



Pat Tillman Foundation Awards \$720,000 in Scholarship Support to New Class of Tillman Military Scholars

The Tillman Military Scholars program provides financial support to veterans, active servicemembers and their dependents to pursue their higher educational goals

Washington, D.C. (June 9, 2010) – The Pat Tillman Foundation is pleased to announce, in conjunction with the inaugural Pat Tillman Legacy Summit currently taking place in Washington D.C., the new class of Tillman Military Scholars. The Tillman Military Scholars program provides educational scholarships for veterans, active servicemembers and their direct dependents (spouse and children).

The Pat Tillman Foundation has awarded 60 men and women with the distinction of being named Tillman Military Scholars for 2010. This new class of scholars will receive \$720,000 in pledged scholarship support to complete their higher educational goals. Over 1500 applications were received by the Foundation this spring.

The new class of Tillman Military Scholars represents almost every branch of the armed forces: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, National Guard and Reserves. These 60 scholars are attending 31 universities across 23 states: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and Washington D.C.

The inaugural Pat Tillman Legacy Summit is currently taking place in Washington D.C. with 40 Tillman Military Scholars convening for the first time. The Summit represents the beginning of an important effort by the Pat Tillman Foundation to increase public awareness of the hardships endured by military families, and raise funds to further the Tillman Military Scholar program.

In 2009, the inaugural class of 52 Tillman Military Scholars received \$642,000 in scholarship support to attain degrees at 21 different universities across 16 states. Tillman Military Scholars are pursuing education at every level from freshmen undergraduates to PhD candidates. These scholars are connected by their intense desire to improve their own lives while continuing to serve their country and communities in a variety of ways.

The need for additional support for military families is great. Each year over 300,000 troops complete their military service and return to school or work. More than 1.8 million veterans have served in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001. More than one million children have had a parent deployed since September 11, 2001.

In 2008 the Pat Tillman Foundation established the Tillman Military Scholars program to support educational opportunities for servicemembers and their families by filling the financial gaps in the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. The Tillman Military Scholars program covers direct study-related expenses such as tuition, books, room and board and other basic needs, including child care.

The **Pat Tillman Foundation** is a national leader in providing educational support and resources to veterans, active servicemembers and their dependents. The Tillman Military Scholars program aids all veterans and specifically the ever-growing population of veterans and dependents of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

Inspired by the distinguished life and legacy of Pat Tillman – professional athlete, military hero and a man of strong character and kindness – the Pat Tillman Foundation is investing in veterans and military families through education, community and advocacy. The Tillman Military Scholars program is creating a community of scholars dedicated to improving their own lives, the lives of their families and their communities and country through a spirit of service. For more information on the Pat Tillman Foundation, visit pattillmanfoundation.org.

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