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Missouri Department of Higher Education

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**Wartime Veteran’s Survivor Grants Available for the First Time**

Jefferson City – The children or spouses of soldiers who were injured or died while serving in the military since Sept. 11, 2001 may be eligible for grants from the state of Missouri. The grants, which will be available for up to 25 eligible students enrolling in classes this fall, will be administered by the Missouri Department of Higher Education.

The Wartime Veteran’s Survivor Grants were created by the Missouri legislature in 2008 and funded for the first time in 2010. To be eligible, a student must be:

* less than 25 years old,
* the natural, adopted, or stepchild of a qualifying military member, and
* a dependent of the qualifying military member at the time of death or injury; or
* the spouse of a qualifying military member at the time of death or injury.

A "qualifying military member" is any member of the military of the United States (whether active duty, reserve or National Guard) who served in the military after Sept. 11, 2001, during time of war and who:

* was a Missouri resident when first entering the military service or at the time of death or injury,
* was injured or died as a result of combat action or whose injury or death was certified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs to be attributable to an illness or accident that occurred while serving in combat, or
* became 80 percent disabled as a result of injuries or accidents sustained in combat action after Sept. 11, 2001.

Grants are limited to the first 25 students who apply. Students who apply after the limit is reached will be placed on a waiting list.

Award amounts are based on the tuition of the institution the student will attend, up to the tuition charged at University of Missouri-Columbia. In addition, students may receive up to $2,000 for room and board and up to $500 for books. The awards are renewable if the student maintains a 2.5 cumulative grade point average.

For more information or to apply for the grant, call 1-800-473-6757, or go to <http://www.dhe.mo.gov/wartimevetsurvivor.htm>

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