PLTS CARES

PLTS CARES emphasizes a holistic, interdisciplinary approach to care of the seminary and individual students through a network of support, advocacy, and referral services. Through collaboration and coordination of resources, we seek to foster a vibrant and equitable community focused on the academic and personal success of students preparing for leadership in ministry settings.

We encourage and assist students to develop and sustain habits of self-care from the outset of their program and to continue these habits in their future ministry settings. These habits include, among others, arranging in advance a professional network to provide medical supports, mental health supports, spiritual direction and pastoral counseling, physical activity and movement, and academic and other accommodations.

Office of Student Affairs
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
2000 Center St. Ste. 200
Berkeley, CA 94704

VETERANS’ RESOURCES

The Yellow Ribbon Program was established by the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. This program allows colleges and universities to voluntarily enter into an agreement with the VA to fund tuition and fee expenses that exceed amounts payable under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

After the maximum cap for the Post-9/11 GI Bill for a private institution ($20,235.02 for the 2014-15 year) has been reached, Cal Lutheran will contribute 50% of remaining tuition and fees and the VA will match that amount.

The Yellow Ribbon Award replaces institutional aid and provides funds up to the cost of tuition and fees during the standard academic year.

Veterans entitled to the Post 9/11 GI Bill at the maximum benefit rate, as determined by service requirements, or their designated transferees may receive this funding. Yellow Ribbon is available on a first-come, first-served basis for qualified students. Cal Lutheran accepts an unlimited number of eligible students. You must submit your Certificate of Eligibility along with a copy of DD-214 or Transfer of Entitlement Letter.

For further information or questions regarding your financial aid package or the Yellow Ribbon Program, please visit www.callutheran.edu/veterans/

Please note that the resources listed are not endorsed by PLTS or Cal Lutheran but are provided as a starting point for your own research to find a fit for your needs.
CAMPUS RESOURCE

At PLTS, Dr. Christopher Evans is available to assist you. Dr. Evans can be reached at (510) 559-2737 or by email: cevans@plts.edu

Also, California Lutheran University employs a Veteran Coordinator, Glen Peña at Thousand Oaks who may be reached at: veterans@callutheran.edu  
Telephone: (805) 493-3648  
Website: www.callutheran.edu/veterans

LOCAL RESOURCES

Alameda County Veterans Services Office  
Website: www.alamedasocialservices.org/public/services/veterans_services

Swords to Plowshares  
A community-based, not-for-profit veteran service organization. 
Website: www.swords-to-plowshares.org

East Bay Stand Down  
Website: http://www.eastbaystanddown.org

TUITION ASSISTANCE

A benefit paid to eligible members of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard, to include National Guard and Reserves and may pay up to 100% of the tuition expenses of its members. Each service has its own criteria for eligibility, obligated service, application processes, and restrictions. This money is usually paid directly to the college or institution by the individual services. For additional information, contact your Base/Post Education Center.

VA BENEFITS

Chapter 30  
The Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) – Active Duty is a program for individuals who have been on Active Duty since 07/01/1985, and who paid into an education fund for one year. They receive 36 months of full-time benefits.

Chapter 31  
Vocational Rehabilitation is for disabled service-connected veterans. Each school is assigned a Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist who will assist both the veteran and the School’s Certifying Official.

Chapter 33: Post 9/11 GI Bill  
The Post 9/11 Bill provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Chapter 35  
The Dependents Educational Assistance Program is the only benefit for individuals without military service. It is for the dependents of a member of the Armed forces who died while on active duty or as the result of a disability that VA has determined as service-connected, or is 100% permanently and totally disabled for a service-related reason. Dependents receive up to 45 months of full-time benefits.

Chapter 1606  
The Montgomery GI Bill - Selective Reserves (formerly Chapter 106) is for individuals in the Selected Reserve or National Guard (not active duty). They must be currently and actively drilling and under a six-year contract. They are only eligible for benefits as long as they remain in the reserves. Download VA Forms.

COUNSELING REFFERRALS

The Soldiers Project  
Free confidential therapy for post 9/11 Veterans and their loved ones, serving all branches of the Military Regardless of Discharge Status since 2004

Military OneSource  
Online resources including counseling for active duty, reserves and their dependents, as well as career resources.

San Francisco VA Mental Health  
Telephone: (415) 221-4810  
Website: www.sanfrancisco.va.gov