

CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD

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**BEFORE THE
CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD**

In the Matter of the Appeal of

APPEAL NO. 17-001

MS. LORRAINE PERALES

From the Decision of the California
Department of Veterans Affairs (“CalVet”) Services Div.
To Deny the College Tuition Fee Waiver benefit.

**DECISION AFTER
REVIEW OF RECORD**

The appeal of Ms. Lorraine Perales came before the California Veterans Board (“Board”) on May 17, 2017. Four members of the Board were present and one participated via teleconference.

The Board met in closed session to deliberate and vote. Votes were taken by roll call and the board voted unanimously to uphold Ms. Perales’ appeal to receive the Tuition Fee Waiver benefit. Ms. Perales’ allowance from AmeriCorps should not be considered income in determining her eligibility for the Tuition Fee Waiver benefit. The National Community Service Act that governs the AmeriCorps program states that such allowances “shall not be considered to be income for the purposes of determining eligibility for ... aid furnished under any Federal or federally assisted program based on need.” (42 USC §12637, subd. (d).) Thus, Ms. Perales’ income without the AmeriCorps allowance placed her within the eligibility range for the waiver. **THE MATTER** having been presented, and submitted, and good cause appearing therefore, by unanimous vote, the Board makes the following determination:

1. The Board voted to reverse the decision of the California Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Services Division, in denying the College Tuition Fee Waiver benefit based on her income exceeding the eligibility range. The Appeal is **UPHELD**.

Dated: June 1, 2017

TINA LASSITER, Executive Officer

BOARD MEMBERS

Todd Trotter (Chair), Hugh Crooks (Vice Chair),
Members: Charlene Taylor, Juan Gonzalez and Carla Thornton
<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/Pages/California-Veterans-Board.aspx>