****

Chattanooga Chapter

**FACT SHEET**

What MOAA does for our veterans of all branches and ranks of our Military. More specifically, these services do not impact our veterans financial. These services are funded by the generous contributions from Military Officers with both our dues and donations.

MOAA's number one mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. MOAA's experts in Washington are there to support legislation that benefits the military community and are equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. These are free services provided by MOAA and I don’t believe there is another organization doing this as well. Here are a couple examples of that work;

**Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform**

On Aug. 10, the president [signed into law](https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2022-news-articles/advocacy/president-signs-pact-act%2C-expanding-benefits-to-millions-of-veterans/) the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022. This marked the end of a long legislative road to comprehensive toxic exposure reform which will expand health care coverage to millions of veterans.

**Providing Wounded Warrior Protections and Caregiver Enhancements**

MOAA has always appreciated the strength of those who care for those who’ve served, and has worked to ensure their benefits aren’t neglected. In 2010, for example, MOAA helped secure respite care, a stipend, health benefits, and other considerations for these important members of the military family as part of the [Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-111publ163/html/PLAW-111publ163.htm).

**Mission Act**

More recently, MOAA has been a leader in securing multiple improvements in VA caregiver programs via the MISSION Act, which expanded the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers beyond the post-9/11 generation. These caregivers will have access to a monthly stipend, training programs, respite services, mental health counseling, CHAMPVA health care (if eligible), and other benefits.

Regardless of rank, MOAA provide several different scholarships and interest free loans are available to students of Military Families.

1. American Patriot Scholarship**:**Limited to students who qualify for the interest-free loan program and whose military parent has died on active service or is receiving Traumatic Service members' Group Life Insurance (T-SGLI) payments. Currently, students receive scholarships of $7,000 each school year.
2. Designated Scholar Program**:**We consider all loan recipients for this program. Students chosen receive a $6,500 interest-free loan and a $500 grant named by the donor. Students must correspond with the donor or their designee each fall.

MOAA has partnered with Indeed.com to create a job board, helping connect all service members, veterans, retirees, and military spouses with more than a million employers, for free.

But as stated before MOAA’s greatest mission is to look out for the men and women who protect this country. And most of our efforts take place in Washington, D.C., where we protect your interests and amplify your voice on Capitol Hill. MOAA is your top advocate being named Top Military Advocacy Association by the Hill newspaper-sixteen years in a row since 2007.

While we are proud of our past victories, the future is uncertain. Current budget proposals continue to threaten your hard earned military benefits, including increased out-of-pocket expenses and reduced access to TRICARE health care benefits. You spent years of service and sacrifice to earn these benefits, now with your help we can protect them. Whatever the climate is on Capitol Hill, you can rest assured that MOAA will be looking out for your interest.