

College Scholarship Covers Tuition Cost for Children of Troops Who Have Died in Line of Duty Since 9/11

New Mexico's U.S. Representative Martin Heinrich announced that the Department of Veterans Affairs is taking applications for the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship, signed into law last year. The Fry Scholarship expands the New GI Bill education benefits to cover the full cost of a college education for all of the children of service members who have died on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.

"This legislation honors the sacrifice of our military families who are truly the unsung heroes of our nation's defense. No one is more deserving of our nation's support than children whose moms or dads have given their life in military service to our nation," said Rep. Heinrich

Fry Scholarship

- All children of members of the Armed Forces who have died in the line of duty while on active duty on or after September 11, 2001, are eligible for 36 months of tuition and fees up to the maximum in-state tuition and as well as a monthly living stipend, and book allowance.
- The VA began accepting applications for this benefit on May 1, 2010.
- The benefit began August 1, 2009; the VA must begin making payments no later than August 1, 2010, with retroactive payments for children enrolled in college from August 1, 2009 through July 31, 2010.
- Surviving military children have 15 years to use their benefits, beginning on their 18th birthdays.
- The VA estimates 1,500 military children will be eligible for the Fry Scholarship in 2010.

For more information, visit <http://www.gibill.va.gov> or call 1.888.GIBILL.1 (1.888.442.4551).