



We will Remember

Providing for the children left behind.



Opportunities to attend college should not be out of the reach of the children left behind because their parents died on active duty while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. That is why The American Legion established the American Legacy Scholarship for the children of service personnel killed while on active duty with the U.S. Armed Forces on or after Sept. 11, 2001.

With your help, we can make a difference in their futures.



Send your tax-deductible contributions to:

The American Legion Sept. 11 Memorial Scholarship Fund,
P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Providing for the children left behind

As an unfortunate consequence of Sept. 11 and the subsequent war against terrorism, many children of our active-duty military personnel are now members of single-parent families. In most cases, this also means their opportunity to attend college has been greatly diminished.

Children of active-duty military killed at war are entitled to receive federal money toward a college education. **But it's not enough.** The American Legion has fought long and hard to see that our active-duty military personnel and their families are looked after. But despite our efforts, there are significant shortfalls in dollars that have been allotted by our government in recent years. The educational benefit provided to surviving children is one of these shortfalls.

Help us bridge the gap

The facts are indisputable. The money provided by law has not kept up with what a higher education costs today, let alone what college will cost in years to come. Remember, these children are the direct descendants of people who died while actively protecting our country. Their parents sacrificed their lives. The least we can do is make sure their children are provided for.

The American Legacy Scholarship

We are raising funds to fill the gap. Taking care of the children left behind is our civic duty. Helping to provide for their education is a powerful way to show our thanks. These parents died protecting our country. We owe it to them to see that their children get the opportunity a college education can provide. That is why we have established the American Legacy Scholarship and The American Legion Sept. 11 Memorial Scholarship Fund. But we need your help.

Join us in our effort

We need the support of many to make The American Legion's American Legacy Scholarship a reality. Too many men and women have died in the fight to preserve our nation's freedoms. Together, we can make sure their children have the opportunity that their parents were unable to provide. We encourage you to give generously to **The American Legion Sept. 11 Memorial Scholarship Fund**. Help us to bridge the gap and restore the faith of these special children.

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There are 1.2 million dependent children in the U.S. military; of those, nearly 1 million are age 11 or younger.

Critical Education Gap

4-year state college	\$43,232
4-year out-of-state college	\$67,392
4-year private college	\$99,784
Total military college benefit	\$26,460

As this table illustrates, the total benefit for these survivors is just a little more than \$26,000 to be used for a college education. In today's dollars, this benefit will pay little more than half of what a college education costs in the most affordable category. This gap grows even greater when the cost of a college education in the future is estimated. The most conservative estimates predict that these costs will increase by 5 percent per year, meaning that in 16 years, the most affordable college education will be more than \$94,000. Military compensation will not keep up with these dramatic increases. It is clear these children will need our help.