

XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

Office of Financial Aid

1 Drexel Drive • Box 40 • New Orleans LA 70125-1098 Tel: (504) 520-7835 • Fax (504) 520-7906

Yellow Ribbon Program

Xavier University of Louisiana is proud to be a Yellow Ribbon Program school! The Yellow Ribbon Program is a provision of the law that created the Post- 9/11 GI Bill. The program allows approved institutions of higher learning and the VA to partially or fully fund tuition and fee expenses that <u>exceed</u> the established thresholds under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. To view the Department's threshold amounts, please visit their website at <u>Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) Payment Rates</u>.

The Institution of Higher Learning will determine the amount of your award based on its policy and procedures.

The Department of Veteran Affairs' Yellow Ribbon Pamphlet and general FAQ's can be found on their website at this link: VA's Yellow Ribbon Website.

Only veterans (or dependents under Transfer of Entitlement) at the 100% benefit level qualify. Active duty members and spouses thereof are not eligible for this program.

For our application and general guidelines and procedures, please go to the Office of Financial Aid website under Related Links-Veterans Guide.

XULA's Policy and Procedures for the Yellow Ribbon Grant

General Eligibility

The **University's "School Certifying Official" (SCO)** is located in the Registrar's Office, **Xavier South, Suite 630**, for all programs administered by the Veteran's Administration. The University's SCO, Office of Financial Aid and Student Accounts will collaborate in the awarding process.

- Veterans interested in establishing their eligibility for this program, should initiate an application through the **Veteran's Administration's** web site at http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp first.
- The Veterans Administration will determine your eligibility and benefit level and send you a Certificate of Eligibility.
- The Department of Veteran Affairs will determine if you are eligible to participant in the Yellow Ribbon Program. For details, you may access the Department's website by clicking VA's Yellow Ribbon Website.
- XU Yellow Ribbon Grant is awarded on a *first-come, first-served basis* up to the funding level.

Maximum Award Eligibility

The Yellow Ribbon Program allows approved institutions of higher learning and the VA to partially or fully fund tuition and fee expenses that *exceed* the established thresholds under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. The Veteran's Administration will forward their portion of the award based on information on the enrollment certification form (22-1999) submitted by the Registrar's Office.

- The maximum annual Yellow Ribbon Grant award available through Xavier University of Louisiana for the 2016-2017 academic year is \$4,000. If determined eligible by both the VA and Xavier University, the VA will match Xavier's award up to a maximum of \$4,000 per academic year. The combined maximum award available is \$8,000.00 per academic year.
- The total number of XULA Yellow Ribbon Grants available is eighteen.
- The award is available for full-time and part-time degree seeking students.
- Awards will cover a maximum of eight semesters of full-time study for <u>degree seeking</u> students. The maximum length
 of the award may be amended for incoming transfer students based on the number of earned hours accepted for
 credit towards their first bachelor and/or graduate/professional degree. Post baccalaureate awards are available.
- This award is for degree seekers who are undergraduate, graduate, graduate professional and College of Pharmacy.
 Therefore, students who change his/her major creating an extension of the length of time in school may reach their maximum funding prior to degree completion. Please contact the Office of Financial Aid for details when considering changing your major.
- The total amount of grant aid that a student who is participating in the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill, the Yellow Ribbon Program AND any institutional and state merit scholarship programs will be limited to tuition and mandatory fees. Academic scholarships will be underwritten by the award value of the Yellow Ribbon Grant. The total financial aid package a student receives cannot exceed the student's cost of attendance/budget.

