

Application for Gratitude Initiative Educational Programs

GRATITUDE INITIATIVE COLLEGE SUCCESS ACADEMY

Thank you for your interest in Gratitude Initiative's (GI) College Success Academy and Tutoring Program. This package contains the following information to help you determine your eligibility for our programs and submit a complete application. Please be sure to review Eligibility Requirements before beginning your application.

The application package contains the following:

Eligibility Requirements

Application Timeline and Enrollment Schedule

Application Instructions

- How to Apply Online
- How to Apply by Mail

Application Form

- Parent Section
- Student Section

Required Documents

Application Checklist

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Gratitude Initiative accepts applications for our educational programs from students who are between 8th grade and their first semester as a senior in high school.

You are eligible to apply for GI's programs if you are a child of:

- An active duty member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard;
- A Reserve or National Guard member who was activated for active duty since 9/11/2001 **and** was deployed to a combat zone;
- A veteran who was honorably discharged from active duty on or after 9/11/2001;
- A combat wounded or disabled veteran with a service connected injury that occurred on or after 9/11/2001; or
- A service member who was killed while on active duty.

If you are the child of any of the above, we encourage you to apply to our programs. Application instructions are provided on the following pages.

Please note that submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance into Gratitude Initiative's education programs. Gratitude Initiative's Student Selection Committee reviews applications at regularly scheduled times throughout the year. Qualified candidates are selected based on multiple factors including, but not limited to: family situation, strength and thoroughness of the application, and the ability of a student to benefit from the program. The number of students selected for the program each year is based on the number of applications received and availability of program funding allocated for new enrollees. Application packets that are not complete or missing the required documentation will not be reviewed. Applicants who do not meet the qualification criteria based on their parent's military service will not be considered for the program.

Application Timeline and Enrollment Schedule

Gratitude Initiative is currently accepting applications for its educational programs. At this time there is no deadline for receiving applications. However, the number of students selected for the program each year is based on the number of applications received and availability of program funding allocated for new enrollees. Within sixty days of submitting your complete application, applicants will be notified of the Selection Committee's acceptance decision.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

You may complete your application online or submit it by US mail to Gratitude Initiative. Application instructions for each option are provided below.

How to Apply Online

If you wish to apply online, log on to our website at <http://www.gratitudeinitiative.org/application>.

How to Apply by Mail

Please review the Eligibility Section to ensure you are eligible for GI programs before completing the application. If eligible, complete the parent section that pertains to your situation and the entire student section, attach the required documents, and then submit.

You will need copies of the following documents: (see details in the **Required Documents** section)

- Proof of military service
- Proof of dependency
- Student's last grade report

To submit an application, simply complete this form or print the application located on our website at <http://www.gratitudeinitiative.org/application>.

Students and parents must complete all sections of the application and mail the completed and SIGNED application, along with all Required Documents to the following address:

Gratitude Initiative
ATTN: College Success Academy - Application
P.O. Box 1227
Kennedale, TX 76060

See the **Required Documents** and **Application Checklist** to ensure that your application is complete. Gratitude Initiative will not consider incomplete applications.

PARENT SECTION

If we have a question or need more information about the completed application, who may we contacted?

Full Name, Contact Phone Number and Relationship to Student

**PARENT (1) – the information in this section is for the parent with current or past military service:
Check appropriate information under Parent 2 if both parents have military service.**

First Name

Middle

Last

If parent is deceased skip the box below and complete the appropriate service related section that follows.

Marital Status: Married Single Divorced Widow

Gender: Male Female

Address: (if different from student's)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Contact phone #: (_____) _____ - _____

Please complete the appropriate service related section below.

Active Duty - To be completed by a parent currently serving on active duty

Branch: Army Navy Air Force Marine Corp Coast Guard

Date you entered active duty: ____ / ____ / ____

Current Rank: _____

What unit or ship are you currently assigned to? _____

Where are you currently stationed? _____

Have you served in a combat zone? Yes No

If so, how many tours? _____ Where? _____

Were you wounded or injured in a service connected/combat incident? Yes No

Reserves or National Guard – To be completed by a parent who is currently serving or did serve in the Reserves or National Guard on or after 9/11/2001.

Are you currently serving in the Reserves or National Guard? Yes No

Reserves: Army Navy Air Force Marine Corp Coast Guard

National Guard

Date entered service: ____ / ____ / ____ Date service ended: ____ / ____ / ____

Current unit or unit at time of separation: _____

Current rank or rank at time of separation: _____

Were you mobilized for active duty service and deployed to a combat zone after 9/11/2001 with your Reserve or National Guard Unit? Yes No

If yes, date you were mobilized for active duty service: ____ / ____ / ____

Date active duty service ended: ____ / ____ / ____

Honorably Discharged Veteran – to be completed by a parent who was honorably discharged from active duty on or after 9/11/2001.

