February 2025 Edition



Central Michigan Veterans Benefits

Central Michigan University provides unmatched benefits for veterans and service members. CMU offers a wealth of different scholarships and opportunities to explore.

We are dedicated to creating a vibrant, Veteranfriendly campus that allows service members to thrive. We empower veterans to excel through different clubs, peer support networks, and tailored services for many different needs.



On-Campus Resources

The Veteran's Resource Center is located in the Bovee University Center on the bottom floor, below the CMU Bookstore. Their website can be accessed at https://veterans.cmich.edu.

The ROTC office is located in Finch Field House 111. Normal office hours are 8AM-5PM. A National Guard recruiter is available in the office.

Veterans' Resource Center

Bovee University Center, Suite 110 Mount Pleasant, MI 48859 (989)774-7991 veterans@cmich.edu

Central Michigan ROTC

Randy Wright (231)591-5319 wrigh2r@cmich.edu



"The skills cultivated in the military form a solid foundation for success in college"

> - Ray Martinez, PhD, MBA Marine Corps Veteran



Service Benefits Overview

Central Michigan University supports services for current service members and Veterans These services help military families and Veterans transition into college life and assist them in using the educational benefits that they have earned. Spouses and dependents may also qualify for a number of benefits.

Central Michigan Unique Benefits

- Up to 50% off tuition. No application fee, and waived and reduced fees for other programs. This benefit is also available for dependents.
- **Online Military Learning**. Access CMU Online from anywhere, even with a busy duty schedule.
- Student Verterans of America (SVA) chapter on campus. URL: studentveterans.org
- Veterans' Resource Center (VRC). CMU has a full time staff dedicated to supporting Veterans, military students, and the dependents of Soldiers. The scholarships below can be found on the VRC webpage along with many others:
- Veteran Award. A need-based award available for honorable discharged veterans admitted to CMU's degree programs. Eligibility is determined by the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the FAFSA.
- Military Spouse Scholarships. These scholarships are meant to help contribute to the financial security of military families. Grants range from \$500 to \$2,500 and can be applied for each year.
- Folds of Honor Scholarship. Meant for the spouse or dependents of service members who have been classified as KIA, MIA, or WIA. More information and other qualifying criteria can be found on the VRC webpage.

Reserve Officer Training Corps

The Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) at Central Michigan is a diverse and adaptive program focused on developing America's future leaders. We offer an academic minor tin Military Science & Leadership that does not come with a service requirement. If interested, students will have the chance to become "contracted" and will have the opportunity to serve as an Army officer after graduation.

Cadet Lifestyle:

Cadets at Central Michigan learn to balance academics, physical fitness, and other campus activities. In addition to one class and one lab a week, cadets also attend two days of mandatory physical training in the morning. Twice a semester, cadets attend training events outside of class time. We have the fall/spring Field Training Exercises and a Culminating Training Event where cadets implement the skills they learned throughout the different class periods and labs.

ROTC Campus Activities and Opportunities

CMU offers a wealth of opportunities for cadets to participate in. Events and activities help bring our cadets closer together, get our program known around campus, and they provide our cadets with valuable life and leadership experiences.

- Available Campus Activities for Cadets:

- 1. Ranger Challenge: Held once a year at FT Knox.
- 2. Army 10-Miler: Compete in the Army 10-miler in Washington D.C.
- 3. Cannon Club: Fire the cannon at football games.
- 4. Queen's Court: Participate in raising the flag at football games.
- 5. Color Guard: Perform the national anthem flag ceremony at other CMU sporting events.
- 6. Tactics Club: Refine your tactics and leadership.
- 7. Ball Run: Help transport the football across the state for the CMU vs WMU football game.

- Cadet Leadership Opportunities

- 1. Airborne, Air Assault, Sapper School
- 2. Military Internships
- 3. Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT)

CMU ROTC Benefits

Benefits:

- Stipends for all contracted cadets in good standing. \$420 monthly and \$600 per semester for books.
- Room stipends for cadets that meet academic eligibility stipend and live on campus (\$1,000 per semester).
- Up to 4-Year National Scholarship.

