



**PRESS RELEASE  
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**Pat Tillman Foundation Announces  
Third Class of Tillman Military Scholars**  
Nearly \$1 Million Awarded to 60 Students Nationwide

Tempe, Ariz. (June 15, 2011) – After an extensive selection process, the [Pat Tillman Foundation](#) is proud to welcome the third class of Tillman Military Scholars to the Tillman Community. Through this program, 60 students representing 32 academic institutions in 22 states will be awarded \$916,000 in scholarship support.

Marie Tillman, founder and chair of the Pat Tillman Foundation shares, “It is an honor that through the efforts of the Pat Tillman Foundation and the generous support of our donors we are able to directly impact the lives of the new class of Tillman Military Scholars by investing in their educations. In providing this support, not only do we honor Pat’s legacy of leadership and service, we encourage these individuals to create their own.”

In 2008, the Pat Tillman Foundation established the Tillman Military Scholars program to support educational opportunities for servicemembers and military families by bridging the financial gaps left by the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. Military families face numerous challenges during the transition from military to civilian life and have unique needs that often prevent successfully completing a degree. As a result, Tillman Military Scholars receive financial support to not only cover traditional study-related expenses such as tuition and books, but also other needs, including but not limited to: housing, transportation and childcare. In providing this support, the Pat Tillman Foundation aims to remove any and all obstacles that would otherwise prohibit academic success.

In addition to this year’s awards, the Pat Tillman Foundation previously committed \$642,000 and \$709,000 to the first and second classes of Tillman Military Scholars, respectively. In total, over \$2.2 million has been awarded to 171 Tillman Military Scholars. Those honored with the distinction have demonstrated a commitment to service combined with a desire to pursue impactful educational and career goals.

“Although the financial assistance makes my educational goals a reality, it’s the intangible qualities of being a Tillman Military Scholar that make this the honor of a lifetime. By being a Scholar, I will have the priceless support of an amazing Foundation invested in veterans through education and community,” states newly selected Tillman Military Scholar Lindsay Compton. “Furthermore, I’ll



have the awesome privilege of carrying a hero's story throughout my education and career. Pat's is a great shadow to walk in, and I know that his memory will keep me grounded and focused during the most challenging times ahead."

An interactive map that demonstrates the nationwide reach of the Tillman Military Scholars program is featured at [www.pattillmanfoundation.org](http://www.pattillmanfoundation.org) and allows Tillman supporters to learn more about our Scholars and University Partners. In addition, a newly incorporated blog provides a platform to stay informed of the Pat Tillman Foundation's day to day activities and Scholars' achievements.

This July, the Pat Tillman Foundation will host the three-day Pat Tillman Legacy Summit in Baltimore/Washington, D.C. to unite current Tillman Military Scholars, alumni and board members. The group will convene at the University of Maryland in College Park from July 10-12, 2011 to participate in leadership development and job training workshops and community service projects. In addition, Tillman Military Scholars will have an opportunity to share their personal experiences with members of Congress.

#### **About the Pat Tillman Foundation**

Family and friends established the Pat Tillman Foundation in 2004, following Pat's death while serving with the 75th Ranger Regiment in Afghanistan. Created to honor Pat's legacy and pay tribute to his commitment to leadership and service, the Pat Tillman Foundation is a national leader in providing educational support and resources to veterans, active servicemembers and their dependents. Inspired by Pat's attributes of leadership, passion for education and spirit of service, the Foundation annually awards educational scholarships through the Tillman Military Scholars program. To date, the Pat Tillman Foundation has invested over \$4 million in educational resources to support individuals committed to a life of service both in and out of uniform.

For more information on the Pat Tillman Foundation, visit [www.pattillmanfoundation.org](http://www.pattillmanfoundation.org).

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