Veteran/Active Duty Status Clarification 2026-2027

On the FAFSA, you indicated that you were an **eligible veteran** or you are **currently on active duty status**. Additional information is required to verify your independent status for financial aid purposes. Be aware that independent status is defined differently by the Veterans Administration than by the U.S. Department of Education. Please provide more information about your military service.
Visit https://www.ohio.edu/financial-aid/forms for directions on submitting your forms using our Secure Upload Portal, or by mail or fax.

Student Name _____ **Student PID (Pxxxxxxxxx)** _____

Written Student Signature (Electronic Signature Not Accepted) _____ **Date** _____

Please select the military status that applies to your current situation and follow the instructions associated with that status.

Veteran
You are considered a veteran if you were discharged from the military with a status other than dishonorable and meet one of the following criteria. Please check the appropriate box to indicate the nature of your military service and provide a copy of your DD-214, member 4.

- ☐ I was an enlisted member of the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corp, Air Force, Space Force) and have engaged in active duty (includes basic training).
- ☐ I was a member of either the National Guard or Reserves and was called to active duty *by Presidential Order* for purposes *other than for training*. Basic training does *not* qualify.
  (*Please provide a copy of your Active Duty Orders, along with your DD-214.)*
- ☐ I was a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies.

Currently on Active Duty
You are considered active duty if you have not yet been discharged from the military and meet one of the criteria below. If one of the criteria below apply, you will need to provide a copy of your current active duty orders. Check the appropriate box which applies to your status:

- ☐ I am a member of the armed forces (Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corp, Air Force) and engaged in active duty (includes basic training).
- ☐ I am a member of either the National Guard or Reserves and have been called to active duty *by Presidential Order* for purposes *other than for training*. Basic training does *not* qualify.

None of Above

- ☐ I incorrectly answered this question on the FAFSA and do not meet the criteria to be considered independent as an eligible veteran. I am not currently on active duty status in the U.S. Armed Forces. I will log into the 2026-2027 FAFSA and update the veteran/active duty status to 'no'. I will be required to invite my parent(s) to add their information to my FAFSA.

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DO NOT SEND COMPLETED DOCUMENTS BY EMAIL. PLEASE USE OUR SECURE UPLOAD PORTAL OR SEND BY MAIL OR FAX.
https://www.ohio.edu/financial-aid/forms

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