Application is available on the AER website.
- 2 April** Deadline for Children's Applications and all supporting documents to be submitted online. **(Spouses may now apply year-round).**
- May/June** Award Letters are emailed to Recipients and Scholarship Agreements are completed by recipients on the AER website.
- June/July** Fall checks are mailed to the college or university indicated on the Scholarship Agreement.
- Late November/ Early December** Spring checks are mailed to the college or university indicated on the Scholarship Agreement.

## Award Details

Award amounts vary each year based on the total number of complete applications and the approved budget amount for the academic year. For the 2017-2018 academic year, AER awarded over \$8M in scholarships to more than 3,200 dependent Children and Spouses of Army Soldiers. The average Spouse's award was \$2,168 and the average Child's award was \$3,080.

## Notes from Recipients

"I finished all my courses and was able to graduate with my Bachelors of Science in Health Services Management! This scholarship has been of amazing assistance...! Thank you guys again for quick communication, always being understanding, and helping me reach my goals!"

- Andrea

"With the help from your scholarship, I am able to attend college this semester on scholarships alone. This is a huge help to my husband and I as I try to finish my degree..."

- Delaney

"Thank you very much for the MG James Ursano Scholarship awarded to me. I'm very grateful to you and the entire AER. My father has told me of the great things that AER does for military soldiers and their families. That makes this award even more meaningful to me."

- Patrick

"I'm a military spouse pursuing a degree In Elementary Education with a minor in Special Education. I deeply appreciate the support for military Spouses to earn college degrees."

- Angel

"Thank you for all you do to help the Army Family."

- Eric

"With the cost of college tuition on the rise, it is a relief to know that I have been awarded this wonderful scholarship to help offset the cost of not only my education, but preparation for my future career plans. Thank you again for your generosity and investing into my future."

- Carolyn

## Contact Information

### AER Scholarship Department

2530 Crystal Drive  
Suite 13161, 13th Floor  
Arlington VA 22202

866-878-6378

[scholarships@aerhq.org](mailto:scholarships@aerhq.org)



For the online application and more information about AER's Scholarships, please visit our website:

[WWW.AERHQ.ORG](http://WWW.AERHQ.ORG)



*...there for those  
who Serve*

## 2018-2019 SCHOLARSHIP GUIDE



**SOLDIERS HELPING SOLDIERS**