

**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS
VETERANS EDUCATION AND TRAINING SECTION
833 S. Spring Street, PO Box 19432, Springfield, IL 62794-9432
Phone: 217-782-6641 Fax: 217-524-8394**

**APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES GRANT
FOR CHILDREN OF DECEASED OR DISABLED VETERANS-Part I
(Completed by Payee)**

The Payee must submit both Part I and Part II of this application at the same time to the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs at the address above.

◆ ELIGIBLE CHILD INFORMATION

- Initial Application (first time application for child)
- Recurring Application (an application was previously completed for child for a different academic year)

First Name of Child _____ Last Name of Child _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____

Please indicate relationship of child to veteran by selecting one of the following:

Natural Child Adopted Child Step Child

◆ VETERAN INFORMATION

First Name of Veteran _____ Last Name of Veteran _____

Veteran's Social Security Number _____

If veteran is alive, please provide contact information, including street address, city, state, zip code and email address. If veteran is deceased, please skip to Veteran's Date of Death:

Street Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____ Telephone Number _____

Veteran's Date of Death (if applicable) _____

PLEASE INDICATE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Veteran is 100% disabled (not permanent and total) and has been for two years prior to application
- Veteran is 100% permanent and totally disabled
- Veteran's death determined service connected and child currently draws DIC benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Veteran Died on Active Duty

If this is an initial application, please provide the following (as applicable) with this application:

- Birth Certificate of Child
- Adoption decree for Child
- Marriage Certificate between parent and veteran for Step Child
- Veteran's DD214 (Report of Separation) and/or Casualty Report (if died on active duty)
- Award letter from USDVA stating veteran is 100% disabled (not permanent and total) for at least two years
- Award letter from USDVA stating veteran 100% permanent and totally disabled
- Award letter from USDVA stating veteran's death service connected

◆ PAYEE INFORMATION

Payments are made to the veteran, unless the veteran is deceased. In this case, please provide Payee information for individual responsible for the child.

Veteran Identified Above (use information above)

Other Payee Information (if veteran deceased)

First Name of Payee _____ Last Name of Payee _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____

Payee’s Social Security Number _____

Email Address _____ Telephone Number _____

Please indicate relationship of payee to child: _____

◆ PAYEE CERTIFICATION

I certify that the above-named child has been a resident of Illinois for one year preceding this application and that the information in Part I of this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Payee

Date

◆ EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT

The Educational Opportunity Grant is provided annually to each child between the ages of 10 and 18 years of a veteran who died on active duty or who’s death ruled service connected, or veteran is 100% totally and permanently disabled, or 100% disabled for at least two years. The Educational Opportunity Grant applies to a state educational institution, such as elementary school, middle or junior high school, high school or vocational training school. Applicants must apply annually during the academic year to receive the Grant.

◆ INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN ONE YEAR PRIOR TO 18TH BIRTHDAY

The Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs administers two additional benefit programs for eligible children at the age of 18: Chapter 35 Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance and MIA/POW Scholarship. Chapter 35 is a federal benefit program that pays a monthly entitlement for 36 months to a student for enrollment at an approved educational institution or training facility. Eligible persons may begin using this benefit while in high school if 18 years of age. If enrolled in high school, eligible persons may receive up to an additional five months of entitlement that does not count toward 36 months of entitlement for higher education or training. The Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs-Veterans Education Section must approve high school programs for Chapter 35 use. The MIA/POW Scholarship provides an education scholarship for dependents of a veteran who was Missing in Action, a Prisoner-of-War, died while on active duty, 100% permanently and totally service connected disabled, or died as a result of a service connected disability. Please contact the Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs – Veterans Education and Training Section approximately 3 months prior to 18th birthday to start either of these programs. More information may also be found at <https://www2.illinois.gov/veterans/benefits/Pages/education.aspx>.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This state agency is requesting disclosure of information necessary to accomplish the statutory purpose of ILCS Ch. 330, 105/1. Disclosure is REQUIRED; failure to provide this information will prevent the claim from being processed