

The logo for GUARD SMART features the word "GUARD" in dark blue and "SMART" in red. The letter "A" in both words is replaced by a stylized upward-pointing chevron shape. This chevron is composed of three parallel lines: a dark blue outer line, a grey middle line, and a red inner line. The overall design is bold and modern.

**GUARD  
SMART**

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SERVICE MEMBERS ACHIEVING RELEVANT TRAINING



**DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIRFORCE  
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
TENNESSEE NATIONAL GUARD  
HOUSTON BARRACKS, P.O. BOX 41502  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37204-1502**

NTGN-EDU

14 January 2020

Dear Soldiers and Families,

Our goal in the Tennessee National Guard Education and Incentives Office is to make all of our Soldiers **GUARD SMART**. The **GUARD SMART** (Service Members Achieving Relevant Training) campaign was created to enlighten our Soldiers and their families to the multiple benefits available to them through continued military service with the Tennessee National Guard. In order to complete this task, we need you to be proactive in managing your career. Learning to manage your career will set you up for success in both your military progression and in civilian life.

There are many ways to be proactive in managing your career; the first and most important way is to read and understand your contract and any addendum in your iPERMS record. This is where you will find any of the incentives and benefits which you enlisted for and what is required of you in order to receive and keep those incentives and benefits. You can print and review your documents any time at <https://iperms.hrc.army.mil/rms/>.

Other benefits and incentives include Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA), Credentialing Assistance (CA), GI Bills, State Tuition Assistance (STRONG Act), Testing, Student Loan Repayment, and Enlistment/Reenlistment Bonuses. The TN National Guard Education and Incentives Office assists Soldiers and their units in utilizing these benefits to the maximum amounts allowable. We have attached informational sheets to better assist you in understanding these programs.

Contact us to find out more information about our programs and benefits:

Incentives e-mail: [ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)

Education e-mail: [ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil)

State TA e-mail: [ng.tn.tnarng.mbx.ngtn-state-tuition-assistance-army@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.mbx.ngtn-state-tuition-assistance-army@mail.mil)

You can gather more information from our webpage:

<https://www.tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives>

Follow us to keep up-to-date on new and changing education and incentives news:

@tnngeducation



Sincerely,

Your TN National Guard Education and Incentives Team



Tennessee National Guard Education & Incentives Team...

*The 'GuardSMART' initiative was launched to increase awareness among our TNGG members of their military benefits earned, and how to maximize usage which enhances their military and civilian careers as they continue to serve.*

Bonus & Incentives Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646

[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)

Education Team: 615-313-0529/0604/0592

[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil)

TN STRONG Act tuition reimbursement program

Army: SFC Stephen Biase (615) 313-0737 [stephen.b.biase.mil@mail.mil](mailto:stephen.b.biase.mil@mail.mil)

Air: MSgt Joseph Wilson (615) 313-0849 [joseph.wilson82.mil@mail.mil](mailto:joseph.wilson82.mil@mail.mil)

Outreach NCO: SSG Joseph Baydoun (615) 313-2697 [joseph.h.baydoun.mil@mail.mil](mailto:joseph.h.baydoun.mil@mail.mil)

Visit the updated TNARNG Education Webpage at:

<https://www.tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives>

Or

*follow us @tnngeducation*



Or

Download the *'Tennessee National Guard App'*  
click on *'Info'* & *'TN Strong Act'*

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## ARNG Education Programs and Services

Below is a summary of all ARNG Education Programs and Services. ARNG Soldiers should contact their State Education Services Officer (ESO) to learn more about the programs and services they may qualify for.

### Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)

- Available to currently serving ARNG Soldiers.
- Must complete IADT, BOLC or WOBC.
- Pays tuition costs up to \$250 per semester hour, up to 16 semester hours per fiscal year.
- May be used up to a master's degree and for an academic certificate.
- Apply through GoArmyEd: [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com) and click on "New User" to begin.

### Credentialing Assistance (CA) Program

- Must qualify for FTA; may be combined with FTA not to exceed \$4,000 per fiscal year.
- Pays tuition, fees, books, and examination cost.

### GI Bill® Programs

- Multiple programs are available depending on your previous military service.
  - MGIB-SR/Chapter 1606
    - \$392/month for members of the Selected Reserve.
    - Must sign six-year contract, have a high school diploma or GED, and complete IADT or BOLC
  - MGIB-AD/Chapter 30
    - \$2,050.00/month for three or more years of active duty.
    - \$1,664.00/month for two-three years of consecutive active duty.
  - Post-9/11 GI Bill/Chapter 33
    - Payments based on qualifying active duty served/tier percentage.
    - Pays up to 100% tuition and fees at public schools.
    - Pays up to \$24,476.79 per academic year at for private/foreign schools.
    - Pays a housing stipend equal to BAH at E-5 rate with dependents.
    - Pays a book and supply stipend up to \$1,000 per academic year.
  - Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB)
    - Option to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to dependents.
    - Must have served six years and commit to serve four more years in the ARNG.
  - \$350 GI Bill 'Kicker'
    - Available to Non-prior service, prior service, currently serving enlisted Soldiers, Soldiers in an officer commissioning program, and officers up to one year after commissioning.
    - Must sign a six-year contract or extend to have six years on their contract and meet all other criteria in the current SRIP policy.

## DANTES Programs

- The Defense Activity for Non Traditional Education Support (DANTES) offers numerous programs and services to ARNG Soldiers including
  - Free testing opportunities offered at National Test Centers (NTCs)
    - High school completion and college entrance exams GED, ACT, SAT, GRE, GMAT
    - College credit exams including CLEP and DSST
    - Teacher certification exams (Praxis)
    - For more information visit <https://clep.collegeboard.org/test-center-search> and [www.getcollegecredit.com](http://www.getcollegecredit.com)
  - College planning resources: Kuder® Journey [www.dantes.kuder.com](http://www.dantes.kuder.com)
  - College prep resources: Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) and College Placement Skills Training (CPST) available at [www.nelnetsolutions.com/DantesNet](http://www.nelnetsolutions.com/DantesNet)
  - Troops to Teachers, (TTT) available at [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com)
- For more information on DANTES programs and services visit [www.dantes.doded.mil](http://www.dantes.doded.mil)

## Army Personnel Testing (APT)

- Free testing opportunities that may qualify Soldiers for career advancement, specialized training, foreign language pay, and proficiency bonuses.
- Exams include; AFCT, SIFT, DLAB, DLPT, DLRPT, OPI, and TABE.
- Offered at selected ARNG and Active Army testing locations.
- AFCT prep resources: Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) available at [www.nelnetsolutions.com/DantesNet](http://www.nelnetsolutions.com/DantesNet)
- For more information on APT, contact your State ESO or nearest Army education center.

## Joint Services Transcript (JST)

- The JST is an academically accepted document approved by the American Council on Education (ACE) to validate a service member's military occupational experience and training along with the corresponding ACE college credit recommendations.
- The JST provides Soldiers with an opportunity to earn college credit based on their military training and experience. ARNG Soldiers can download their JST at: [www.jst.doded.mil](http://www.jst.doded.mil)

## College and Career Planning:

- TA Decide; [www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE](http://www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE)
- College Navigator; [www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator](http://www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator)
- GI Bill Comparison Tool; [www.vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool](http://www.vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool)
- Army e-Learning; [www.atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/eLearningWelcome.aspx](http://www.atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/eLearningWelcome.aspx)

## For More Information:

- Visit us On-Line at: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State ESO <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>
- GI Bill Rates [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits\\_resources/rate\\_tables.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.asp)
- GI Bill Program Handouts [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/handouts\\_forms.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/handouts_forms.asp)

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Education Counseling Services

Education counseling services are available to all ARNG Soldiers through the State Education Services Office. Education counseling helps Soldiers meet education goals by providing guidance, advice, and planning assistance.

### **Step 1. Get Assessed**

Planning your educational goals and objectives can be a daunting task. To get started, download your Joint Services Transcript (JST) and then contact your State Education Services Officer (ESO) for further assistance.

ESOs help Soldiers by:

- Providing advice and counsel on individual education and career goals;
- Determining cost-effectiveness of Tuition Assistance and other resources;
- Providing information on school accreditation and recommending course options and methods of study;
- Providing guidance, information and advocacy to maximize college credit for military training and experience.

### **Step 2. Choose a Field of Study**

Login to your GoArmyEd account ([www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com)) and use VIA. VIA is a decision support tool designed to help Soldiers make informed decisions.

- VIA recommends college degree options designed to prepare an individual for that career. Furthermore, VIA recommends schools offering a degree online or the location selected.
- VIA also helps Soldiers choose a "best fit/best value" school by comparing cost, student outcomes, and alignment with student preferences.
- After using VIA, Soldiers will submit career goal, degree, and school selection to their Army Education Counselor for approval and further discussion if needed.
- While VIA is a useful tool in the college planning process, additional career guidance and planning resources are listed in the box above.

### **Step 3. Choose a School**

Choosing a school is a difficult task. Below are a few web sites to help Soldiers make informed choices on available schools and programs:

- TA Decide: [www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE](http://www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE)
- College Navigator: [www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator](http://www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator)
- GI Bill Comparison Tool: [www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool](http://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool)

**MILITARY TRANSCRIPTS:**  
**JST: Joint Services Transcript**  
[www.jst.doded.mil](http://www.jst.doded.mil)

**VMET: Officer Credits**  
[www.dmdc.osd.mil/tgaps](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tgaps)

**CAREER  
GUIDANCE/PLANNING:**  
**Army e-Learning:**  
<https://usarmy.skillport.com/skillportfe/custom/login/usarmy/login.action>  
**Kuder College & Career  
Planning Counseling Services:**  
[www.dantes.kuder.com](http://www.dantes.kuder.com)

**Military OneSource:**  
[www.militaryonesource.mil](http://www.militaryonesource.mil)

#### **Step 4. Get Financial Assistance**

There are numerous Federal, State, and local education programs and services available to ARNG Soldiers. Programs include; GI Bill®, Federal Tuition Assistance, State Tuition Assistance (if applicable), Testing services, Financial Aid, Scholarships, and more. The rules governing these programs can be complicated. To ensure you are receiving everything you may be entitled to, contact these offices:

- ARNG Education Office – obtain information on ARNG education benefits including GI Bill programs, Federal TA, testing services, and state-level programs.
- School Financial Aid Office – obtain information on various programs available to students attending an educational institution.
- Department of Veterans Affairs – obtain information about various veteran’s education benefits.

#### **Step 5. Attend School**

Submit all applications according to the required submission deadlines. Keep your State ESO and School Certifying Official informed of any changes in your enrollment status. Be advised, specific Grade Point Averages (GPA) are required for certain programs.

#### **Step 6. Graduate!**

Upon completion of your program/course, provide an official transcript to your Unit Readiness NCO and the State Education Services Office to ensure your personnel records are up to date.

#### ***For More Information:***

- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact State ESO: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

Join us on Social Media!

**@arngeducation**



#### ***GI BILL RESOURCES:***

**Dept. of Veterans Administration**

[www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)

**Apply for GI Bill Benefits**

[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

#### ***TUITION ASSISTANCE:***

**Apply for Federal TA Benefits**

[www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com)

**GoArmyEd Assistance Center**

<http://help.goarmyed.com/>

#### ***TESTING RESOURCES:***

**DANTES**

[www.dantes.doded.mil](http://www.dantes.doded.mil)

**CLEP Exams**

[www.clep.collegeboard.org/military](http://www.clep.collegeboard.org/military)

**Study Materials**

[www.nelnetsolutions.com/dod](http://www.nelnetsolutions.com/dod)

**Credentialing Opportunities**

[www.cool.army.mil](http://www.cool.army.mil)

#### ***FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS:***

**Free Application for Federal**

**Student Aid**

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

**Scholarships**

[www.studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships)



# PASS YOUR PT TEST?

If NOT, you may lose...

