

# ASC SCHOLARSHIPS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# Who is eligible for the Xavier Martin "Fill in the Gap" Scholarship?

The Xavier Martin "Fill in the Gap" Scholarship is designed to provide educational assistance to all ASC-enrolled children from kindergarten through 12th grade and into trade school. Most ASC children will qualify for scholarships from our partnering foundations, which primarily cover these grade levels. However, trade school funding may be available through other organizations (see the list of foundations under the undergraduate and graduate school expense section below).

We encourage applicants to explore and utilize every available resource. All eligible families should apply to the two primary foundations that provide K-12 scholarships unless they have a valid reason for ineligibility. Our team is here to guide families through this process, offering information and personalized reviews of their unique circumstances.

The Xavier Martin "Fill in the Gap" Scholarship is specifically for families who encounter a clear qualification issue with at least one of these two foundations, or others. Common reasons for ineligibility may include:

- Lack of a qualifying deployment history
- Custody status of the fallen service member
- Absence of a verified service connection
- Non-military-related accidents
- Institutional credentialing requirements

What are the two foundations that offer scholarships for K-12 age surviving children of military families?

Primary K-12 Scholarship Foundations

**★** The Folded Flag Foundation (Website)

- Application Period: March 1st May 13th
- Summer School Scholarship: Separate application, deadline April 15th
- Visit their website for the most updated details.

- **★** Folds of Honor Foundation (Website)
  - Application Period: February 1st March 31st (annually)
  - Visit their website for the most updated details.

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# What if I need to find out my family's service connect status for eligibility at any of the education foundations?

Call the VA hotline at (800) 827-1000.

#### How do I apply for the Xavier Martin "Fill in the Gap" Scholarship?

Applications for the 2025-2026 Fall/Spring school year will be available starting March 1, 2025, by request only. If you believe you do not qualify for a scholarship from other foundations, please contact the Scholarship Administrator, Rachel Washabaugh, at <a href="mailto:rachel@asoldierschild.org">rachel@asoldierschild.org</a> to request an application.

Application Deadline: April 30, 2025

### **Application Process & Award Criteria**

- **Qualified and complete applications** will be evaluated based on:
  - Financial need
  - Factors preventing eligibility for other foundation scholarships
- **Limited Funding:** Awards are granted on a **first-come, first-served basis** until funds are exhausted.

#### **Application Requirements**

To be considered for a grant, applications must be fully completed. We've made the process simple and streamlined, requiring minimal documents. However, incomplete applications may delay or prevent approval. If you have questions, please reach out for assistance—we're happy to help!

★ Who Should Complete the Application?

- If the student is 18 years or older at the time of application, they should complete it themselves.
- If the student is under 18, a parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- All applicants must be registered with A Soldier's Child Foundation.

#### **Required Documents**

# 1 Proof of Enrollment

- A letter of acceptance or an official email from the school or service provider.
- Must be on school/service provider letterhead and include:
  - Student's name
  - Enrollment period for the upcoming school year

#### Cost Verification

- Provide an invoice, official email, or tuition cost page from the school/service provider.
- Must include:
  - Estimated tuition and fees for the upcoming school year
  - Recipient of payment (who the check should be made payable to)
- For tutoring or homeschooling, an invoice must be attached.

# What expenses are covered by the Xavier Martin "Fill in the Gap" scholarship?

Tuition, tutoring, or home-schooling costs.

# Can a tuition scholarship also cover fees for other expenses such as sports, arts, technology or lunches?

A tuition scholarship can cover an administrative or technology fee if tuition has first been fully covered for the school year per validation by the school's business office. Other expenses are not covered.

#### Can I select anyone to provide tutoring?

Payments cannot be sent to an individual. Tutoring should be provided by a licensed business at an established location with a credentialed staff. This also more likely meets IRS guidelines. There are many qualified services nationwide and some of these include Sylvan Learning Centers, Mathnasium, and Kumon Math and Reading Centers.

