

VFW-Sport Clips Scholarship Program Tops \$4 Million!

Program names 118 student veterans to share \$550,000 this spring semester

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. – The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is proud to announce that its VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" program has now awarded more than \$4.1 million in scholarships to 943 military and student veterans. The latest award of more than \$550,000 will now enable <u>118 student veterans to continue their higher education classes</u> this spring semester.

"The VFW was instrumental in the passage of the Post-9/11 GI Bill and the new Forever GI Bill, but those beefed-up educational assistance programs still can't cover the full cost for certain curriculums," said VFW National Commander Keith Harman. "Through the generosity of Sport Clips and its founder, VFW Life member Gordon Logan, we were able to create the Help A Hero scholarship program in 2014 to help a new generation of patriots attain their educational goals."

The VFW Help A Hero scholarship provides service members and veterans up to \$5,000 in post-secondary scholarships without any fear of increasing student debt.

"This grant will be a great opportunity ... I can now transition from the military into the private sector without the struggle of typical student debt," said 2018 spring scholarship recipient and Western Governors University student Jadus Bare. "For some veterans, this phase can be a nightmare, but companies and communities such as VFW and Sport Clips give support so we can accomplish our educational goals. I have always been interested in higher education, and now I have that opportunity. Thank you very much."

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"This money is not just helping me afford my graduate program in marriage and family therapy, it is also an investment toward veterans mental health," explained scholarship recipient Brooke Mills, a student at Northcentral University. "I am pleased to announce that, due to your scholarships, I have paid for my entire education. I am so pleased and grateful!"

Help A Hero scholarships are awarded twice a year exclusively to service members and veterans to help cover the cost of tuition and fees. Scholarship applications are currently being accepted for the 2018 fall semester. <u>Apply for a Help A Hero scholarship today</u>.

ABOUT SPORT CLIPS HAIRCUTS: Sport Clips Haircuts is headquartered in Georgetown, Texas. It was established in 1993 and began franchising in 1995. The sports-themed haircutting franchise, which specializes in haircuts for men and boys, is ranked by *Entrepreneur* Magazine as one of the "Fastest-Growing Franchises" and in the top 10 in its "Franchise 500." There are more than 1,700 Sport Clips stores open in the U.S. and Canada. Sport Clips is the "Official Haircutter" of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), offers veterans preferential pricing on haircuts and franchises, and was named a "2016 Best for Vets: Franchises" by *Military Times*. Sport Clips provides "haircuts with heart" through its annual Help A Hero fundraiser that has given \$5 million to the VFW; national partnership with St. Baldrick's Foundation, the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants; and other national and local philanthropic outreach. Sport Clips is a proud sponsor of Joe Gibbs Racing's NASCAR drivers Denny Hamlin and Erik Jones, and partners with numerous NCAA and professional sports teams. To learn more about Sport Clips, visit sportclips.com.