



Yellow Ribbon Program Participation

Introduction

Stetson University College of Law is pleased to announce its participation in the Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program for aid year 2009–2010. In 2008, the GI Bill was updated with enactment of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, giving veterans with active duty service on or after September 11, 2001 enhanced educational benefits that cover more educational expenses, provide a living allowance, money for books and the ability to transfer unused educational benefits to spouses or children. The Yellow Ribbon Program is a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. This program allows degree-granting institutions of higher learning in the United States to enter into a voluntary agreement with the VA to fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate. The institution can contribute up to 50% of those expenses and the VA will match the same amount as the institution.

Institutional Participation Requirements

For the College of Law to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, we must and have agreed to the following:

- Provide contributions to eligible individuals who apply for the Yellow Ribbon Program on a first-come first-served basis, regardless of the rate at which the student is pursuing training in any given academic year;
- Provide contributions during the current academic year and all subsequent academic years in which the student maintains satisfactory progress, conduct, and attendance;
- Make contributions toward the program on behalf of the individual in the form of a grant, scholarship, etc;
- State the dollar amount that will be contributed for each participant during the academic year;
- State the maximum number of individuals for whom contributions will be made in any given academic year.

More information about the Yellow Ribbon Program is available on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs [website](#).

Under this commitment, Yellow Ribbon qualified graduate students at the College of Law will receive:

- Up to \$8,000 per year per student from the College of Law, not to exceed the cost of tuition

- The VA will match the College of Law's contribution dollar-for-dollar up to 50% of the difference between the student's tuition benefit and the total cost of tuition and fees up to the College of Law's limit of \$8,000.

This commitment will enable three Yellow Ribbon Program-qualified veterans to receive benefits at the College of Law. Information on how the balance of Stetson University's commitment to Yellow Ribbon is being fulfilled can be obtained from the [Stetson University](#) main campus in DeLand, Florida.

The College of Law reserves the right to alter participation in the program and change the amount of contribution for a given academic year in accordance with VA Yellow Ribbon Program policies. The College of Law may also withdraw from future participation where permitted in accordance with VA Yellow Ribbon Program policies.

Student Eligibility

Only individuals entitled to the maximum benefit rate (based on service requirements) may receive this funding. Therefore, you may be eligible if:

- You served an aggregate period of active duty after September 10, 2001 of at least 36 months;
- You were honorably discharged from active duty for a service connected disability and you served 30 continuous days after September 10, 2001;
- You are a dependent eligible for Transfer of Entitlement under the Post-9/11 GI Bill based on a veteran's service under the eligibility criteria listed above.

Transfer students must reapply for participation in Yellow Ribbon Program at the College of Law. Award amounts will be based on availability and the College of Law's Ribbon policy. Eligible students may receive a different amount than received at a previous school.

How to Apply

Once admitted through the normal admissions process, enrolled students who qualify for the Yellow Ribbon Program will be eligible to participate. The process for applying is detailed below.

1. Students should determine eligibility for the Yellow Ribbon Program on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Yellow Ribbon Program Information [website](#).
2. Students should apply, if they are eligible, for education benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill with the [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#). Students should apply for and receive confirmation of admission to the College of Law. NOTE: Understand your benefits before you make your choice of Post-9/11 GI Bill. It is our understanding that typically more than one educational benefit choices is available for individuals with military experience. It is also our understanding that once selected, benefit choices are irrevocable. For information on benefits, visit the [Department of Veterans Affairs website](#).

3. Eligible students, after receiving an offer admission or enrolled, should fill out the Request for Participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program form and attach their Certificate of Eligibility, if available. The College of Law Office of Financial Aid processes the Request for Participation forms on a first-come, first-served basis. Students should send this form to the Office of Financial Aid by hand delivery to the Gulfport office, scanning and e-mailing to finaid@law.stetson.edu, or faxing to 727/384-3331.
4. Eligible students must complete the Step 3 (above) and submit confirmation of their eligibility for the Yellow Ribbon Program to the Financial Aid Office as soon as possible. Confirmation of eligibility may be in the form of a U.S. Department of Veteran Services Certificate of Eligibility for the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Failure to submit this confirmation within 8 weeks of submission of the request for participation will result in the student's removal from the Yellow Ribbon Program participation list.

Applying the Benefit

If selected for participation, the College of Law will typically apply the institutional portion of the aid to the student account in two equal increments for Fall and Spring, up to the maximum benefit of \$8,000. If a student is selected for participation in the semester of his or her graduation, the College of Law will apply up to the full annual amount to that semester. If Yellow Ribbon funds remain, they can be awarded in summer. Students may receive Yellow Ribbon benefits for any term so long as they have not reached annual maximum. Total aid, including Yellow Ribbon benefits, cannot exceed the Cost of Attendance.

Other College of Law Program Details

Below are some additional details about the College of Law's participation in the Yellow Ribbon program.

- Participation in Yellow Ribbon may reduce a student's federal loan borrowing but does not reduce any other institutional awards, such as but not limited to merit or diversity scholarships except to the extent that total aid exceeds the Cost of Attendance.
- To administer the Program on a first-come, first-served basis, the College of Law will announce by email the date on which the Office of Financial Aid will receive requests for participation for future years.
- Once eligible, that student remains eligible and can continue participation throughout their education at the College as long as (a) the College of Law continues participation, (b) the student remains in good academic standing and meets all eligibility requirements, and (c) the student has remaining entitlement. If a student leaves the College for any reason for a semester or more (other than for military service), the student must re-apply to participate in the Yellow Ribbon program.
- The College of Law is supporting three students through the Yellow Ribbon program. Once those individuals have been selected for participation, no further requests for participation will be accepted until a participation opening occurs.

Questions

Questions on application procedures and program benefits can be directed to the Office of Financial Aid at 727/562-7813 or finaid@law.stetson.edu.

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