



## KANSAS HERO'S SCHOLARSHIP

The Kansas Hero's Scholarship Act (K.S.A. 75-4364) establishes a waiver which provides an opportunity for eligible dependents and spouses of certain deceased or disabled military servicemembers, public safety officers, or prisoners of war to attend an eligible public Kansas postsecondary educational institution without payment of tuition and required fees. The student will be responsible for all other charges associated with the student's academic program. This waiver is only available for undergraduate coursework.

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE:**

Summer 2025: June 1, 2025

Fall 2025: August 1, 2025

Spring 2026: December 1, 2025

**The application for the Kansas Hero's Scholarship is available online at [sfa.kansasregents.gov](https://sfa.kansasregents.gov)**

All required documentation should be submitted through the online scholarship portal using the "Upload Documents" button on the home screen.

**This scholarship is awarded on a first come, first served basis and funding is limited.** Applicants are encouraged to submit the completed application and required documentation online as soon as they know which eligible school they will be attending. Waivers are guaranteed only up to the amount of funding available each year; once funding is exhausted, the application will close for the school year.

### **WHERE CAN ELIGIBLE STUDENTS RECEIVE THE HERO'S SCHOLARSHIP?**

**Public Kansas postsecondary educational institutions**, which includes public technical colleges, public community colleges, public state universities, and Washburn. This scholarship is not available for attendance at private or independent institutions. This scholarship is not available at out-of-state institutions.

### **LENGTH OF ELIGIBILITY:**

Each eligible dependent or spouse may qualify for tuition and fee waivers for a total of ten (10) semesters of **undergraduate studies**. Summer semesters are eligible for funding and count as 1/3 of a semester of eligibility. Eligibility will begin during the first semester following the application. If currently enrolled when applying, eligibility will start during the current semester for which an applicant met the application deadline. Students will need to renew their application each year to receive funding. Eligibility is NOT retroactive – we cannot provide this benefit for semesters that have already passed.

### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY? There are three groups for this scholarship:**

- Dependents and spouses of deceased or disabled military servicemembers
- Dependents and spouses of public safety officers
- Prisoners of war

Review the following pages for criteria and required documentation for each group.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Individuals who are also using Chapter 33 Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits should carefully consider how the Hero's scholarship may affect those benefits. We encourage students to talk with their school's military-affiliated centers/staff about how to maximize all of their entitlements.



## Military Servicemember

*The following documentation must be submitted along with the online application.  
Applications without complete documentation will not be considered.*

**Dependents or spouses of a current or former military servicemember**, provided that the servicemember is a current resident of the State of Kansas (or was a resident of the State of Kansas at time of death) **AND** falls into one of the following categories: Died while serving in the military, **OR** Sustained a service-connected injury or disability that rendered the servicemember incapable of continuing service, **OR** Is entitled to compensation for a service-connected disability of at least 80%.

**Please provide documentation for ONE category below:**

**Category 1: *Death during military service:*** The servicemember died while serving in active military service.

- A copy of the servicemember's DD214 and/or other separation documents; **AND**
- A copy of the DD Form 1300 showing the servicemember's death occurred during active duty.

**Category 2: *Service-connected Disability – incapable of continuing military service:*** The servicemember sustained a service-connected injury or disability that rendered the servicemember incapable of continuing their military service.

- A copy of the servicemember's DD214 and/or other separation documents; **AND**
- Evidence proving the injury/disability caused the servicemember to be incapable of continuing their military service.

**Category 3: *Service-connected Disability – 80% disability or more:*** The servicemember is entitled to compensation for a service-connected disability of at least 80%.

- A copy of the servicemember's DD214 and/or other separation documents; **AND**
- A letter from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) outlining that the servicemember has a service-connected disability, including the combined percentage rating of service-connected disability evaluation of 80% or more, dates of service, and the effective date of the latest disability determination.