- Eligibility to re-enlist/extend
- Use of Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)
- Payment of current bonus or incentive (possible recoupment)
- Promotion opportunity

Physical Readiness is every Soldier's responsibility!!  
**That means YOU!!**

Know the standards...  
Meet the standards...  
Keep your benefits!



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Contact the EIO Team for questions regarding education or incentive benefits:  
[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil)  
[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)  
Incentive & SLRP Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646  
GI Bill: 615-313-0529/0604  
FTA/GoArmyEd: 615-313-0592/0604  
Testing Team: 615-313-0604/0529

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# STOP, CHECK BEFORE YOU TRANSFER!!



## THINKING ABOUT CHANGING MOS'S OR UIC'S?

- Review the bonus addendum for your current enlistment/reenlistment contract to ensure you don't jeopardize your bonus.
- Changing your MOS or Unit may be needed, but work with your Unit Leadership to ensure you don't lose an incentive.



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Contact the EIO Team for questions regarding education or incentive benefits:

Email: [ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil) or [ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)

Incentive & SLRP Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646

GI Bill: 615-313-0529/0604

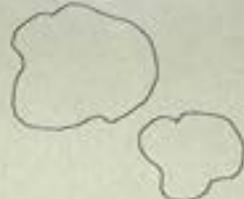
FTA/GoArmyEd: 615-313-0592/0604

Testing Team: 615-313-0604/0529

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# GET SMART

WITH **FREE MONEY!!**



**Did you know you have 'free' money for your continuing education?**

- Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)
- Credentialing Assistance (CA)
- TN STRONG Act (State TA)
- GI Bill (three types)
- Student Loan Repayment (SLRP)

**Talk with your Unit Retention NCO for more details today!!**

**'Working harder to make you smarter!'**



Contact the EIO Team for questions regarding education or incentive benefits:  
ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil  
ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil  
Incentive/ SLRP Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646  
FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team: 615-0592/0604  
GI Bill/ Testing: 615-313-0604/0529

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Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

FINAL NOTICE

PAID

FINAL NOTICE

PAID

# ONE LESS BILL YOU HAVE TO PAY!

## 'Which GI Bill do I qualify for?'

### Chapter 1606 MGIB-Select Reserve

- 6 year contract in the Selected Reserve
- High School Diploma or equivalent
- Complete Basic Training, and AIT or BOLC Phase 1

### Chapter 30 MGIB-AD

- On or after July 1, 1985
  - minimum 2 continuous years on active duty; or
  - 20 months of a 2 year order and released at the convenience of the Government
- On or after 29 November 1989
  - minimum 2 years AGR status
- Paid \$1200 to enroll
- Honorable Discharge

### Chapter 33 Post 9/11

- At least 90 aggregate days on or after September 11, 2001:
  - on active duty
- Title 10 USC Sections 672(d); 688; 12301(a), (d), (g), or (h); 12302; 12304, 12304a, or 12304b;
- Title 32 AGR
- Title 32 USC, Section 502(f) under Operation Nobel Eagle through May 31, 2002
- Title 32 USC, Section 502(f) on/after 15 February 2019 in support of the Southwest Border Mission/Operation Guardian Shield
- Honorable Discharge



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### Contact the ESO Team for questions regarding education or incentive benefits:

Email: [ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil) or  
[ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)

**Incentive & SLRP Team:** 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646

**FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team:** 615-313-0592/0604

**Testing:** 615-313-0604/0529

**GI Bill:** 615-313-0529

Visit us: <https://www.tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives>

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## GI Bill® Comparison Chart FY20 Rates

	Chapter 33 Post-9/11	Chapter 30 MGIB-AD	Chapter 1606 MGIB-SR
Eligibility Criteria	<p>After Sep 10, 2001, serve at least 90 aggregate days on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Title 10 USC Sections 688; 12301(a), (d), (g), (h); 12302; 12304, 12304a, 12304b;</li> <li>•Title 32 AGR</li> <li>•Title 32 USC Section 502(f) Operation Noble Eagle Sep 11, 2001 – May 31, 2002</li> <li>•Title 32 USC, Section 502(f) on/ after 15 Feb 2019 Southwest Border Mission/Operation Guardian Shield</li> </ul> <p>Honorable Discharge</p>	<p>On or after Jul 1, 1985, serve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•at least 2 continuous years on active duty; or</li> <li>•20 months of a 2-year order and released at the convenience of the Government; or</li> </ul> <p>On or after Nov 29, 1989, serve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•At least 2 years AGR</li> </ul> <p>Honorable Discharge</p>	<p>6-year contract in the Selected Reserve on or after Jul 1, 1985</p> <p>High School Diploma or equivalent</p> <p>Complete Basic Training, and AIT or BOLC Phase 1</p> <p>Be actively serving</p>
Payments	To school and to Soldier	Monthly, to Soldier	Monthly, to Soldier
Tuition Amount*	<p>Paid to school each term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Public Institution: Cost for In-State tuition and fees</li> <li>•Private or Foreign Institution: up to \$24,476 per academic yr</li> </ul>	<p>Full-time benefit:</p> <p>3+ yrs service: \$2,050</p> <p>&lt;3 yrs service: \$1,664.00</p> <p>Add up to \$150 for Plus-Up</p>	<p>Full-time benefit:</p> <p>\$392</p>
Book and Supply Stipend	Up to \$1,000 per year (\$41.67 per credit) paid at start of each term	None	None

	<b>Chapter 33 Post-9/11</b>	<b>Chapter 30 MGIB-AD</b>	<b>Chapter 1606 MGIB-SR</b>
Monthly Housing Allowance	In Residence: BAH rate for E5 with Dependents for the zip code of the campus Online: Up to \$894.50	None	None
Cost to Soldier	None	Basic Benefit: \$1,200 Plus-Up: Up to \$600	None
Eligibility Duration	No expiration if last period of qualifying service was on or after 1 Jan 2013**	Up to 10 years after last date of active duty	While serving in an active drilling status in the Selected Reserve
Transferability	Transferrable to eligible dependents: -Completed at least 6 years of service, -Commit to serve 4 additional years	None	None

\*Rates for Post-9/11 GI Bill change every year on August 1. All other program rates change on Oct 1.

\*\*Eligibility expires after 15 years if last period of qualifying service was before 1 Jan 2013.

**For More Information:**

- ❖ Go the VA Web Site: [www.benefits.va.gov/qibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/qibill)
- ❖ Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- ❖ Contact your State Education Office at: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 The "Forever GI Bill®"

### Overview

- The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act, also known as the "Forever GI Bill," was signed into law on August 16, 2017. Several changes have already been incorporated into our existing GI Bill flyers, below is a summary of the changes that are yet to occur.

### Effective 1 August 2020:

- Payment Tiers.
  - 40% payment tier is eliminated.
  - 90 days to 6 months of service eligible for 50% payment tier.
  - 6 months to 18 months of service eligible for 60% payment tier.

### Effective 1 August 2022:

- Yellow Ribbon. Service members on active duty are eligible for Yellow Ribbon.

### Other Changes:

- VA High Technology Pilot Program.
  - Opportunity to enroll in High Tech programs.
  - VA determines eligible skills and training based on employer input.
  - Can use Chapters 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 1606, or 1607.
- VA will use automated and electronic processing as much as possible.
- Work Study program continued.
- Schools must report whether they allow priority enrollment for Veterans
- VA will provide information to schools about all GI Bill programs a Veteran or service member is entitled to. Student may opt out.
- School Certifying Officials must be trained by VA.
- VA will provide counseling on selected campuses.
- Various agencies must provide GI Bill use data reports to Congress.
- Increase in payments to State Approving Agencies.

### For More Information:

- Visit the VA Web Site:  
[www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
- Visit us On-Line:  
[www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact State Education Office:  
<https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# GOT N.O.B.E.?



- WHAT?** • Notification of Basic Eligibility for Chap. 1606 Select Reserve GI Bill.
- WHEN?** • Ready to pursue your next level of continuing education.
- WHERE?** • Your iPERMS: Search for 'notice' or '2384'
- HOW?** • Turn your N.O.B.E into the VA representative at the school you wish to attend.
- WHY?**
- Promotion points
  - Pay raise at your work
  - Possible Officer/ Warrant Officer career path
  - Sense of accomplishment- You can do this!!



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Contact the EIO Team for questions regarding education or incentive bene its:  
ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil  
ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil  
**Incentive/ SLRP Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646**  
**FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team: 615-0592/0604**  
**GI Bill/ Testing: 615-313-0604/0529**

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Montgomery GI Bill®: Selected Reserve Chapter 1606 (MGIB-SR)

### 1. What is it?

- The MGIB-SR is a benefit administered by the Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) that provides basic educational assistance for traditional/M-day Soldiers actively serving in the Selected Reserve (Reference: Title 10 USC Chapter 1606; DoDI 1322.17).

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- Sign a six-year enlistment contract or Officer Service Agreement to serve in the ARNG.
- Have a High school diploma or equivalent.
- Complete Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) or Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC).
- Be actively serving in the ARNG (cannot be in the Inactive National Guard-ING or Individual Ready Reserve-IRR).
- Not be AGR or on Active Duty.
- Not be flagged for unsatisfactory participation.
- Not be using a Dedicated Army National Guard ROTC Scholarship (Ref: Title 10 USC 2107).

### 3. What Do I Get?

- \$392 per month for full-time enrollment (Effective 1 October 2019).
- Payment made directly to the Soldier each month from the DVA.
- In most cases your eligibility begins immediately after you complete IADT/BOLC.
- CANNOT be combined with Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) for the same course.
- May be combined with State Tuition Assistance (Subject to State law/rules).

### 4. How Do I Apply?

- Contact your State Education Office and ask to verify eligibility.
- Submit the Veterans Online Application at: [www.vets.gov](http://www.vets.gov)
- Notify the VA Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Continue to verify your enrollment each month online at: [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)

### **For More Information:**

- Visit the VA Web Site: [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact State Education Services Office: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Montgomery GI Bill<sup>®</sup> "Kicker"

### 1. What is it?

- The Kicker is an incentive given upon enlistment/reenlistment that adds an additional education payment to attract Soldiers to specific units, skills, or positions to meet and sustain ARNG readiness requirements.

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- **Categories:**
  - Non-prior service applicants (enlisted only); 50 or higher on ASVAB (CAT IIIA or higher), agree to serve in a critical skill/critical unit.
  - Prior service applicants (enlisted only); 50 or higher on ASVAB (CAT IIIA or higher), MOS qualified, E-5 or below, and enlist in an MTOE or medical unit.
  - Currently serving enlisted Soldiers; served between 3 and 14 years in the ARNG, SFC or below.
  - Officer commissioning program; ROTC/SMP, OCS, WOC, must contract prior to commissioning.
  - Currently serving officers up to one year after commissioning
- **Basic Criteria:**
  - Be eligible for the MGIB-SR/Chapter 1606 or MGIB-AD/Chapter 30
  - Complete Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) or Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC).
  - Sign a six-year enlistment contract or Officer Service Agreement (OSA) or extend to have six years on their contract and meet all other relevant criteria in the current SRIP policy.
- **Additional Criteria:**
  - Have an Honorable discharge from all previous periods of service.
  - Be actively serving in the ARNG, not assigned to the Inactive National Guard (ING) or Individual Ready Reserve (IRR).
  - Not be in Military Technician, AGR, or Active Duty Status.
  - Not be flagged for unsatisfactory participation.
  - Not on a Dedicated ARNG ROTC Scholarship (Reference: Title 10 USC 2107).

### 3. What Do I Get?

- \$350 per month (tax free) in addition to your basic GI Bill payment (paid directly to the Soldier).

