



Education and Training Benefit

The intent of the Education and Training Benefit is to help Veterans transition to life after service, achieve their education and career goals, and better position them to be more competitive in the workforce.

To qualify

Honourably released from the Canadian Armed Forces on or after 1 April 2006, or are a member of the Supplementary Reserve and have at least:

6 Years (2191 paid days) Qualify for up to \$40,000*

12 Years (4382 paid days) Qualify for up to \$80,000*

*Indexed annually by the Consumer Price Index

- Veterans **cannot** receive this funding while they are participating in VAC's Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance program or receiving the Canadian Forces Income Support.
- Veterans must apply within 10 years of their release date.

Two-step application process

1. Veterans submit an eligibility application using the guided form on **My VAC Account** or by mail (**VAC 1537e form**).
2. Once eligibility is approved, they can access funding by submitting either a Formal program or a Short course for approval.

*Applications must be fully approved before the course/program start date.

Formal programs

A Veteran who completes their Formal program may apply for a \$1,000 completion bonus.

A Formal program must:

- Be found on the Employment and Social Development Canada's **List of designated institutions**;
- Result in a degree, diploma, certification, or designation; and
- Be at least 12 weeks long, taken within a 15-week period.

Note: Technical education programs from trade /specialized technical skills training schools may be less than 12 weeks.

Short courses

- Up to \$5,000 for courses like: entrepreneurial boot camps, business development workshops/seminars and instructor certifications (life coach, dance & fitness).
- Funding can be used for multiple courses.

Short courses must be:

- Provided by an organization, community-based group, or individual;
- Available to the broad Veteran population and/or Canadian public; and
- Publicly advertised.

Payment details

- The funds are paid directly to a Veteran.
- VAC must approve the program/course prior to enrollment.
- Payments cannot be made after a program has started or been completed.
- A monitoring form must be submitted at the end of each period of study before the next payment(s) can be made. The form includes:
 - information on the previous period of study;
 - proof of completion of the previous period of study; and
 - proof of enrollment in an upcoming period of study.

Veterans' responsibilities

- Pay tuition and fees.
- Provide VAC all requested documents before the next study period.
- Contact VAC if their education plan changes or they decide not to continue with their program. VAC will advise them on next steps and potential repayment of any funds.