



Oregon Independent Colleges Association

Helping Dreams Come True

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Oregon Private Colleges Opening Doors Even Wider to Veterans

The most generous veterans' benefit for higher education since the WWII "GI Bill" goes into effect on August 1, 2009.

Congress's "Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act" provides for payment of tuition and fees, a housing allowance, and a stipend for books and supplies for eligible veterans who have served on active military duty since September 11, 2001. In general, the maximum tuition and fees benefit available under the law is capped at the level of the in-state charges at the most expensive public institution in a state. For Oregon the maximum tuition covered is \$407/credit hour and the maximum fees per term is \$42,828.

For institutions with higher tuition, the new law also creates the "Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program." Under this program, the federal government government will match, dollar-for-dollar, contributions that colleges and universities make to help veterans cover tuition costs above the maximum in-state public college tuition amount. Institutions that wish to participate in the program must enter into an agreement with the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs that spells out items such as the manner in which the institutional match will be provided, the maximum amount of the institutional contribution, and the number of eligible veterans the institution will serve. Within those parameters, veterans will be eligible on a first-come first-served basis at each institution.

Oregon private nonprofit colleges participating in the Yellow Ribbon program are:

- Concordia University
- Corban College
- George Fox University
- Lewis & Clark College
- Linfield College
- Multnomah University
- National College of Natural Medicine
- Northwest Christian University
- Pacific Northwest College of Art
- Pacific University
- Reed College
- University of Portland
- Warner Pacific College
- Western States Chiropractic College
- Willamette University

Area private college programs with tuitions already low enough to be fully reimbursed without need for the Yellow Ribbon enhancement are:

- Linfield College Adult Degree
- Marylhurst University
- Warner Pacific College Adult Degree
- Western Seminary
- Northwest Christian University Professional Studies

Member Institutions:

Concordia University

Corban College
& Graduate School

George Fox University

Lewis & Clark College

Linfield College

Marylhurst University

Mount Angel Seminary

Multnomah University
& Biblical Seminary

National College of
Natural Medicine

Northwest Christian
University

Oregon College of
Art & Craft

Oregon College of
Oriental Medicine

Pacific Northwest
College of Art

Pacific University

Reed College

University of Portland

Warner Pacific College

Western Seminary

Western States
Chiropractic College

Willamette University