



California's **TROOPS to COLLEGE PROGRAM**



The best investment you can make for yourself, your family and for your country is earning a college degree.

California's Troops to College Program

is the place to begin.

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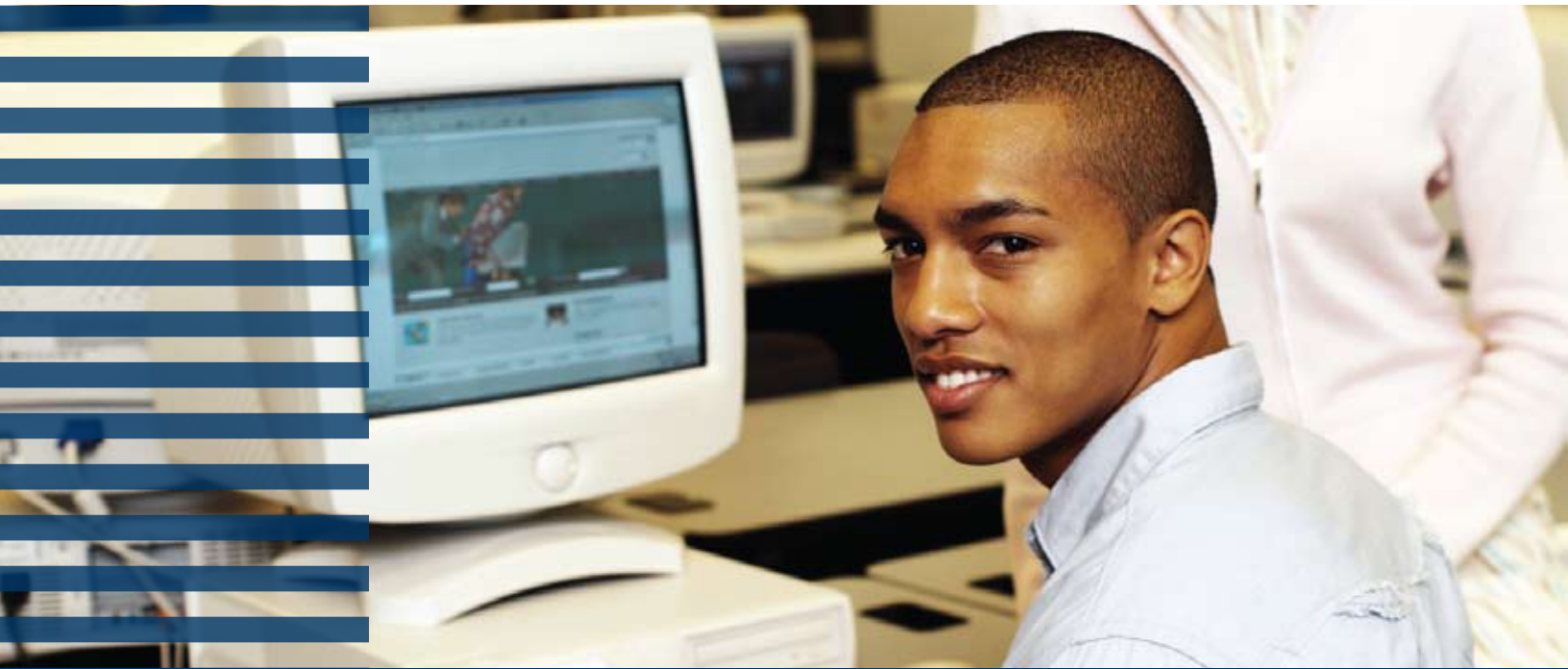


I believe I speak for all Californians when I say that we are proud of and indebted to all U.S. veterans and active-duty military personnel. We are humbled by what you have sacrificed and endured in protecting our country, our allies and our state. For these and numerous other reasons, we extend an invitation to you to attend any California college or university. We are home to the greatest higher education system in the world, and we want you on our campuses.

California is currently home to approximately 2.3 million veterans, which is more than any other state in the nation. Of those, approximately 350,000 are eligible to receive Montgomery GI Bill benefits to help cover the cost of their education. Unfortunately, of the 96 percent of military personnel who enroll in GI Bill programs when entering the military, only 50 percent take advantage of those benefits.

We want to change that. You are the future CEOs, teachers, doctors, lawyers and builders of our state and our country. And with your military experience, and a college degree, your opportunities are boundless.


--California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger



California's public higher education system consists of the 23 campuses of the California State University, the 10 campuses of the University of California, and the 109 campuses of the California Community Colleges. Public higher education in California offers a variety of unique benefits. These include the camaraderie of student veteran groups and clubs, a large offering of degree programs, fee waivers, comprehensive veteran assistance, online support and distance learning, and more.

Helpful Educational Information for Veterans:

- **Where to Start:** www.troopstocollege.ca.gov
- **California State University:** www.calstate.edu/veterans
- **California Community Colleges:** www.cccco.edu
- **University of California:** www.universityofcalifornia.edu/veterans
- **California Department of Veterans Affairs:** www.cdva.gov or (800) 952-5626
- **CalVet: Find a local office at** www.cdva.ca.gov/calvet/offices.asp or (800) 952-5626
- **Employment Development Department:** www.edd.ca.gov/eddv.asp



You served your country with pride. Now, be part of creating the future. Take advantage of the Montgomery GI Bill and get your college degree at any California college or university. California has some of the best higher educational opportunities available in the country. Visit one of the websites below or those listed on page 3 for information on the California State University, the University of California, the California Community Colleges, and the many programs available to veterans.

- **Air Force:** www.af.mil
- **Army:** www.armyeducation.army.mil
- **California Army National Guard:** www.calguard.ca.gov/g1/pages/cived.aspx
- **Community College of the Air Force:** www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf
- **Defense Activity for Non-traditional Education:** www.dantes.doded.mil
- **Fund for Veterans Education:** www.veteranseducationfund.org
- **General Information:** www.military.com
- **Helmets to Hard Hats:** www.helmetstohardhats.org
- **Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans:** www.iava.org
- **Marines Memorial Association:** www.marineclub.com
- **National Association of Veteran Program Administrators:** www.navpa.org
- **Navy:** <https://www.navycollege.navy.mil>
- **Service Members Opportunity College:** www.soc.aascu.org
- **Student Veterans of America:** www.studentveterans.org
- **U.S. Department of Education:** www.ed.gov/index.jhtml
- **Veterans Employment and Training Service:** www.dol.gov/vets