Date entered active duty service: ____ / ____ / ____

Date separated from active duty: ____ / ____ / ____

Branch of service: Army Navy Air Force Marine Corp Coast Guard

Rank at time of separation from service: _____

Character of Service/Type of Discharge (see section 24 of DD214) _____

Were you wounded in combat? Yes No

Do you have a service-connected disability? Yes No If Yes, Rating: _____%

Are you currently serving in the Reserves or National Guard? Yes No

Killed While on Active Duty – to be completed for a parent who was killed while on active duty.

Date service member entered active duty service: _____ / _____ / _____

Date of death: _____ / _____ / _____

Killed in combat Service connected incident Other

Branch of service: Army Navy Air Force Marine Corp Coast Guard

Rank at time of death: _____

PARENT (2)

First Name	Middle	Last

Marital Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed		
Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		
Address: (if different from student's)		

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____		
Email address: _____		
Contact phone #: (_____) _____ - _____		

Are you currently serving in the military? Yes No

If yes, Branch: Army Navy Air Force Marine Corp Coast Guard

Current Rank: _____

Date you entered active duty service: _____ / _____ / _____

Are you a veteran? Yes No

STUDENT SECTION

First Name	Middle	Last

Address: _____		
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____		
Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____		Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Race/Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American		
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Email address: _____		
Contact phone #: (____) _____ - _____		
Age: _____		Current grade in school: _____
Are you a U.S. citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Name of the school you are currently attending? _____

Are you homeschooled? Yes No

Month/Year you expect to receive your high school diploma: ____ / _____

Who do you live with? Both Parents Mother Father

Other _____

Do you have any brothers or sisters? Yes No

Name	Age	Name	Age
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Do you currently work part-time during the school year or full/part-time during the summer? Yes No
If yes, tell us about your job. (250 words or less)

List your school, community, and volunteer activities and indicate any leadership positions you have held or currently hold.

Tell us how you feel about your parent’s service to our country as a member of our military. What does their sacrifice mean to you? (250 words or less)

How did you hear about us or who referred you? _____

By signing and submitting this application, you acknowledge that all information provided is true and correct and you agree that the application and all materials submitted with the application become the property of The Gratitude Initiative and will not be returned. We will not use the information provided for any purpose other than to evaluate your application and we will not distribute any information to a third party unless you are selected for the program and it is necessary to provide our services.

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Date

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Signed Application

Make sure your application is COMPLETE and SIGNED.

Proof of Military Service

You must submit the following as proof of parent's military service. Submit the document that corresponds to the nature of parent's service.

Active Duty Service

- Photocopy of Driver's License (Please ensure that the copy is legible.) **and one of the following:**
- Active Duty Status Report - Use the Department of Defense – Manpower Data Center website (https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/scra/single_record.xhtml) to obtain this report **or**
- Statement of Service - must be on official letterhead and signed by the Adjutant, Personnel Officer, Executive Officer, or Commanding Officer of the unit and dated within the last 90 days **or**
- Copy of most recent PCS orders within the last six months

Current Reservist or National Guard Member

- Photocopy of Driver's License (Please ensure that the copy is legible.) **and**
- Proof of deployment to a combat zone since September 11, 2001 (DD214)

Veteran

- DD214 (Member-4 version **and**
- Photocopy of Driver's License (Please ensure that the copy is legible.)

Disabled Veteran

- DD214 (Member-4 version) **and**
- Letter outlining VA disability rating **and**
- Photocopy of Driver's License (Please ensure that the copy is legible.)

Killed While on Active Duty

- DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty) **or**
- Certificate of death (Service Connected)

Proof of Dependency

Only **one** of the following documents is required. (Please ensure that the copy is legible.)

- Birth Certificate showing parents' names **or**
- Casualty Report (DD1300) listing dependent's name if applicable, **or**
- Copy of the first two pages of your latest filed tax return showing your child as a dependent.

Student Grade Report

A copy of student's most recent grade report.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please be sure that the application is complete. The selection committee **will not** consider incomplete applications.

If you are mailing your application you must include the following documents:

Please **DO NOT STAPLE** any of these items together.

- Completed application signed by both parent and student
- Proof of Military Service
- Proof of Dependency
- Student's Last Grade Report

If you have questions, email us at apply@gratitudeinitiative.org.

Gratitude Initiative
Attn: College Success Academy - Application
PO Box 1227
Kennedale, TX 76060

Due to the large number of applications, GI cannot acknowledge receipt of each application. If you mail your application package and desire confirmation of delivery, please send the envelope via USPS "return receipt requested" to confirm delivery.