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Vietnam veterans group offers new scholarships

Funds support descendants of Vietnam Veterans

(DETROIT, MI) — Students have until March to apply for a scholarship that is available to descendants of Vietnam War veterans.

Detroit Chapter #9 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, through a \$250,000 endowment managed by the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan, established the scholarship program last year.

To learn about the scholarship, go to <https://cfsem.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Vietnam-Veterans-Scholarship-Overview.pdf> To learn how to apply, go to <https://cfsem.org/scholarships/scholarship-application/>

The scholarship is for post-secondary students between the ages of 16 and 30 who are the natural or adopted direct lineal descendant of a qualifying Vietnam veteran. Priority will be given to descendants of Vietnam veterans who were or are members of the VVA#9 in good standing for five years. A DD Form 214 is required, and both academic performance and a family's ability to pay for higher education are considered. The Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan may require documentation to substantiate the applicant's relationship to the Vietnam veteran.

"These scholarships are a way to help the families of those who served and to help provide access to education," explained Paul Palazzolo, president of VVA#9.

Michigan has more than [200,000 Vietnam-era](#) veterans, according to the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics and the U.S. Census, making it the largest veterans group in Michigan.

ABOUT THE VVA CHAPTER: Organizers for Chapter 9 trace the group's history to the late 1970s, when they formed one of the largest chapters in the country comprised of members who served in the Vietnam War era. The chapter supports and honors veterans by helping them access resources, advocating for veteran-centered policies and legislation, being a partner in the Metro Detroit Veterans Coalition that hosts the annual Veterans Day Parade, and working to better our community through scholarships, donations and other philanthropic efforts.