

VFW, Sport Clips Haircuts Surpass \$6.4 Million in Scholarships for Veterans

Nearly \$762,000 awarded to 165 student veterans for the fall semester

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Together with longtime supporter Sport Clips Haircuts, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is proud to announce its "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" program has surpassed awarding \$6.4 million in scholarships to more than 1,450 military and student veterans. The latest fall semester award of nearly \$762,000 will help to ensure <u>165 student veterans attending colleges across the country are one step closer to achieving their educational goals</u>.

"Veterans transitioning from military to civilian life face a host of challenges, but together with our friends at Sport Clips we're able to ensure that struggling to finance their last semesters of college isn't one," said VFW National Commander Doc Schmitz.

Established in 2014, the Help A Hero Scholarship program awards service members and veterans with post-secondary scholarships of up to \$5,000 to help them achieve their educational goals without the burden of student loan debt.

"My final semester is the only semester that is not covered by my GI Bill benefits and the only semester I will be financially responsible for," said Victoria Phelps, an Air Force student veteran at Temple University. "This scholarship will be a bridge to help facilitate a less financially stressful final semester. This scholarship will also help achieve my personal goal of being the first person in my family to graduate college."

"As of February 2019, all educational assistance from my Post 9/11 GI Bill will be depleted," said Corey Phillips, an Army student veteran at Grand Canyon University. "This scholarship will help me and mine withstand the blow of the financial burden that waits around the corner."

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Help A Hero scholarships are awarded twice a year to help cover the cost of tuition and fees of service members and veterans in the rank of E-5 and below. Scholarship applications are currently being accepted for the 2019 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, offers <u>online check in</u> for clients, and is ranked by Entrepreneur Magazine as one of the "Fastest-Growing Franchises' and #17 in its "Franchise 500." There are more than 1,800 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 "2018 Best for Vets: Franchises" by Military Times. Sport Clips provides "<u>Haircuts with Heart</u>" through its annual Help A Hero fundraiser that has contributed \$6.5 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 Erik Jones and Denny Hamlin, Dale Coyne Racing with Vasser-Sullivan Indy Car driver Sebastien Bourdais, and partners with numerous NCAA and professional sports teams. To learn more about Sport Clips, visit <u>sportclips.com</u>.