### 4. How Do I Apply?

- Submit the Veterans Online Application at: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)
- Notify the School Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Continue to verify your enrollment each month online at: [www.gibill.va.gov/wave](http://www.gibill.va.gov/wave)

### **For More Information:**

- Visit the VA Web Site:  
[www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
- Visit us On-Line:  
[www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Office:  
<https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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GI Bill<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill).

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★

Updated: 14 January 2020



## Post-9/11 GI Bill<sup>®</sup>, CH 33

### 1. What is it?

- The Post 9/11 GI Bill is an education program for Service Members who serve on active duty after September 10, 2001 and receive an honorable discharge. (Reference: Title 38 USC Chapter 33, DoDI 1341.13)

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- Serve at least 90 days in a period of qualifying active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Qualifying Active Duty service is:
  - Service in any active component
  - Title 10 U.S.C. Sections 688, 12301(a), 12301(d), 12301(g), 12301(h), 12302, 12304, 12304a, or 12304b
  - Title 10 AGR or Title 32 AGR
  - Title 32 U.S.C., Section 502(f), between Sep 11, 2001 – May 31, 2002 under Operation Noble Eagle
  - Title 32 USC, Section 502(f) on/after 15 February 2019 in support of the Southwest Border Mission/Operation Guardian Shield
  - Serve in a qualifying duty status for 30 continuous days and separate due to a service-connected disability or injury.
  - Purple Heart recipients eligible at 100% payment tier.
- Basic Training and AIT can be added to qualifying time if:
  - You have completed 24 months of other qualifying active duty; and
  - Your Basic Training and/or IADT occurred on or after September 11, 2001
- The following service time does NOT qualify for Post-9/11:
  - Title 32 ADOS/ADSW/FTNGD (Except Operation Noble Eagle)
  - The Service Obligation from a Service Academy Contract
  - The Service Obligation from a ROTC Active Duty Contract (Dedicated Guard only)
  - Active Duty used for Active Duty Loan Repayment (Title 10 Sec. 109)
  - Active Duty period receiving less than Honorable discharge
- **What Do I Get?**
- Tuition and Fees
  - Up to 100% of in-state tuition if you are attending a public school
  - Max payment of \$24,476.79 per year for private or foreign school

- **Book and Supply Stipend**
  - Up to \$1,000 per academic year (\$41.67/credit hour)
- **Monthly Housing Allowance**
  - Equal to BAH rate - E-5 with dependents
  - Based on zip code of campus where attending class
  - MUST be attending more than half-time to qualify
  - If attending only online classes: \$894.50
  - AGR and Active Duty Soldiers are NOT eligible for the Housing Stipend
- **Payment Tiers**
  - Payments for all three benefits are pro-rated based on your percentage tier. The book and supply stipend and MHA are also adjusted based on your enrollment (number of credit hrs).

Qualifying Service	Percentage Tier
<b>At least 36 cumulative months, or Purple Heart recipients</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>At least 30 cumulative months</b>	<b>90%</b>
<b>At least 24 cumulative months</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>At least 18 cumulative months</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>At least 12 cumulative months</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>At least 6 cumulative months</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>At least 90 cumulative days</b>	<b>40%</b>

- **Timeline/Expiration of Benefits:**
  - If your last day of qualifying Active Duty is on or after 1 Jan 13, your benefits never expire
  - If your last day of qualifying Active Duty is before 1 Jan 13, your benefits expire 15 years from your last day of Active Duty
    - You can reset your expiration date by completing another qualifying period of service of at least 90 consecutive days
    - Submit VA Form 21-4138 with your new DD214 to the VA Regional Processing Center

#### **4. How Do I Apply?**

- Submit the Veterans Online Application at: [www.vets.gov](http://www.vets.gov)
- Notify the School Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.

#### **For More Information:**

- Visit the VA Web Site: [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact State Education Office: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# TRANSFER NOW; USE LATER!!

## ELIGIBLE FOR CHAP. 33 POST 9/11 GI BILL?!

- If you are eligible for Chap. 33, Post 9/11 GI Bill, you should transfer it to your DEERS enrolled family members today!
- **SAFEGUARD** this valuable benefit now; you can still use it yourself even if your family does not!

**THIS IS ONE BILL THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID; DON'T WASTE IT!**



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**Contact the ESO Team for questions regarding education or incentive benefits:**

ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil

ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil

**Incentive & SLRP Team:** 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646

**FTA/GoArmyEd' Team:** 615-313-0604/0592

**GI Bill Manager:** 615-313-0529

**Testing Team:** 615-313-0604/0529

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) Post-9/11 GI Bill®

### 1. What Is It?

- TEB is an incentive for continued service offered to Service Members who qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. All ARNG Soldiers considering TEB should initiate the TEB process as soon as they meet the requirements (Ref: Title 38 USC Section 3319; DoDI 1341.13).

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- Qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill at any payment tier
- Be currently serving in the Uniformed Services, with at least six years completed
- NOT be flagged for adverse action, APFT/ABCP failure, or as Unsatisfactory Participant
- Agree to a **four-year** service obligation from the date of your transfer request
- Transfer to an eligible dependent
  - Spouse and/or dependents must be listed under you in DEERS
  - Transfers to children must be completed before each child's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday (23<sup>rd</sup> birthday if they are enrolled full-time at an Educational Institution)

### ➤ What Do I Get?

- Dependents receives the same payment eligibility tier as the Soldier
- Spouse:
  - May use transferred benefits immediately
    - If your last day of qualifying service is before January 1, 2013, your spouse's eligibility ends 15 years from the last day of that qualifying duty
    - If your last day of qualifying service is on or after January 1, 2013, your spouse's eligibility never ends
  - The spouse of a Soldier on Active Duty/AGR is NOT eligible for the Housing Stipend
- Child/Children:
  - Cannot use the benefit until transferring Soldier has completed 10 years in the Armed Forces
  - Is always paid as if Soldier is in a Non-Active Duty Status
  - Can begin using the benefit on their 18th birthday or upon high school graduation, whichever comes first
  - A child's eligibility ends on their 26th birthday unless you specify an earlier end date.
- You can modify and/or revoke months between any dependent you originally transferred months to – even after you separate from service
- **Important! You must be currently serving to ADD a new dependent**

## 4. How Do I Apply?

### Step 1: Contact the VA

- Call 1-888-GIBILL-1, ask how many months you have remaining in each GI Bill program.
  - Contact your State Education office to find out how to best transfer your remaining months and which benefit to relinquish.
  - Note: If you do this incorrectly you can lose out on thousands of dollars of lost GI Bill benefits for yourself and your dependents.

### Step 2: Complete Extension (If required)

- Enlisted Soldiers MUST have an ETS date that is four or more years after the TEB request date. If you do not have four years remaining, you need to extend before your TEB will be approved.
- Officers' MRD MUST be four or more years after the request date
- IMPORTANT! Your TEB request cannot be approved until the ETS/MRD is updated in GIMS.

### Step 3: Complete Application for Transfer

- Log into milConnect <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>
- Verify your dependents are listed as eligible to receive the transfer.
  - Your dependents will be listed in the List of Family Members chart.
  - If your dependent(s) is under 23 years old and is identified as ineligible, contact your DEERS office to enroll that dependent into DEERS.
- Enter the number of months you wish to transfer to each dependent
- Entering a Transfer End Date is optional, and **not recommended**. If left blank, the dependent will receive the longest period of eligibility allowed by law.
- Click the "OK" button and repeat for each dependent.
- Read every statement, select EVERY check box and **click the SUBMIT button.**

### Step 4: Access your Enterprise Email and follow TEB email instructions

- The ARNG GI Bill Support Team will review your application and send approval instructions to your military email (mail.mil account).
- Once you have met all the requirements, you will receive a "TEB APPROVED" email from the GI Bill Support Team.
- Login to milConnect, review your obligation end date (OED), print your approval form.
- **NOTE: IF YOU VOLUNTARILY SEPARATE FROM THE ARNG PRIOR TO COMPLETING YOUR OED, YOUR TEB WILL BE TERMINATED AND ANY FUNDS PAID TO YOUR DEPENDENTS WILL BE RECOUPED!**

### Step 5: Dependent Application to VA

- When ready to attend school, your approved dependent(s) apply at: [www.vets.gov](http://www.vets.gov)
- Notify the VA Certifying Official at your school to certify your enrollment.

### **For More Information:**

- Go to the VA Web Site: [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact State Education Services Office: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★

Updated: 25 September 2019



## Montgomery GI Bill® – Active Duty (MGIB-AD) Chapter 30

### 1. What is it?

- Chapter 30 is an education program that applies to veterans who served on active duty or AGR, served two or three years, had pay reduced by \$1,200, and received an honorable discharge (Reference: Title 38 USC Chapter 30; DoDD 1322.16).

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- Have qualifying active duty service on or after July 1, 1985, or AGR service after November 29, 1989.
  - Complete two years on Active Duty or AGR (Title 10/32) for 80% rate.
  - Complete three years on Active Duty or AGR (Title 10/32) for 100% rate.
    - Must complete 24 months before use
  - Complete a mobilization of at least two continuous years (730 days), or complete 20 months of a 730 day mobilization and be discharged at the convenience of the gov't.
- Have pay reduced by \$1,200
  - If you are AGR, you can choose to pay in a lump sum or set up deductions from your paycheck of \$100/month for 12 months.
  - If you are eligible due to a mobilization, you must pay the \$1,200 in a lump sum.
  - To Buy-In, contact the GI Bill Support team via email at: [arng.esc.ch30@mail.mil](mailto:arng.esc.ch30@mail.mil)

### 3. What Do I Get?

- A monthly payment paid directly to the Soldier based on amount of active duty served.
- Effective October 1, 2019:
  - 3+ yrs of service = \$2,050.00 per month
  - 2-3 yrs of service = \$1,664.00 per month
- Payments are limited by several factors, including:
  - Payment Tier
  - Rate of Pursuit (if you are going to school full time, half time, etc.)
  - Active Duty/Drilling Status

- You have ten years from your last day of qualifying active duty time to use this benefit.
  - Your 10-year window can be reset if you complete a new period of qualifying time.
  - Submit a VA Form 21-4138 and your DD214 to your VA Regional Processing Center.
- If on active duty, you can use the MGIB-AD as a “Top-Up” to your Federal Tuition Assistance.
  - Under the Top-Up program, FTA will pay first then Ch 30 will pay the cost of tuition and fees that were not covered by FTA, not to exceed your monthly Ch 30 rate.
    - Example of Top-Up:
    - Your total tuition is \$1,000 for three semester hours and you are at the 100% tier:
      - Federal Tuition Assistance will pay \$750.
      - Ch 30 will pay the \$250 balance (tuition and fees only).
- **OPTIONAL Plus-Up program**
  - You may contribute up to an additional \$600 ONLY while on Active Duty orders.
  - The contribution will increase your monthly benefit up to \$150 per month (\$5 per month for every \$20 contributed).
  - Soldiers using Ch 30 while on Active Duty or AGR are NOT eligible to receive the Plus-Up payment.
  - To elect the Plus Up option, contact the GI Bill Support Team via email at: **arng.esc.ch30@mail.mil**

#### 4. How Do I Apply?

- Submit the Veterans Online Application at: [www.vets.gov](http://www.vets.gov)
- Notify the School Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Verify your enrollment each month online at: [www.gibill.va.gov/wave](http://www.gibill.va.gov/wave)

#### **For More Information:**

- Visit the VA Web Site: [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State ESO: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★

