

VETERANS EDUCATION AND TRAINING BENEFIT

Background

The Government of Canada's Veterans Education and Training Benefit (ETB) recognizes Veterans' military service and their commitment to Canada. Veterans wanting to attend college, university or technical education institutions to help in their successful transition to life after service will benefit from up to \$80,000 depending on their years of service. The benefit can help Veterans achieve their education and employment goals, and position themselves to be more competitive in the civilian workforce.

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The ETB provides Veterans with funding for college, university or a technical education.

By achieving their education and post-service employment goals, Veterans will be more competitive in the workforce. The ETB complements the Career Transition Services to better support Veterans during their transition to postservice life.

Veterans with six years of authorized paid days of CAF service (2,191 days) may be eligible for up to \$40,000 and Veterans with at least 12 years of authorized paid days of CAF service (4,382 days) may be eligible for up to \$80,000. They must have released on or after April 1, 2006. This is a taxable benefit.

Tuition, course materials, some incidentals and living expenses can be covered.

VAC will provide a maximum of \$5,000 for short-term courses for personal development. This could include small business boot camps, continuing education, etc.

Any educational institution listed on the Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) master list of designated educational institutions is eligible.



All honourably released Veterans will have up to 10 years following their release date to use the benefit.

Eligible Veterans who released between April 1, 2006 and March 31, 2018 will have until March 31, 2028 to receive funding under the Education and Training Benefit.

Examples of who could benefit from this change:

Scenario 1

Julie voluntarily released from the Canadian Armed Forces following a 14-year career. She has some university credits from courses she took while serving. Julie would like to complete a university degree and a Master's program. The Education and Training Benefit will provide Julie with up to \$80,000 to cover tuition, books and living expenses. This way, Julie can focus on her education goals and not the cost. After the completion of her studies, or at any time, Julie could also leverage the Career Transition Services to help with her job search.

Scenario 2

Stéphane voluntarily released from the CAF after having served for seven years. He has decided that he would like to start his own business and signs up for a small business entrepreneurial course. Stéphane is able to pay the course fee using the \$5,000 amount available to him through the short-term course option, which can be used for personal development. Stéphane would still have the remainder of the \$40,000 he is eligible for (minus what was paid for the short-term course) to use for education within 10 years of his release.