Scholarship Opportunities:

- Room and Board Scholarships. Awarded to six cadets per year. Covers full tuition or room and board up to \$10,000.
- **Provost Scholarship**. \$1,000 per semester if awarded by the Department Chair and Cadre.
- John G. Kulhavi Scholarship. Provided by Ret. Brigadier General John G. Kulhavi. The scholarship is provided to a number of CMU ROTC cadets per year.
- Colonel William B. Nolde Scholarship. These funds honor Colonel Nolde's devotion to God, country, and family. As a graduate and former Professor of Military Science at CMU, this scholarship helps present and future CMU cadets.
- William Talcott Annual Award. Established by ROTC alumni William Talcott to honor his experience as a distinguished military graduate from CMU. This scholarship is meant to support ROTC program students and activities.
- Michigan 22nd and Beyond ROTC Endowment. Created by ROTC alumni and friends in honor of the Michigan 22nd (the first group of cadets to arrive at Ft. Campbell, KY for summer camp) and retired department secretary, Beverly Denise Gallagher. This renewable scholarship is meant for a student enrolled in ROTC classes.
- Minuteman Scholarship. Can cover up to four years of tuition to cadets who commit to serving in the reserve components of the Army.



Michigan National Guard Benefits

In addition to other benefits, the Michigan National Guard offers a program called the Michigan National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program or "MING STAP". The program provides educational benefits at schools and education programs within Michigan for Michigan National Guard service members. The program reimburses students after the semester.

Eligibility:

- Be a drilling member of the MI National Guard
- Be a Michigan Resident
- Enroll at an in-state school
- Maintain a 2.0+ GPA
- Not have a flagging action, suspension, or dishonorable discharge from the MI National Guard

Benefits:

- \$14,400 per fiscal year or \$600 per credit hour
- Up to \$86,400 per year for undergrad students
- Up to \$25,200 for graduate students
- Can be combined with Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA), GI Bill, and FAFSA

Required Documents:

- Official Transcript
- School provided invoice
- FTA documentation (Submit FTA at least 8 days prior to the start of classes).
- Then, create MINGSTAP account on the website and follow the steps shown to create an application
- STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT THEIR MINGSTAP APPLICATION <u>WITHIN 14</u> <u>DAYS</u> AFTER THE START OF CLASSES.
- After the semester, submit grades to the MING STAP website to be reimbursed.
- Find FTA at: www.armyignited.army.mil
- Find MINGSTAP at: https://www.michigan.gov/ dmva/about/mingstap

*Note: MINGSTAP may only be used by actively drilling members of the MI National Guard and their dependents.

Army Reserve Educational Benefits

The Army Reserve offers many of the same benefits as the National Guard, but some different ones as well. These benefits include:

- **GI Bill Selected Reserve** which provides up to\$439 per month for full-time enrollment in approved programs.
- Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) covers \$250 per credit hour or up to \$4,000 a year. <u>Submit at least 8</u> <u>days prior to the start of classes</u>. This is done on the Army Ignited website.
- **Post 9-11 GI Bill** provides tuition and fees, housing stipends, and book allowances based on active-duty service time.
- Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) is a benefit to help students repay up to \$65,000 for qualified loans. The Army will pay 33% of the outstanding balance (or \$1,500 whichever is greater) per year of completed service. The program must be included in the enlistment or reenlistment contract!
- Credentialing Assistance (CA) Program helps to fund certifications and licensure programs up to \$4,000 annually.
- MyCAA (For spouses of Reservists): Spouses of reservists may also qualify for up to \$4,000 in credentialing assistance.
- Yellow Ribbon Program (YRRP) is a program that helps support the needs of reserve component members. Can help provide access to healthcare, education, employment, financial assistance and legal assistance.

Remember: There are many more National Guard and Reserve benefits that can be used for more than just college. Many of the benefits under the Reserve category may also be used by National Guard service members.

Lesser Known Benefits and Programs

There are a number of different benefits that many have never heard of. Research them for yourself and for other Soldiers. Here are a few to get you started:

- **DoD MWR Library.** Online website that requires DoD# and birthday to access. Allows free access to language learning applications, books, genealogy, and many other resources.
- Veterans Preferred Hiring. If you are looking for a job, start by finding jobs with preferred hiring. A few examples include Microsoft, Google, Boeing, General Electric, Johnson and Johnson, FBI, CIA.
- **Countless Military Discounts.** One of the best place to start looking for discounts is ID.me. Simply create an account and confirm your identity. There are a wide range of discounts and benefits. They range from finding jobs to getting travel discounts.
- Fisher House Foundation. Best known for their comfort homes where military members can stay at no cost while a loved one is receiving treatment at a military/VA center. There is also a grant program, scholarship fund, and other assistance. https://search.militaryscholar.org/
- Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship. Program for dependent children to meet eligibility criteria to help pay for four academic years. https:// ww.armyemergencyrelief.org/scholarships/.
- Association of the US Army (AUSA). Provides educational and professional development for service members. There are also scholarships for AUSA members and their dependents. https:// www.ausa.org/scholarships.