Updated: 25 September 2019



## How to Apply for GI Bill® Benefits

### Step 1: Apply for your Certificate of Eligibility (CoE)

- ✓ Be sure you have all of the required information before you start. You must complete the form in one session – there is no option to save and come back later.  
Required information:
  - Applicant's Social Security Number
  - Military history (Service Members only)
  - Sponsor's Social Security number (Dependents only)
  - Information about the school you wish to attend
  - Bank account and direct deposit information
  - Education history
- ✓ Go to [www.vets.gov](http://www.vets.gov) and click on "Apply for Education Benefits".
- ✓ Click on "Find Your Education Benefits Form".
- ✓ Answer the questions in this section by clicking the appropriate bubble until your reach a point where you can select "Apply Now."
  - Section 1: Applicant Information
  - Section 2: Eligibility
    - In general, dependents will select 'Post-9/11'.
    - Service Members select the program you are eligible for and wish to use.
  - Section 3: Service Members - Military History
    - If you are currently on Title 32 ADOS, select 'No' for "Are you on active duty now".
    - ROTC Cadets: Confirm whether your scholarship is Section 2107 or Section 2107a. If 2107a, select no for both questions.
  - Section 4: Student Loan: Do not check this box if your Student Loan Repayment contract was from the Guard/Reserves.
  - Section 5: Education History
  - Section 6: Employment History
  - Section 7: School Selection
  - Section 8: Contact and Direct Deposit Information
  - Section 9: Review information and click "Submit Application".
- ✓ Normally, the VA will process your application within 30 days. You will receive a Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) in the mail. *Call (888) GIBILL-1 to check the status of an application.*

## Step 2: Register for Classes

- ✓ Register for classes as soon as your school's registration period opens.
- ✓ Visit your School Certifying Official (SCO). This is a school employee who typically works in the financial aid, admissions or Veterans affairs office.
  - The SCO will certify your registration. This tells the VA how many hours you are taking and the cost of tuition & fees and reports your rate of pursuit (1/2 time, 3/4 time, full time).
  - If a tuition payment is due before you receive your CoE from the VA, your SCO may be able to place your school account on hold to wait for payment from VA. Check with your school's Finance Office for their policies
- ✓ When you receive your CoE from the VA, give a copy to your SCO.

## Step 3: Verify Attendance

- ✓ While you are in school, you must verify EVERY MONTH with the VA that you are still attending courses to receive your next monthly deposit. (Monthly verification is not required if you are using the Post-9/11 GI Bill.)
- ✓ You can complete your monthly verification in one of two ways:
  - Call 1-877-823-2378
  - Go online at: [www.gibill.va.gov/wave](http://www.gibill.va.gov/wave) and verify attendance through the Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (WAVE).

## Step 4: Next Semester

- ✓ Do not repeat the application on [vets.gov](http://vets.gov) unless changing schools or degree plans.
  - If you changed your school or degree plan, repeat the process in Step 1 and file a Form 22-1995.
- ✓ As soon as registration for the next term opens, register for classes early and make another appointment with your SCO.

### **For More Information:**

- Visit the VA Web Site: [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill)
- Visit us On-Line; [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Office: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>
- GI Bill Rates [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits\\_resources/rate\\_tables.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.asp)
- GI Bill Program Handouts [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/handouts\\_forms.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/handouts_forms.asp)

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# GOARMYED + VIA =



## FEDERAL TUITION ASSISTANCE (FTA) IS AVAILABLE TODAY!

### New Users:

[www.GoArmyEd.com](http://www.GoArmyEd.com)

- **"Student"**
- **"Create/ Activate Account"**

Complete the required information & your *'GoArmyEd'* user name & password will be generated.

**Use your 'GoArmyEd' user name & password...**

- **"Request TA Access"**
- **"Welcome to VIA"**

1. The new VIA tool is self-guided and can provide Soldiers with career, degree and school selections.
2. Outlines study plans to keep you on track to meet course completion and education goals.
3. After completion of VIA, it will be reviewed. Upon approval you will be notified to start using FTA.



### Important tips for returning users...

1. TA request must be approved **14 days prior** to course start date.
2. TA paid directly to school when the course is 2/3's complete.
3. Documentation must be specific to you & your degree plan, courses & billing.
4. Documents should be in PDF format or screenshots.
5. Must make A, B or C for undergraduate level; otherwise recouped.
6. Must make A & B for graduate level; otherwise recouped.
7. **"My Education"** section shows your semester hours balance.



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**Contact the EIO Team for questions regarding education or incentive bene its:**

ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil

ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil

**Incentive/ SLRP Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646**

**FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team: 615-0592/0604**

**GI Bill/ Testing: 615-313-0604/0529**

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# 50 COLLEGES!

THERE ARE OVER 50 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ACROSS TENNESSEE THAT ARE APPROVED FOR USE OF YOUR FEDERAL TUITION ASSISTANCE BENEFITS.



THERE ARE OVER 3,000 ON-LINE PROGRAMS ACROSS THE COUNTRY THAT ARE APPROVED AS WELL!

For a complete list visit 'GoArmyEd' to see which would be best for you or your family members.

[GOARMYED.COM](http://GOARMYED.COM)

There are several valuable tools on the website to help you maximize your military training and plan a career path that fits your future.



follow us @tnneducation



**Contact the EIO Team for questions regarding education or incentive benefits:**

[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil)

[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)

**Incentive/ SLRP Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646**

**FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team: 615-0592/0604**

**GI Bill/ Testing: 615-313-0604/0529**

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★

Updated: 25 September 2019



## Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)

### 1. What Is It?

- FTA is financial assistance provided for voluntary off-duty education programs in support of a Soldier's professional and personal self-development goals.  
(Reference: AR 621-5, RAR, 6 September 2009, Army Continuing Education System)

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- **Tier 1:**
  - Be currently serving in the ARNG and completed either Advanced Individual Training (AIT), Warrant Officer Basic Course (WOBC), or Basic Officer Leaders Course (BOLC).
  - Have not attained a bachelor's degree and wish to pursue an undergraduate academic certificate, associate's or bachelor's degree or
  - Have attained a bachelor's degree and wish to pursue a graduate academic certificate or
  - Have attained a bachelor's degree without the use of FTA and wish to pursue a master's degree.
- **Tier 2:**
  - Be currently serving in the ARNG and completed either Advanced Leader's Course (ALC), Warrant Officer Advanced Course (WOAC), Captain's Career Course (CCC), or equivalent.
  - Have attained a bachelor's degree with the use of FTA and wish to pursue a master's degree.
- **Service Requirement/Obligation:**
  - Have an ETS or MRD after completion of FTA funded course(s).
  - Officers and Commissioned Warrant Officers are subject to a four year Reserve Duty Service Obligation (RDSO) OR a two year Active Duty Service Obligation (ADSO).
- **Additional Criteria:**
  - The college is regionally or nationally accredited AND is a participant in GoArmyEd (GAE).
  - The funded course(s) meets a requirement listed in your personalized degree plan provided by the school (this can include prerequisite courses).
  - You maintain an undergraduate GPA of 2.0 or a graduate GPA of 3.0 for FTA-funded courses.
  - You must submit your FTA request at least 5 business days prior to course start date.

### 3. What Do I Get?

- FTA will pay up to **\$250** per semester hour and up to **16 SHs** per fiscal year.
- Lifetime limit of 130 undergraduate semester hours and 39 graduate semester hours.
- Up to 21 additional semester hours for a certificate.
- FTA will pay toward one credential at each of the following levels:
  - Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Master Degree, Undergraduate/Graduate Certificate
  - First Professional degrees are NOT eligible (i.e. doctorate degrees, Juris doctorates)

## 4. Programs NOT Approved For FTA

- Courses leading to a credential that are lower or lateral to the highest credential you have already earned.
  - Example: if you have a bachelor's degree (even if you came in the ARNG with one), you cannot use FTA to pursue a second bachelor's or associate's degree.
- Any program that bundles tuition and fees together into a lump sum charge.
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs) or courses that do not meet degree requirement.
- FTA is also NOT authorized simultaneously with Chapter 1606/MGIB-SR for the SAME course.

## 5. How Do I Apply?

- **Create a user account in GoArmyEd.com:**
  - Go to [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com) and establish a GAE Federal Tuition Assistance account by clicking on the "New User" button and entering all required data.
- **Tips to remember when applying:**
  - Apply for FTA up to 60 days **prior** to the class start date, but no later than 5 business days prior to the class start date (all FTA **MUST** be approved prior to the class start date).
  - You must submit an FTA request for each individual course that you want FTA to fund.
  - If your school charges by quarter hour or clock hour, GAE will automatically convert them into semester hours on the FTA request.
  - If your school's courses are not listed in GAE (i.e. you have to physically enter your courses into each FTA request), you must upload the following documentation into your GAE "Education Record" eFile:
    - Cost Verification Statement: individualized document such as a billing statement/invoice specific that breaks out the cost of tuition and fees separately.
    - Class Schedule: individualized document that shows all courses to include class name, start date, end date, course number, and number of credit hours.
    - All of these documents **MUST** have your name and the name of the school on them or a screenshot from your online student account, and cannot be in an editable format.
  - After you complete six semester hours of FTA-funded coursework, you must provide an individualized degree plan/student agreement to GAE.
  - This document should list the courses required for completion of your degree, as well as the existing credits already applied toward your degree.
  - New FTA users and anyone who changes their degree plan are required to complete VIA (VIA is a planning tool in GAE designed to help Soldiers identify their 'best fit' school).

### **For More Information:**

- Apply On Line: [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com)
- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your Education Services Office: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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PERSONAL TRAINER FORENSIC ANALYST  
 PRIVATE PHARMACY TECHNICIAN  
 PILOT SOUS CERTIFIED  
 PUBLIC CHEF MANAGER  
 RELATIONS **New! COMPTIA A+** EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN  
 LEAN SIX SIGMA  
**CREDENTIALING ASSISTANCE Program!** QUALITY ENGINEER  
 ASSOCIATE DENTAL ASSISTANT  
 PROFESSIONAL IN HR TECHNICIAN  
 ATHLETIC TRAINER JAVASCRIPT  
 SONOGRAPHER SPECALIST  
 PROGRAM MANAGEMENT **SECURITY +** COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSE  
 MEDICAL ASSISTANT



**Effective 1 Jan 2020, Soldiers can receive up to \$4,000/year to obtain a credential or license!**

**For more info go to: [www.cool.osd.mil/army](http://www.cool.osd.mil/army)**



Contact the EIO Team for questions regarding education benefits:  
[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil)  
 FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team: 615-0592/0604  
 Visit us: [tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives](http://tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives)

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★

Updated: 16 December 2019



## Credentialing Assistance (CA)

### 1. What Is It?

- The Army's Credentialing Assistance (CA) Program provides Soldiers with funding for more than 1,500 credentials listed on <https://www.cool.osd.mil/army/>

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- Soldiers may begin work on their **first** credential upon successful completion of AIT, WOBC or BOLC.
- Soldiers establish eligibility for a **second** 'credential pathway' upon successful completion of ALC, WOAC or CCC or equivalent (Tier 2) in the Civilian Occupational Option ONLY.
- Soldiers assigned to the following states are eligible for the CA program;
  - Effective 1 Jan 2020: All States/Territories

### 3. What Do I Get?

- CA will provide Soldiers up to \$4,000 each year to pay for an eligible credential.
- Soldiers may use both Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) and Army Credentialing Assistance (CA); however, the combined usage shall not exceed \$4,000 per FY.
- CA can be used for any credential listed on [https://www.cool.osd.mil/army](https://www.cool.osd.mil/army/) but does not have to be related to the Soldier's MOS.
- CA will pay expenses for classroom, hands-on, online/blended training and associated materials to include: manuals, study guides, textbooks, processing fees, test fees, related fees for continuing education requirements, and recertification of credentials.