How to Apply

- Student should apply for Admissions to Xavier University of Louisiana (XULA).
- The student must apply to the Department of Veteran Affairs <u>and</u> receive the **Certificate of Eligibility** indicating he/she has been awarded at the maximum benefit level (100%).
- The student should proceed to the Registrar's website and view XULA's Yellow Ribbon Program's policy and procedures.
- The student should submit a completed Yellow Ribbon application package as indicated below:
 - Consideration for the Yellow Ribbon Grant Award will be granted to degree seeking students who have been accepted, matriculated and enrolled in classes and who have submitted a complete application package.
 - A completed application package consists of submitting at one time the three documents listed below to XULA Registrar Office via email to regisveteran@xula.edu

- o 1) XULA Registrar Office Veterans Certification Request Form
- 2) VA's Certificate of Eligibility
- o 3) XULA's Yellow Ribbon Application

(Note: If the student does not have access to email, the student may mail or fax all documents at one time to the Registrar's Office:

- Mail: Xavier University of Louisiana, Office of the Registrar, 1 Drexel Drive, Box 96C, New Orleans 70125
- Fax: (504) 520-7922
- In person: Xavier South, 6th Floor, Suite 630

Priority Processing Date

July 1 for Fall semester; December 1 for Spring semester; May 1 for Summer sessions

Posting of Award

- After review of the Yellow Ribbon Application, Certificate of Eligibility and enrollment status, the Office of Financial Aid will determine student's eligibility based on tuition and fees and the VA award.
- If eligible, Financial Aid will coordinate posting of the <u>Estimated Yellow Ribbon Grant</u> with the perspective offices and send the student, Registrar and Student Accounts Offices an email notification.
- The Estimated "Yellow Ribbon Grant" that will be paid by Xavier University will be posted on the student's Banner Web account by the Office of Financial Aid.
- The VA's portion of the Estimated Yellow Ribbon Grant Award will be noted on the student's assessment form by Student Accounts/Fiscal Service Representative.
- The actual funds will be available <u>after</u> the VA pays the University.

Renewal Requirements

XULA Yellow Ribbon Grant recipients will be expected to meet the satisfactory academic progress policy standards applicable to students participating in all other federal student aid programs. For details, please click http://www.xula.edu/financial-aid/Satisfactory%20Academic%20Progress/index.html.

In addition, <u>all</u> recipients of the XU Yellow Ribbon Grant should submit XULA's Yellow Ribbon Application, indicating <u>renewal status</u> on the application <u>and</u> the XULA Registrar Veterans Certification Form <u>each</u> semester to be considered for continued funding. Both documents should be submitted to the Registrar's Office via email <u>regisveteran@xula.edu</u> on or before the priority processing deadline of July 1 for Fall semester; December 1 for Spring semester; May 1 for Summer sessions.

Withdrawing from the University

Students who withdraw from the University will forfeit their place in the program and will have to re-apply for reinstatement if they re-enroll. This policy also applies to students who take a leave of absence from the university. Exceptions will be considered for any XU Yellow Ribbon Grant recipient who is called to active duty. XU Yellow Ribbon Grant recipients who are returning from active duty should complete the Yellow Ribbon Application and attach appropriate documentation to receive re-consideration. Funds are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis up to funding level.

Schools are required to report enrollment information to the Veteran's Administration. Our program participation agreement with the Veteran's Administration mandates that we process refunds under the following circumstances:

- Should a student enroll in courses, begin attending classes and subsequently drop out, schools shall follow their current refund policy and deal directly with the student. Should the change in enrollment cause a V.A. debt, V.A. will collect from the student. This could result in a diminished payment from VA for the following semester.
- Should a student's death occur during the semester, and a refund is due, the school shall refund V.A.
- Should a student enroll in courses and never attend classes, the school shall refund to V.A. the full amount of payments received on behalf of the student.

Important Contact Numbers

Admissions Office Xavier South, Suite 400

Tele: (504) 720-7388 Fax: (504) 7941

Registrar Office

Xavier South, Suite 630

Tele: (504) 520-7583 Fax: (504) 520-7922

Financial Aid Office
Xavier South, Suite 360

Tele: (504) 520-7835 Fax: (504) 520-7906 Email: finaid@xula.edu

Student Accounts/Fiscal Services Xavier South, Suite 300

Tele: (504) 520-7667

Office of Student Services University Center, Suite 305B

Tele: (504) 520-7359