

---

# STATE OF INDIANA

---

STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF INDIANA



INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER SOUTH  
402 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 462  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204  
PHONE (317) 232-2350  
FAX (317) 232-3260

**TO:** Indiana Higher Education Financial Aid Offices  
**FROM:** Amanda Stanley, Program and Communication Director *ASJ*  
**RE:** Purple Heart Recipient Tuition and Fee Remission  
**DATE:** February 10, 2012

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an overview of the defined educational benefits for Indiana veterans who are Purple Heart recipients.

2011 legislative changes, as provided by Senate Enrolled Act ("SEA") 577, have been incorporated into this memorandum.

## Who is eligible?

A person who:

- (1) enters active duty service from a permanent home address in Indiana;
- (2) receives an honorable discharge;
- (3) receives the Purple Heart decoration for that active duty service;
- (4) is eligible to pay the resident tuition rate at the eligible Indiana institution the person will attend;  
and
- (5) possesses the requisite academic qualifications.

To remain eligible, the Purple Heart recipient must:

- (1) maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress ("SAP") as determined by the institution;
- (2) not be in default or overpayment of student loan or grant; and
- (3) annually file the appropriate (and error-free) academic year's Free Application for Federal Student Aid ("FAFSA").

## What is the benefit?

As a supplement to other state grants, this benefit pays 100 percent of tuition and regularly assessed fees at an eligible Indiana institution. (A full list of eligible institutions is available online at <http://www.in.gov/ssaci/2535.htm>.)

The benefit is limited to a maximum of 124 credit hours. If the veteran initially enlisted before June 30, 2011, there is no time limit to use the allotted 124 credit hours. If the veteran initially enlisted after June 30, 2011, the allotted 124 credit hours must be used within eight (8) years after the date the student first applied.

This benefit may be used at the undergraduate, graduate and professional degree level. However, tuition and regularly assessed fees for all students will be paid at the undergraduate rate charged by the institution. Details for processing and billing these awards will be provided to eligible institutions in the manual.

## **How does a person apply for the benefit?**

**Application for this benefit is required.**

To receive the benefit, eligible persons must:

- (1) Mail the completed State Form 53705 application and all necessary documentation to the Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs ("IDVA") at:

Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs  
302 West Washington Street, Room E-120  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2738

(IDVA, after receipt of the application, verifies the applicant's information for eligibility and returns the application to the student either approved or denied.)

- (2) Submit the approved application to the financial aid office of the institution the student plans to attend **no later than 30 days prior to the end of the college term**; and
- (3) File the appropriate (and error-free) academic year's FAFSA, which may be completed online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. The FAFSA must be completed **no later than thirty (30) days prior to the end of the college term**. (The preferred completion date is by the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana's ("SSACI") March 10 receipt deadline.)

Reapplication is necessary whenever a student changes the school he or she is attending or the student stops attending school for two or more consecutive semesters (excluding summer).

If you have questions about benefit eligibility, please contact the IDVA at 317.232.3910 or 800.400.4520 or <http://www.in.gov/veteran/>.

If you have questions about SSACI, tuition charges or general financial aid, please contact SSACI Program and Communications Director Amanda Stanley at 317.234.8232 or [ajstanley@ssaci.in.gov](mailto:ajstanley@ssaci.in.gov).