### 4. What Are The Most Popular Certifications?

- Associate Professional in HR (aPHR)
- Certified Logistics Technician (CLT)
- Certified Personal Trainer (CPT)
- Certified Welder (CW) Commercial
- Commercial Driver License (CDL)
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Lean Six Sigma
- Project Mgt Professional (PMP)
- Private Pilot, Airplane Single Engine
- CompTIA A+ CompTIA Security +ce



## 5. How Do I Apply?

- Contact your State ESO/ESS to discuss the CA application process and verify eligibility at [www.nationalguard.com/contacts/eso](http://www.nationalguard.com/contacts/eso)
- Ensure your credential is listed on Army COOL at <https://www.cool.osd.mil/army>.
- Identify your school/training facility/credentialing agency.
- Establish your GoArmyEd account at: [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com)
  - New Users: Click "Request TA Access" OR For reactivations: Click "Change Degree/School"
  - Establish your degree plan by selecting "Credentialing Pathway"
  - Establish your school by selecting "Credential School" (click on green search button to enter these selections)
- Open a GoArmyEd Helpdesk case and select "Credentialing Request" as case type.
- Download and fill-out the Credentialing Plan (CP) and Statement of Understanding (SOU).
- Complete the Credential Plan for each training course and exam.
  - The CP has 3 tabs
    - Part 1 (list all required training courses and exams)
    - Part 2 (Soldier and Vendor information-all yellow shaded blocks must be completed)  
\*\*\*Start date must be 30 business days from submission.\*\*\*
    - Part 3 (requests all materials needed to include fees, books, materials, etc.)
- Using your CAC, sign your Statement of Understanding.
- Upload the CP and SOU into the credentialing helpdesk case. Select "add a note" to attach the digitally signed SOU.
  - You can add any supporting documentation such as an invoice, prerequisite info, etc., by selecting "add note".
- Monitor the status of your request via the helpdesk case. You will also receive email updates to your default email address you provided on the CP.

## 6. Where Can I Go For Testing?

- There are two major companies that offer certification and licensure exams. You can find local test centers on their websites:
  - Pearson VUE: <https://home.pearsonvue.com/>
  - Prometric: <https://www.prometric.com/en-us/Pages/home.aspx>

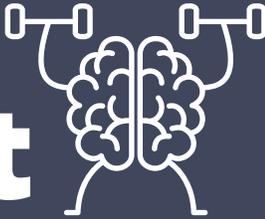
### *For More Information:*

- Go to Army Cool: <https://www.cool.osd.mil/army>
- Apply On Line: [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com)
- Contact your ESO: [tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives](http://tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives)
- Visit Us Online: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)

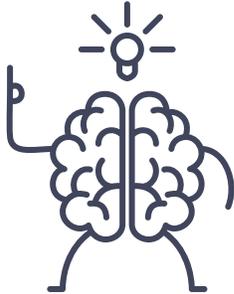
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**start**  
**STRONG**  
**finish SMART**



TN STRONG Act is the TN National Guard  
State Tuition Assistance Program!!

## Eligible applicants may apply for tuition reimbursement...

- Up to 120 credits hours, 8 semesters or equivalent towards an Associate's and or first Bachelor's Degree.
- When attending a 2 year or 4 year program from an eligible public or private institution domiciled within Tennessee.
- Paid directly to education institution in an amount of up to 100% of public school maximum resident undergraduate in-state tuition.
- Must use in conjunction with Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA), if eligible. Failure to do so WILL result in a reduced reimbursement.



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Contact your State TA Managers with your questions regarding TN STRONG Act and how to apply.

Air Guard: 615-313-0849 or  
[ng.tn.tnarnng.mbx.ngtn-state-tuition-assistance-air@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarnng.mbx.ngtn-state-tuition-assistance-air@mail.mil)

Army Guard: 615-313-0737 or  
[ng.tn.tnarnng.mbx.ngtn-state-tuition-assistance-army@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarnng.mbx.ngtn-state-tuition-assistance-army@mail.mil)

Visit us: [www.tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives](http://www.tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives)



# STRONG ACT

## BENEFITS

Available to all members of the  
Tennessee National Guard

Reimbursed, 100% of the highest in-state  
public institution

Pays up to 120 Semester hours for first  
Bachelor's degree

## QUALIFICATIONS

•Be admitted to and enroll in an eligible institution (any Tennessee public community college, public university, or private college or university, all of which must be regionally accredited) Individuals attending private institutions will be reimbursed for the average cost at a public institution.

•Maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0. An individual who loses eligibility for failing to maintain a 2.0 grade point average may regain eligibility upon maintaining a 2.0 grade point average in a subsequent semester.

- Apply for and use federal tuition assistance
- Be in good standing with the Tennessee National Guard and currently serving
- Apply for the reimbursement within 90 days of course completion

As a last-dollar reimbursement, the amount of state tuition reimbursement is offset by any other funds received. The tuition reimbursement will be made to the educational institution on behalf of an eligible member for no more than 120 credit hours or eight semesters toward a first time bachelor's degree.



SERVICE MEMBERS ACHIEVING RELEVANT TRAINING

The Governor's message about the STRONG Act and our Soldiers.

"I've had the privilege of witnessing Tennessee's National Guard in action, both in Afghanistan and here in Tennessee helping communities recover from devastating tragedies. Through the Tennessee STRONG Act, we can help our soldiers and airmen who protect us at home and abroad by providing tuition free attendance for these men and women at our public universities and colleges," Haslam said. "I thank Senate Majority Leader Mark Norris and Rep. Tilman Goins for carrying this bill and the legislature for their overwhelming support and partnership in helping our National Guardsmen earn college degrees."

The Tennessee STRONG Act creates a four-year pilot program for members of the Tennessee National Guard. Eligible members will qualify for tuition reimbursement toward a first time bachelor's degree. The bill is part of Haslam's NextTennessee legislative plan aimed at building and sustaining economic growth and the state's competitiveness for the next generation of Tennesseans.

- GOV Bill Haslam

# NEW STATE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT BENEFIT



## TN STRONG Act 2017 Tuition Reimbursement Program



### Tennessee Public Chapter No. 229.

This is a **tuition assistance program** that provides **reimbursement to an educational institution** on behalf of eligible members of the Tennessee National Guard. The reimbursement will be in the **amount equal to 100% of the maximum resident undergraduate In-State tuition** charged by the post-secondary institution member attends.

This program will fund **no more than 120 credit hours or 8 full time semesters or equivalent towards an associate's and or first bachelor's degree** when attending a regionally accredited postsecondary institution within Tennessee.

TN National Guard members can apply for this program but must have not missed a ship date to successfully **complete basic military training** prior to course start date.

**Regionally accredited community colleges, 4 year public and private schools** that are THEC and FTA approved are authorized. School's primary campus must be domiciled in the state of Tennessee.

Must maintain satisfactory academic progress with **2.0 GPA minimum** for the academic term for which STRONG Act tuition reimbursement is being sought. A failing grade 'F' will not be paid if only one course is taken.

Application packets are required to **be completed within (90) days of course completion.**

**Application packets** consist of several items; once prepared the initial application packet is submitted for **Commander's Review and Recommendation.**

**Course/ degree plans** from the chosen postsecondary institution will be required as part of the application packet after the completion of nine (9) credit hours or equivalent using the STRONG Act tuition reimbursement.

Member's will sign a **release statement** to authorize communication between State TA Managers and chosen postsecondary institution on member's behalf.

Students are responsible to **ensure final grades** are forwarded to the State TA Manager. This constitutes a **complete application packet.**

Only **complete packets** will be considered for TN STRONG Act tuition reimbursement.

**Payments will be made directly to postsecondary institutions on behalf of member.**



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
TENNESSEE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD  
HOUSTON BARRACKS, PO BOX 41502  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37204-1502

NGTN-PER-B

1 January 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Processing College Transcripts for Soldiers of the Tennessee Army National Guard

1. References: AR 601-210, AR 600-8-19, AR 601-100, and NGR 600-100.
2. The Tennessee Army National Guard (TNARNG) Education Services Office (ESO) is the only verifying official for post-secondary education transcripts for all members when it is for the purpose of making the transcripts part of their Official Military Personnel File (OMPF).
3. To ensure transcripts are properly verified and added to a member's OMPF, transcripts must be received directly from the post-secondary education institution. When submitting transcript requests to an institution, members should provide the ESO's mailing address or e-mail address to the institution and request the transcripts be sent directly to one of these.

ESO Mailing Address: Joint Forces Headquarters  
Tennessee Army National Guard  
ATTN: NGTN-PER-ED  
3041 Sidco Drive  
Nashville, TN. 37204

ESO E-mail Address: [ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil)

4. Any transcripts received marked '*Issued to Student*' will not be accepted.
5. The Education Office will ensure transcripts are validated, verified, uploaded into iPERMS and keyed into SIDPERS as part of the Soldier's permanent military service record.
6. POC is CW3 C. Scarlett Bernier, ESO at (615) 313-0625 or [clarisse.s.bernier.mil@mail.mil](mailto:clarisse.s.bernier.mil@mail.mil).

LEONARD D. BRANNOM  
LTC, GS, TNARNG  
G1, Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel



# SLRP

## “Show Me the Money!”

### *Do you know...*

- **WHAT?:** Student Loan Repayment Program
- **WHEN?:** On the anniversary date of your enlistment or reenlistment
- **WHERE?:** Unit Readiness NCO can print DD 2475 from GIMS **60 days** from entitlement date
- **HOW?:** Go to the NSLDS website at <https://www.nslsds.ed.gov/> Soldier must print summary & detailed loans sheets within **30 days** of entitlement
- **WHY?:** Soldier **MUST** request payment annually to receive incentive Entitlement you earned by maintaining required standards

**Not sure you have SLRP? Read your enlistment contract and bonus addendum found in your iPERMS.**



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“We are working harder to make you smarter!”

Incentive & SLRP Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646

Education Team: 615-313-0592/0529/0604

Email: [ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil) or  
[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# MILITARY TRAINING = COLLEGE CREDIT



- One source document that provides a roll up of all your military training that has been evaluated by ACE's (American Council on Education).
- Presents credit recommendations for formal courses and occupations offered by all branches of the military.
- Review your JST several times during your military career; important document when you decide to attend college.
- Your college will translate your military experience into possible college credits.

## **Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) .... Performed by your chosen college**

*Documents required vary by college & may include tests, evaluations, or portfolios. Possible Documentation examples:*

- DD-214's
- JST
- Prior college transcripts

**Visit...<https://jst.doded.mil> to generate your JST today!**



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Contact the EIO Team for questions regarding education or incentive benefits:  
[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil)  
[ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)  
**Incentive/ SLRP Team: 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646**  
**FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team: 615-0592/0604**  
**GI Bill/ Testing: 615-313-0604/0529**

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★

Updated: 25 September 2019



## JOINT SERVICES TRANSCRIPT (JST)

### ➤ **What Is It?**

- The **Joint Services Transcript (JST)** is an academically accepted document approved by ACE to validate a service member's military occupational experience and training along with the corresponding ACE college credit recommendations.

### ➤ **How Do I Qualify?**

- All military members, current or former are eligible to receive a JST.

### ➤ **What Do I Get?**

- The JST contains a record of your military educational experiences, and helps college registrars award college credit for learning gained in the military.
- The JST provides a description of military schooling and work history in civilian language and serves as a counseling tool for academic and career counselors in advising Service members and veterans and as an aid in preparing resumes and explaining military work experience to civilian employers.
- The JST saves time and money by awarding academic credits, which means less tuition to pay and less time spent in the classroom.
- The acceptance of American Council on Education (ACE) credit recommendations varies depending on an institution's policies, procedures, and degree requirements.

### ➤ **How Do I Apply?**

- Request a copy of your JST and submit your official JST to any institution located on the "Official Transcript Request" page on the JST website at; <https://jst.doded.mil/>
- If you are missing an ACE accredited course you completed more than two months (60 days) ago and it is an ACE accredited course, send a copy of all documentation training certificates (DA-1059) and justification through the JST web site.