**AND**

**Proof that the servicemember is a Kansas resident:**

- *For deceased servicemember, death certificate should be sufficient in most cases, but additional documentation may be requested if residency at time of death cannot be clearly determined.*
- A copy of the servicemember's last Leave and Earnings statement or a copy of page 1 of the servicemember's most recent state income tax returns.; **OR**
- A copy of the servicemember's current Kansas-issued ID card, or a copy of the servicemember's Kansas voter registration record; **AND**
- A copy of a recent utility bill or equivalent with the servicemember's name and current address and date listed on it (no more than two months old).

**AND**

**Proof of relationship between applicant and servicemember:**

***Spouse:*** A marriage certificate providing evidence of marriage between the applicant and the servicemember.

***Dependent:*** A birth certificate or a certificate of adoption showing the relationship between the applicant and the servicemember. In the case of a stepparent who has not legally adopted the applicant, acceptable documentation would include a marriage certificate between the military personnel and the biological/adoptive parent, as well as a birth certificate or adoption certificate with the biological/adoptive parent's information listed. In the case of dependents who are neither children nor step children of the servicemember.

**Questions?**

**Email:** [scholars@ksbor.org](mailto:scholars@ksbor.org)

**Phone :** 785-430-4300



## Public Safety Officer

*The following documentation must be submitted along with the online application.  
Applications without complete documentation will not be considered.*

**Dependents and spouses of Public Safety Officer**, provided that the public safety officer is a current resident of the State of Kansas (or was a resident of the State of Kansas at time of death) **AND** falls into one of the following categories:

**Please provide documentation for one category below:**

***Service-Connected Death:***

- A death certificate citing the death of the public safety officer; **AND**
- Additional conclusive documentation should be provided showing the death was a result of performing duties as Kansas public safety officer. Potential documentation could include an official letter from the department in which the public safety officer was affiliated, medical documentation, etc. Documentation should be conclusive.

**OR**

***Service-connected Disability:***

- Official documentation addressing that the injury or disability was sustained while performing duties as a Kansas public safety officer, and how such injury or disability prevents the individual from performing the duties at or above the pay level of the position the person held at the time of injury or disability. Potential documentation could include an official letter from the department in which the public safety officer was affiliated, medical documentation, etc.

**AND**

**Proof of relationship between applicant and public safety officer:**

***Spouse:*** A marriage certificate providing evidence of marriage between the applicant and the public safety officer.

***Dependent:*** A birth certificate or a certificate of adoption showing the relationship between the applicant and the public safety officer. In the case of a stepparent who has not legally adopted the applicant, acceptable documentation would include a marriage certificate between the public safety officer and the biological/adoptive parent, as well as a birth certificate or adoption certificate with the biological adoptive parent's information listed.

**AND**

**Proof that the public safety officer is a Kansas resident:**

- *For deceased public safety officer, death certificate should be sufficient in most cases, but additional documentation may be requested if residency at time of death cannot be clearly determined.*
- A copy of the public safety officer's last Leave and Earnings statement or a copy of page 1 of the public safety officer's most recent state income tax returns.; **OR**
- A copy of the public safety officer's current Kansas-issued ID card, or a copy of the public safety officer's Kansas voter registration record; **AND**
- A copy of a recent utility bill or equivalent with the public safety officer's name and current address and date listed on it (no more than two months old).

### Questions?

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## Prisoners of War

*The following documentation must be submitted along with the online application.  
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**Prisoner of War**, provided that individuals who are eligible were Kansas residents upon entering United States armed forces **AND** show proof of POW status:

**Please provide documentation below:**

- Documentation showing they were a resident of Kansas when entering the United States armed forces.  
**AND**
- Proof of POW status:
  - A letter from the Veteran's Administration, the Department of Defense, or an Armed Services department verifying POW status
  - A DD Form 214 identifying POW status
  - A military medical identification card identifying POW status, or
  - A POW card issued by the detainment facility

**Questions?**

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