#### What costs for homeschooling are provided?

While parents or individuals the family knows may serve the role of "learning coaches," scholarship awards for homeschooling cannot be paid to an individual. Costs covered can be provided as payment to a third-party organization for items such as online or video instruction, required books (as part of a documented curriculum), or other items on a case-by-case basis. In all instances, an invoice on business letterhead should be provided so payment can be made to the service provider.

#### What is the scholarship award process?

Please note that submission of an application and documents does not guarantee approval. Funding is awarded at the sole discretion of A Soldier's Child Foundation, and we reserve the right to change these policies at any time. Because award decisions are subject to available resources at the time of submission, approval can in some instances be based on a first-come, first-served basis of fully completed submitted applications. All applications should be completed and submitted with documents included by the April 30th deadline to be considered.

#### How are funds provided?

Scholarship award checks are written to the educational institution or service provider and mailed to the student's parent or guardian for delivery to the correct location. The award check will include the student's name in the memo.

#### Can I submit a receipt for reimbursement?

Because we draft award checks payable to the third-party institution or organization, receipts are not accepted. An invoice of tuition or services to be provided should be submitted and include letterhead, student name, and school year or dates of service. An email from the school or provider with this information is acceptable.

#### How much is awarded to approved scholarship recipients?

Grants awarded are up to \$2,500.

#### Is the scholarship renewable from year to year or must I reapply each year?

A completed application is required each year for each student even if they were a scholarship recipient in previous years.

What if I transfer to another school or service provider after my application has been submitted or approved?

Contact the Scholarship Administrator, Rachel Washabaugh, at A Soldier's Child Foundation as soon as you can. We can update the application with the new information. If funds to another school or provider have already been mailed or deposited, we would first need to recover that, and then whatever portion is refunded to the foundation can be eligible for review for payment to another school or provider.

I need help with trade school and undergraduate or graduate college expenses.

#### **Education Assistance Resources**

The **GI Bill** and several **foundations** provide **financial assistance** for trade school, undergraduate, and graduate-level education. If you experience **qualification issues** with trade school grants from the organizations listed below, you may apply for the **Xavier Martin "Fill in the Gap" Scholarship**.

For **undergraduate and graduate-level education**, refer to the list of resources below. We also have additional information and are happy to **serve as a resource**—please reach out if you need guidance!

**Yes Key Reminder:** Financial assistance for undergraduate and trade school education is **widely available**, but the **application process can be time-consuming**. **Meeting deadlines is crucial!** Be sure to check specific deadlines for each scholarship and **contact your school's financial aid office** as soon as you are accepted.

What foundations provide grants for surviving military families to assist with trade school, undergraduate, or graduate school? Note that most foundations have a limited application period from roughly February to end of April for the start of school the following fall. There are exceptions but most are in this range.

#### **Additional Scholarship Opportunities**

In addition to the **Xavier Martin "Fill in the Gap" Scholarship**, families are strongly encouraged to apply for **other available scholarships** that support the children of fallen service members. Below is a list of key scholarship programs and their application details.

#### 1. The Folded Flag Foundation

- Website
- Application Period: March 1st May 13th (annually)
- Additional Summer School/Activity Grant: Deadline April 15th
  - Provides scholarships for trade school, undergraduate, and graduate education

• Supports both children and surviving spouses

#### 2. Folds of Honor Foundation

# Website

- Application Period: February 1st March 31st (annually)
  - Offers **K-12** and higher education scholarships to dependents of fallen or disabled service members.

#### 3. Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation

# Website

• Provides **college scholarships and educational counseling** to children who have lost a parent in military service.

# 4. No Greater Sacrifice Foundation

# Website

• Offers **long-term scholarship funding** for higher education and mentorship opportunities for children of fallen and wounded service members.

# 5. Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund

# Website

 Provides scholarships to children of military heroes who sacrificed life or limb in service to our country.

# 6. American Legion Legacy Scholarship

# Website

Supports children of post-9/11 fallen service members and those with a 50% or higher VA disability rating.

If you're unsure which scholarship(s) to apply for or have questions about eligibility, **our team is here to assist you**. Feel free to reach out for guidance.

**Contact:** Rachel Washabaugh, Scholarship Administrator

rachel@asoldierschild.org

615-220-1600