### **For More Information:**

- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Office: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

Join us on Social Media!

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★

Updated: 25 September 2019



## Army Personnel Testing (APT)

### 1. What Is APT?

- APT encompasses standardized tests used to determine eligibility for specialized training and to support the Army's personnel selection and classification process, including language proficiency testing (AR 611-5).

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- Be an active drilling member of the Army National Guard (ARNG).
- Not have taken the requested test within the last 6 months.

### 3. What Tests Can I Take?

- APT offers career-enhancing exam options, such as:
  - *Armed Forces Classification Test (AFCT)*
  - *Selection Instrument Flight Training (SIFT)*
  - *Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT)*
  - *Defense Language Reading Proficiency Test (DLRPT)*
  - *Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB)*
  - *Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI)*
  - *Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)*

### 4. What Are The Benefits of These Tests?

- AFCT: Raise GT/Line Scores to Re-class MOS or Qualify for Officer Candidate School.
- SIFT: Qualify for Aviation School.
- DLPT/DLRPT/DLAB/OPI: Qualify for Foreign Language Billets and proficiency bonuses

### 5. How Do I Apply?

- A DA Form 4187 (Request for Personnel Action), signed by the Unit Commander, must be submitted to the Test Control Officer (TCO) to schedule an APT exam.

## 6. Reasons/Requirements for an Exception to Policy (ETP)

- An exception to policy approval is required when there is a **need** to retest.
- Each request, must provide military justification to include extenuating circumstances stating why the Soldier cannot wait the required six months.
- The request must include proof of training to justify that the retest will result in significantly improved scores (i.e. completion of the Online Academic Skills Course - OASC).
- Do not schedule a test without an **approved** ETP.
- A new DA Form 4187 shall be submitted to the TCO. The DA Form 4187 must include information regarding the previous test dates and scores and include a copy of the ETP as an attachment.
- All APT ETPs must be submitted through the State's ARNG TCO to the National Guard Bureau. Soldiers/States should refer to the Army APT Handbook for specific APT ETP requirements.

### **Helpful Links:**

- AFCT test prep:
  - [www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantesnet/](http://www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantesnet/)
  - <https://www.khanacademy.org>
- SIFT test prep:
  - [https://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/handbooks\\_manuals/aviation/helicopter\\_flying\\_handbook](https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/helicopter_flying_handbook)
- DLPT/OPI test prep:
  - <http://www.dliflc.edu/resources/products/>
  - <https://jlu.wbtrain.com/>

### **For More Information:**

- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State ESO: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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CHALLENGE  
YOURSELF WITH

# ARMY PERSONNEL TESTING (APT)

## What Is APT?

APT encompasses standardized tests to determine eligibility for specialized training and to support the Army's personnel selection and classification process, including language proficiency testing. (Reference: AR 611-5)

## How Do I Qualify?

Be an actively drilling member of the Army National Guard.

## What Tests Are Available?

APT offers career-enhancing exam options, such as:

- Armed Forces Classification Test (**AFCT**)
- Selection Instrument Flight Training (**SIFT**)
- Defense Language Proficiency Test (**DLPT**)
- Defense Language Aptitude Battery (**DLAB**)
- Oral Proficiency Interview (**OPI**)
- Test of Adult Basic Education (**TABE**)

## What Are The Benefits of These Tests?

**AFCT:** Raise GT/Line Scores to Re-class MOS or Qualify for Officer Candidate School

**SIFT:** Qualify for Aviation School

**DLPT /DLAB/OPI:** Qualify for Foreign Language Billets and Proficiency Bonuses

**TABE:** Qualify for WOC school

## How Do I Apply?

Application for APT is through the Education Office with a DA 4187 from your unit.

**GUARD  
SMART**

SERVICE MEMBERS ACHIEVING RELEVANT TRAINING

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Contact the ESO Team for questions  
regarding education or incentive benefits:

ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil

ng.tn.tnarnng.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil

**Incentive/SLRP Team:** 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646

**FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team:** 615-313-0592/0604

**Testing:** 615-313-0604/0529

**GI Bill:** 615-313-0529

Visit us: <http://tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

# TEST YOURSELF

## **FOR FREE with Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (Dantes) Testing**

### **What Is It?**

DANTES offers free college entrance exams as well as high school & college equivalency exams to assist TNGG members in their academic pursuits.

### **How Do I Qualify?**

Be an active drilling member of the Tennessee National Guard.

### **What Do I Get?**

Below are the tests TNGG members may take:

- Entry level exams for Colleges (ACT,SAT)
- Entry level exams for Graduate Schools (GMAT,GRE)

### **How Do I Apply?**

Most DANTES sponsored tests are administered at National Test Centers (NTCs) Soldiers should locate a local NTC and contact them to schedule your exam [https://apps.collegeboard.org/cb-search\\_clep/searchCLEPTestCenter.jsp](https://apps.collegeboard.org/cb-search_clep/searchCLEPTestCenter.jsp)  
ACT and SAT Tests are administered free to military personnel only at Active Duty Education Centers or your State Education Offices (active DANTES Test Sites only)

### **Helpful Links:**

*CLEP Exams:* <http://clep.collegeboard.org/military>

*DANTES:* <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/>

*Study Materials:* <http://www.nelnetsolutions.com/dod/>



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### **Contact the ESO Team for questions**

**regarding education or incentive benefits:** Email:

[ng.tn.tnarrng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarrng.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil) or

[ng.tn.tnarrng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarrng.list.ngtn.-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil)

**Incentive & SLRP Team:** 615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646

**FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team:** 615-313-0592/0604

**Testing:** 615-313-0604/0529

**GI Bill:** 615-313-0529

Visit us: <http://www.tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives>

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES)

**1. What Is It?** DANTES provides numerous programs and services to assist service members seeking to further their voluntary education goals and objectives.

**2. How Do I Qualify?** Be an actively drilling member of the ARNG.

**3. What Do I Get?**

➤ **Free Academic and College Credit Equivalency Exams:**

- General Education Development (GED)
- Entry level exams to Colleges (ACT, SAT)
  - Free ACT test prep: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
  - Free SAT test prep: [www.sat.collegeboard.org](http://www.sat.collegeboard.org)
  - Free ACT/SAT test prep: [www.eknowledge.com](http://www.eknowledge.com)
- Entry level exams to Graduate Schools (GMAT, GRE)
- Teacher Certification Exams (Praxis)
- College credit equivalency exams (CLEP, DSST)
- Tests are administered at National Test Centers (NTCs)
  - Locate a local NTC to schedule CLEP exams at: <https://clep.collegeboard.org/test-center-search>
  - Locate a local NTC to schedule DSST testing at: <http://getcollegecredit.com/institutions/search>
  - ACT and SAT Tests are administered free to military personnel at Active Duty Education Centers and some State Education Offices

➤ **Free Test and College Prep Materials:**

- Online Academic Skills Course (OASC)
  - Self-paced and customized based on pre-assessment, includes quizzes
- College Placement Skills Training (CPST)
  - Helps Soldiers prepare for college and build academic skills
- Available to family members
  - Access at: [www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantesnet/](http://www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantesnet/)

- **Joint Services Transcript (JST):**
  - Formerly the ARRTS Transcript
  - Assists colleges in awarding college credit for military training
  - Provides employers with an overview of experiences and responsibilities
  - Access/download your personal JST at: <https://jst.doded.mil>
  
- **TA Decide:**
  - Online comparison tool tailored to the needs of service members
  - All schools on the site are approved for Tuition Assistance
  - Thousands of schools included
  - For more information visit: [www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE/](http://www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE/)
  
- **Kuder Journey:**
  - Includes an interest assessment, skills confidence assessment, and a work values assessment
  - Provides transition assistance
  - For more information visit: <https://dantes.kuder.com/landing-page>
  
- **Troops to Teachers:**
  - Assists Soldiers in gaining a teaching certification
  - Provides counseling, mentoring, and referral assistance
  - May provide financial assistance up to \$10,000
  - Register at: [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com)
  
- **Other Services Include:**
  - MyVolEdPath Mobile App (available at the App store)
  - Distance Learning Readiness Self-Assessment (DLRSA), helps determine your level of readiness for distance learning
  - Education counseling, financial aid guidance, scholarship information, virtual fairs, assistance in locating testing centers

***For More Information:***

- Visit the DANTES Web Site at: [www.dantes.doded.mil/index.html](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/index.html)
- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Office:  
<https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

Join us on Social Media!

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Financial Aid and Grants

### 1. Types of Aid Available

- **Government Financial Aid** - for military service or family members of military
  - Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Scholarships
  - Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Education Benefits
  - Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant or Additional Federal Pell Grant Funds
  - Limited Interest Rates, No Accrual of Interest, and Deferment of Student Loans
  - <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/military>
- **Grants** - are often called "gift aid" because they are free money—financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid. Grants are often need-based, while scholarships are usually merit-based.
  - Federal Pell Grants
  - Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
  - Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grants
  - Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants
  - <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/federal-grant-programs.pdf>
- **Work-study** - a work program to earn money and help you pay for school. It provides part-time employment while you are enrolled in school.
  - Available to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students with financial need.
  - Available to full-time or part-time students.
  - Administered by schools participating in the Federal Work-Study Program. Check with your school's financial aid office to find out if your school participates.
  - <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/work-study>
- **Loans** - borrowed money for college or career school; you must repay your loans, with interest. If you apply for financial aid, your school will likely include student loans as part of your financial aid package. Generally, there are two types of student loans—federal and private.
  - Federal student loans and federal parent loans: These loans are funded by the federal government.
  - Private student loans: These loans are nonfederal loans, made by a lender such as a bank, credit union, state agency, or a school.

## ➤ **Four types of Federal Student Loans;**

- Direct Subsidized Loans are loans made to eligible undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need to help cover the costs of higher education at a college or career school.
- Direct Unsubsidized Loans are loans made to eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, but eligibility is not based on financial need.
- Direct PLUS Loans are loans made to graduate or professional students and parents of dependent undergraduate students to help pay for education expenses not covered by other financial aid. Eligibility is not based on financial need, but a credit check is required. Borrowers who have an adverse credit history must meet additional requirements to qualify.
- Direct Consolidation Loans allow you to combine all of your eligible federal student loans into a single loan with a single loan servicer.
- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans>

## ➤ **Other Sources (State Aid, College Aid, Nonprofit/Private Orgs)**

- Aid From Your State Government - Even if you're not eligible for federal aid, you might be eligible for financial aid from your state. Many States have special grants or Student Loan Repayment Programs that will forgive loans based upon service in designated areas within their respective state.  
<https://www2.ed.gov/about/contacts/state/index.html>
- Aid from Your College or Career School - Many schools offer financial aid from their own funds. Find out what might be available to you
- Aid from a Nonprofit or Private Organization - Many organizations offer scholarships or grants to help students pay for college or career school. This free money can make a real difference in how affordable your education is.

## **2. How Do I Apply?**

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA);  
<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>
- Colleges usually use the FAFSA to determine your eligibility for additional State financial aid available to you. Check with your college financial aid office for more information.

## **3. What Are Some Tips and Best Practices?**

- Prepare and organize your information
- Follow the instructions and complete forms in their entirety
- Be cautious and avoid scams
- Ask your school, professional associations, and civic organizations about opportunities
- Watch and adhere to application deadlines. The pocket book you save will be your own!

### ***For More Information:***

- Visit us On-Line:  
[www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Office:  
<https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## College Scholarships

### .ORG Websites Hosting Scholarships

.ORG websites are typically Nonprofits, foundations, philanthropic and cultural institutions, religious, civic, arts, social and fraternal organizations, health and legal services, clubs and community volunteer groups. Use all scholarship search engines only after reviewing their terms of agreement.

