



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Coalition to Salute America's Heroes Awards \$6,500 Grant to Purdue University for Flight-Training Program *One combat-wounded veteran to attend seven-week academy at no cost*

WEST LAFAYETTE, IN (September 16, 2013) – The [Coalition to Salute America's Heroes](#) (Coalition), a leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to rebuilding the lives of severely wounded veterans of the War on Terror, today announced that it has awarded a \$6,500 grant to enable a combat-wounded veteran to participate in an innovative flight-training program offered by Purdue University.

Purdue's Able Flight Program provides seven weeks of intensive flight instruction and ground training led by aviation professionals with significant industry experience. The program includes classroom training and flying in Purdue's state-of-the-art fleet and matching simulators.

“We're proud that the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes is supporting our program, which offers tremendous benefits to every man and woman that completes it,” said Dr. Bernard W. Wulle, who manages the Able Flight program at Purdue. “Few experiences are more exhilarating than piloting an aircraft, and we've found that wounded veterans make some of the best pilots out there.”

The Coalition's grant will cover the entire cost of training for one combat-wounded veteran in the spring of 2014. This includes 45 hours of flight time, instructors, books, exams and all other required materials for the seven-week course.

“Purdue's Able Flight Program is an outstanding example of the innovative approaches we should be taking to assimilate our wounded heroes back into civilian life,” said David Walker, President & CEO of the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes. “The brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces are some of the best-trained and most dedicated individuals on the planet. There's no telling how far they can soar with the type of personalized instruction they receive at Purdue.”

About the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes

The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, based in Leesburg, VA, has provided an invaluable lifeline to thousands of America's wounded veterans since its establishment in 2004. The Coalition is distinguished from other veteran-focused organizations by its direct financial assistance to America's wounded heroes. Its Emergency Financial Aid

program has stopped foreclosure proceedings on veterans' homes and kept their vehicles from being repossessed. The organization regularly provides gift checks to cover meals, medical and utility bills, clothing, car repairs and even baby diapers.

For more information on the Coalition, and to learn how you can support its mission, visit www.saluteheroes.org.

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