#### 1. Fisher House: <https://www.militaryscholar.org/>

- For: *Service Member, Spouse & Children*
  - The Fisher House has awarded more than \$19 million dollars in the last 19 years.
  - This site also links you to the NMFA for Spouses: <https://scholarships.militaryfamily.org/>



#### 2. Enlisted Associated of the National Guard

<https://eangus.org/we-care-for-america/scholarship-information/>

- For: *Members of ENGAUS*
  - CSM Virgil R. Williams Scholarship
  - Patriot Scholarship
  - American Intercontinental University
  - American Public University System
  - Colorado Technical University
  - Grand Canyon University
  - Grantham University
  - University of Phoenix
  - USAA



THE ENLISTED ASSOCIATION  
OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES

#### 3. National Guard Association of the United States

<https://www.ngaus.org/membership/member-benefits/scholarships>

- For: *Members of NGAUS*
  - AFBA - \$5k
  - Grantham University, Commissioned or Warrant O5 and below and spouse of an active member. Valued up to \$14,200
  - The Van Hipp Heroes Scholarship Fund for those WIA
  - Leonardo DRS Guardian Scholarship Fund for children of KIA



NGAUS

#### 4. 25 Great Scholarships for Members of the Military and Their Families

<https://www.top10onlinecolleges.org/scholarships-for/members-of-the-military/>

## 5. The American Legion:

<https://www.legion.org/scholarships>

➤ For: *Dependent children of American Legion members*

- President Donald J. Trump signed into law the Legion Act on 30 July, 2019 opening up membership (and scholarships) to any of the six million living veterans who served during so-called peacetime eras.



## 6. Veterans of Foreign Wars

<https://www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support>

➤ For: *Service Members and Veterans, up to \$5k*



## 7. Student Veterans of America (\$10k)

➤ Raytheon Patriot Scholarship

<https://studentveterans.org/programs/scholarships?layout=edit&id=752>

➤ Google-SVA Scholarship

<https://studentveterans.org/programs/scholarships?layout=edit&id=733>



**Raytheon**  
Google

## .COM Websites hosting Scholarships

.com websites are typically for profit organizations. Use .com search engines cautiously and be aware you could get bombarded with offers if submitting inquiries directly to those sites.

### 1. U.S. Veterans Magazine

<https://www.usveteransmagazine.com/list-of-military-scholarships-for-service-members-spouses-and-dependents/>



### 2. Scholarships.com

<https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/military-scholarships/>



### 3. Affordable Colleges.com

<https://www.affordablecolleges.com/resources/scholarships-for-military/>



### 4. College Recon.com

<https://collegerecon.com/military-scholarships-2019/>



### **For More Information:**

- Visit us On-Line [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State ESO: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★

Updated: 25 September 2019



## Registered Apprenticeship (RA) & On-the-Job Training Programs

### 1. What is Registered Apprenticeship?

- RA is a combination of on-the-job training and related classroom instruction provided under the supervision of a journey-level craft person or trade professional in which workers learn the practical and theoretical aspects of a highly skilled occupation.

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

- Apprenticeship training programs require a minimum of 2,000 hours of OJT per year, supplemented by a minimum of 144 hours related classroom instruction.
- Instruction may be given in a classroom, through correspondence courses, self-study, or other means of approved instruction.

### 3. What Do I Get?

- As an apprentice, you will receive training, education, and wages from your employer.
- If you qualify for a GI Bill® program, you can also collect a monthly benefit payment, 'in addition' to your regular full-time wages, for the duration of the apprentice training period. The amount of GI Bill entitlement depends on your GI Bill eligibility:

- **Post-9/11 GI Bill:**

- Payment rates for the Post-9/11 GI Bill are based on percentages of the applicable Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) for an E-5 with dependents. MHA is determined by employer's zip code.
- Example: If a veteran is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill at the 100 percent rate were employed full-time in a 5-year RA training program with an employer located in Boston, Massachusetts (where the applicable MHA is \$3,042), he or she would collect a total of **\$73,008.00** in Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, in addition to your regular wages.

- **All other GI Bill programs:**

[https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/onthejob\\_apprenticeship.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/onthejob_apprenticeship.asp)

- Payment rates for all other GI Bill programs are based on a percentage of the full-time institutional rate of the benefit program being utilized.
- For all other GI Bill benefit programs, the total payment amount for a 5-year RA training program, regardless of location, would be as follows:

Montgomery GI Bill-AD, Chapter 30 (three or more years of service)	\$50,430.00
Reserve Educational Assistance Program, Chapter 1607 (80% rate)	\$40,344.00
Reserve Educational Assistance Program, Chapter 1607 (60% rate)	\$30,258.00
Reserve Educational Assistance Program, Chapter 1607 (40% rate)	\$20,172.00
Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve, Chapter 1606	\$9,643.20
Montgomery GI Bill Kicker Program (\$350 rate)	\$8,610
Montgomery GI Bill Kicker Program (\$200 rate)	\$4,920
Montgomery GI Bill Kicker Program (\$100 rate)	\$2,460

## 4. How Do I Apply?

### Step 1. Find an "Apprenticeable" occupation

- An apprenticeable occupation is defined as a skilled trade or craft, which has been recognized by the **U.S. Department of Labor**, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship (OA) and meets applicable local criteria.
- Apprenticeships can be found in all industries, from traditional sectors like construction and manufacturing to emerging sectors like energy, technology, and health care.
- A list of over 1,300 officially recognized apprenticeable occupations can be found at: <https://www.doleta.gov/OA/occupations.cfm>

### Step 2. Find an employer who sponsors an RA training program

- Approximately 16,000 employers nationwide sponsor RA training programs that enable their employees to obtain nationally recognized certification in trades and skills that can lead to rewarding careers in industries that stretch across the economic spectrum.
- To find apprenticeship programs visit the **CareerOneStop** Apprenticeship Finder: <https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Training/find-apprenticeships.aspx>

### Step 3. Search for an RA program approved for GI Bill use

- Visit: <http://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchInstitutionCriteria.do>
  - Leave the "Institution Name" field blank.
  - Set "Program Type" drop down menu to "On-the-Job Training/Apprenticeship".
  - Click your preferred State or Territory for a complete list of approved programs.

### Step 4. Find an RA job vacancy

- Visit: <https://www.apprenticeship.gov/apprenticeship-finder> and <https://www.glassdoor.com> and search for jobs by keyword and location.

### For More Information:

- Visit the U.S. DOL Web Page: <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship>
- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Office: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>
- Find apprenticeships: <https://doleta.gov/oa/veterans.cfm> and <https://www.careeronestop.org/>

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Troops to Teachers

### 1. What Is It?

Troops to Teachers (TTT) helps current and former military personnel begin teaching careers and find teaching positions in secondary schools, K-12.

### 2. How Do I Qualify?

All current and former members of the Armed Forces with an "honorable" discharge are eligible to receive counseling and employment facilitation services.

### 3. What Do I Get?

#### Counseling and Referral Assistance:

- Individual counseling to assist the participant in exploring and selecting the best pathway to teaching based on their unique needs, goals, and skills, (NOTE: As of August 2018, local TTT assistance is provided in 31 states via grant funding).
- Guidance on how to meet state teaching certification regulations and choose a certification program.
- Transcript evaluation for state certification.
- Insight on licensing options, to include substitute teaching licenses.

#### Employment Assistance:

- Conduct resume reviews.
- Connect qualified participants with hiring officials.
- Financial assistance in the form of a \$5K stipend or \$10K bonus may be available to participants who meet military service, education, and application requirements. For more information, visit <https://www.proudtoserveagain.com/Participants/financialassistance>
- Application must be submitted within 3 years of retirement/separation/release from the Armed Forces.

### 4. How Do I apply?

- Go to the TTT web site and click 'apply': [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com)

#### **For More Information:**

- Visit us On-Line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Office: <https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Spouse Education Support

This flyer provides a summary of several programs available to military spouses to assist with furthering their education.

### 1. Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB)

- If your service member has qualifying active duty, at least six years of service, and at least four years of service remaining he/she may qualify to transfer some or all of their education benefits to their eligible dependents.
- The transfer is conducted by the Service Member executing the TEB request at: <https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>

### 2. Military Spouse Scholarships

- There are a number of organizations who offer financial aid for military spouses in the form of scholarships. Keep in mind, many organizations offer these scholarships during certain times of the year, so pay close attention to the deadlines.

- ***The National Military Family Association (NMFA)***

- <https://scholarships.militaryfamily.org/offers/nmfa-spouse-scholarship/>

NMFA is one of the nation's leading non-profit organizations geared towards military family advocacy resources available to help fund your career and educational pursuits.



- ***ThanksUSA***

- <https://www.thanksusa.org/scholarship-program.html>

ThanksUSA is another organization that offers military spouse scholarships annually to provide need-based college, technical and vocational school scholarships and pathways to meaningful employment for children and spouses of military members.

- ***The U.S. Veterans Magazine***

- <https://www.usveteransmagazine.com/list-of-military-scholarships-for-service-members-spouses-and-dependents/>

Includes a list of over 100 Scholarships available to Veterans, Spouses and Families

### 3. MyCAA

- Spouses of Reserve, National Guard and AGR service members on active duty Title 10 orders are also eligible for the MyCAA program so long as the sponsor remains on Title 10 orders until the spouse completes his/her training program. Limited to \$2k per year up to program max of \$4k.
- Submit application at: <https://mycaa.militaryonesource.mil/mycaa/>

## 4. Student Loans

- You'll have to pay these funds back (with interest). Know the difference between subsidized (government pays the interest while you are in school) and unsubsidized loans (interest begins immediately upon loan disbursement).

## 5. Grants

- Often called "gift aid" because they are free money. Grants are financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid. Grants are often need-based, while scholarships are usually merit-based. Grants are applied for through the FASFA application.

## 6. Work-study

- A work program through which you earn money to help you pay for school. Check with your school's financial aid office for more information.

## 7. More Ways to Save

- Ask your school's financial aid counselor if they offer a military discount.
- Rent, don't buy, your text books. There are several sites, such as Chegg ([www.chegg.com](http://www.chegg.com)) that will allow you to rent your textbooks. You simply order, pay a nominal fee (compared to actually purchasing the textbook outright) and return it by the due date (usually from 3-12 months). Amazon, as well as Barnes and Noble, now rent textbooks.
- There are also multiple websites available where you can download a 'pdf' version of your textbook and cut your costs significantly. And **Lifewire** provides a list of multiple sites where you can find text books for free; <https://www.lifewire.com/free-textbooks-online-3482755>
- Check out our 'Financial Aid and Grants' and 'Scholarships' flyers to find even more helpful ideas and information on funding your college education.

### ***For More Information:***

- Visit us On-Line:  
[www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Office:  
<https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# What's in your Military Education **TOOLBOX?**

## Post-9/11 GI Bill - Chapter 33 (Most valuable)

- Department of VA funded
- Only benefit that you can use once you leave the military
- Only one you can share with your family

## Montgomery GI Bill- Chapter 1606

- Department of VA funded
- Payment directly to military student
  - May have a 'Kicker'
- Cannot be used with FTA for same course



## Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) (Use this one first)

- DoD funded; used only while serving
- May obtain certificates, Associates, Bachelor's, and Master's Degrees

## TN STRONG Act (Use this one with FTA)

- State of Tennessee funded
- Qualify immediately upon enlistment
- 120 credit hours, 8 full semesters or first Bachelor's degree



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Contact your ESO Team with questions regarding education or incentive benefits:  
ng.tn.tnarmg.list.ngtn-j1-education@mail.mil  
ng.tn.tnarmg.list.ngtn-j1-incentive-managers@mail.mil  
Incentive & SLRP Team: **615-313-3123/0577/2692/0646**  
FTA/ 'GoArmyEd' Team: **615-313-0604/0592**  
GI Bill/ Testing: **615-313-0529/0604**

Visit us: <http://www.tn.gov/military/programs-benefits/education-incentives>

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ★



Updated: 25 September 2019

## Education Support Programs

The Departments of Defense, Army, DVA, Labor, and Education offer several education counseling programs to help you decide your academic future. There are also several non-governmental programs designed to help you succeed in your education endeavors. Some of these programs are described below.

### Tools to Help Make Your Educational Decisions

- **VIA:** [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com)  
A decision support tool that helps you identify your long term career goal, choose a degree plan that prepares you for your career goal and select a “best fit” and “best value” school offering your preferred degree plan.
- **TA DECIDE:** [www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE/](http://www.dodmou.com/TADECIDE/)  
An online tool to support decision-making when it comes to selecting schools, choosing the right program in which to enroll, and making decisions that are aligned with unique personal goals.
- **Career Path DECIDE:** <https://careerpathdecide.org/>  
A decision support tool to help Service members and Veterans identify, prepare for, and become increasingly qualified for employment as they transition military service to the civilian workforce.
- **College Navigator:** <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>  
The interactive site allows you to explore and compare features of different institutions, including programs and majors, degree levels, institution type, and admissions considerations, pinpoint school locations with an interactive map, and export search results into a spreadsheet file format.
- **College Scorecard:** <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>  
A U.S. Department of Education webpage designed to assist prospective students in determining which school to attend.
- **GI Bill Comparison Tool:** <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool>  
The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' GI Bill Comparison Tool enables users to calculate benefits and research approved programs of study.
- **Kuder Journey:** <http://dantes.kuder.com>  
A one-stop-shop for Service members as they plan, prepare and transition to civilian employment.
- **Coalition for College:** <http://coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>  
Offers fee waivers for veterans and those currently serving that allows eligible students to apply to most member schools without paying any application fees.
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH):** [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh)  
A career resource offering information on the hundreds of occupations that provide the overwhelming majority of jobs in the United States.
- **O\*NET On-Line:** <http://www.onetonline.org/>  
The database provides the basis for our Career Exploration Tools, a set of valuable assessment instruments for workers and students looking to find or change careers.

## **Tools to Help While You Are in School**

- **Army e-Learning:** [www.atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/eLearningWelcome.aspx](http://www.atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/eLearningWelcome.aspx)  
All actively serving members of the ARNG as well as Department of the Army civilian employees, are authorized to access over 5,000 Information Technology, Business Skills, and Interpersonal Skills courses from any location, around the clock (24/7).
- **Khan Academy:** [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)  
A not-for-profit with the goal of changing education for the better by providing a free world-class education for anyone anywhere. **Free of charge.**
- **OASC and CPST:** [www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantesnet/](http://www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantesnet/)  
Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) and College Placement Skills Training (CPST) are available to Service members, DoD civilians, and family members, to help prepare for college, build academic skills, and prepare for exams such as CLEP or DSST.
- **Federal Academic Alliance:**  
<https://www.opm.gov/wiki/training/Federal-Governmentwide-Academic-Alliances.ashx>  
The US Office of Personnel Management partnered with several colleges and universities to provide additional learning opportunities to the federal workforce (including military personnel) by arranging reduced tuition rates.
- **Coursera:** [www.coursera.org](http://www.coursera.org)  
Coursera is an education company that partners with the top universities and organizations in the world to offer courses online for anyone to take, **FOR FREE**. Technology enables Coursera partners to teach millions of students rather than hundreds.
- **Massive Open Online Course (MOOC):** <https://www.classcentral.com/>  
MOOCs provide traditional course materials such as filmed lectures, readings, and [problem sets](#), as well as providing interactive user forums to support community interactions between students, professors, and [teaching assistants](#). MOOCs can especially be useful when preparing for CLEP and DSST exams.
- **Modern States Education Alliance (MSEA):** <https://modernstates.org>  
Through MSEA Soldiers can earn college credit by taking free on line college prep courses and a corresponding CLEP exam at no cost at a nearby National Test Center (NTC).

### **For More Information:**

- Visit us On-Line:  
[www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact your State Education Services Office:  
<https://www.tn.gov/military/section/education-incentives>

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# Select Train & Promote (STEP) Promotion Ladder

## What Is STEP?

- **Select:** Promotions are based on individual performance & potential demonstrated over time.
  - APFT/ HT & WT
  - Weapons
  - MOS Qualified
  - SSD Complete
  - Demonstrated Character
- **Train:** The culmination of training resulting in certification /validation that a Soldier is fully qualified in their MOS/grade.
  - Individual; collective; Unit
  - MOS specific
  - Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills
  - Leader Tasks
  - Civilian Education
- **Educate:** The culmination of professional military education.
  - Basic Leader Course (BLC)
  - Advanced Leader Course (ALC)
  - Senior Leader Course (SLC)
  - Master Leader Course (MLC)
  - Sergeant Major Course (SMC)
- **Promote:** Eligible to next rank upon completing Professional Military Education (PME).

## What is the purpose of STEP?

The appropriate training, education, and experience is completed before promotion in order to best prepare our NCOs to fight and win in a complex world as adaptive and agile leaders and trusted professionals for force 2025.

***'STEP' up to the challenge and prepare for your next promotion!!***

Please contact the Enlisted Promotions Section with your questions!

[ng.tn.tnarng.mbx.ng-tn-tnarng-ngtn-g1-epm@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.mbx.ng-tn-tnarng-ngtn-g1-epm@mail.mil)

# STEP Promotion Ladder

7 FEB 2018

<b>TIMIG +</b>	<b>TIS +</b>	<b>CES +</b>	<b>SSD +</b>	<b>PME</b>	
36 months	16 years	10 years	NA	USAMC Mod 3 (PH I) NR, or 1 JAN of Res Year	
36 months	12 years	8 years	SSD 4	MLC (1 Jan 2019)	
36 months	8 years	6 years	SSD 3	SLC	
18 months	NA	NA	SSD 2	ALC	
12 months	NA	NA	SSD 1	BLC	
					

# Structured Self Development (SSD) & Professional Military Education (PME) Requirements...



- Eligibility requirements for **SGT (E5)**:
  - 12 months' time in grade (TIG)
  - SSD 1 completed & recommended (for consideration)
  - BLC completed (to pin)
- Eligibility requirement for **Ssg (E6)**:
  - 18 months' time in grade (TIG)
  - SSD 2 completed & recommended (for consideration)
  - ALC completed (to pin)
- Eligibility requirement for **SFC (E7)**:
  - 36 months' time in grade (TIG) or 8 years' time in service (TIS)
  - SSD 3 completed (for consideration)
  - SLC completed (to pin)
- Eligibility requirement for **MSG (E8)**:
  - 36 months' time in grade (TIG) or 12 years' time in service (TIS)
  - SSD 4 completed (for consideration)
  - MLC completed (to pin-\*\*Effective 1 Jan 19)
- Eligibility requirement for **CSM/SGM (E9)**:
  - 36 months' time in grade (TIG) or 16 years' time in service (TIS)
  - Module 2 of Phase 1 of the non-resident United States Army Sergeant Major Course (USASMC) completed

***'Want to get promoted?' ...complete your SSD & PME!!***

Please contact the Enlisted Promotions Section with your questions!

[ng.tn.tnarng.mbx.ng-tn-tnarng-ngtn-g1-epm@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tn.tnarng.mbx.ng-tn-tnarng-ngtn-g1-epm@mail.mil)

# *How Do I Get Selected From The Promotion List?*



**Promotion authorities will select Soldiers for vacant positions if there are no excess Soldiers to fill the position in the following order:**

1. PME-qualified Soldiers.
2. Soldier assignments to vacancies for which they are eligible and available without the required PME qualifications.
3. Soldiers who hold the MOS as their secondary, who are on the promotion list. Soldiers from the secondary list who turn down the position will not be penalized by coming off the promotion list.
4. If a Soldier cannot be selected for a vacancy from the primary or secondary lists, Unit's will try to fill the position with excess throughout the State.
5. In extreme cases, where there is no Soldier available from any list, MACOMs can request an Exception to Policy (ETP). ETPs will not be approved if there are excess personnel to choose from.

## **Expanded Zone of Consideration:**

- The new expanded zone of consideration allows promotion authorities to consider Soldiers who have not met time-in-grade and TIS (TIG/TIS) requirements:
  - Promotion authorities cannot select Soldiers unless they reach the minimum TIG/TIS during the life of the promotion list.
  - Eligibility dates will be announced in the annual promotion board Memorandum of Instruction (MOI), computed from the last day of the month the board convenes plus 12 months.
  - All Soldiers must otherwise be qualified on the date established in the annual board MOI.
  - The promotion list, when published, will include all Soldiers who will meet the expanded zone of consideration requirements during the life of the promotion list. Soldiers on the promotion list who fail to meet the TIG/TIS requirements are ineligible and unavailable for selection until they meet TIG/TIS. As Soldiers meet the TIG/TIS requirement, the States may code them eligible and available for selection.

# CITIZEN SOLDIER FOR LIFE



## **Tennessee**

Career Readiness Counselors

Resource for assistance:

[www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov)

[www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)

### **Susannah Marley**

**Nashville**

P: 615-313-0740

smarley@patriotenterprisesllc.com

### **Dorothy Russell**

**Smyrna**

P: 615-355-3926

drussell@patriotenterprisesllc.com

### **Jennifer Braden**

**Memphis/Millington/Jackson**

P: 901-872-6691

C: 731-431-6360

jbraden@patriotenterprisesllc.com

### **Mike Bohannon**

**Chattanooga**

P: 423-634-3881

mbohannon@patriotenterprisesllc.com

### **Dave Goodman**

**Knoxville**

P: 865-816-8186

dgoodman@patriotenterprisesllc.com

### **Rita Petraroi**

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The vision of the *Citizen Soldier for Life* (CSFL) Program is to prepare and connect Army National Guard (ARNG) Soldiers and their immediate Family with *employment readiness* and *education* opportunities in order to maintain a ready and resilient force capable of accomplishing the State and Federal missions.

The Program focuses on:

- Individual *case management*
- Increasing *financial literacy*
- Delivering *Career Readiness Standards (CRS)* to Soldiers in the initial phase of the Soldier Life Cycle (SLC) and throughout the Soldiers career
- Connect with, and build lasting *partnerships* with available resources, employers, and community entities

Career Readiness Counselors focus on providing Soldiers and their Families with the skills necessary for a fulfilling civilian career to reduce unemployment and underemployment and improve overall readiness, behavioral health, drill attendance, and excessive attrition of the ARNG.

*Career Readiness Counselors are contract employees with Patriot Enterprises, LLC located on TNANG installations.*

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## SOLDIER LIFE CYCLE REQUIREMENTS

(AR 600-81, paragraph Extracts)

### **11-3. Initial phase (0-1 year)**

- Will register for eBenefits account
- Attend financial management training
- Complete a spend plan
- Complete a self-assessment
- Initiate an Indiv Development Plan (IDP) NLT 6<sup>th</sup> unit assembly for RC Soldiers

### **11-4. Service phase (1-10 years)**

- All Soldiers assessed after 1 October 2014 will review their IDPs annually, with their first line supervisor or higher-level leader
- Will complete financial resiliency training to ensure major life changes are reflected in their current budget.
- Soldiers pursuing education goals will access their Joint Service Transcript upon completing their first year and completing initial entry training

### **11-5. Service phase: (reenlistment)**

- Soldiers will complete an MOS crosswalk comparison review, gap analysis, and a self-assessment (enlisted), following each reenlistment (enlisted) or promotion (officer)

### **11-7. Careerist (10 years-retirement)**

- Soldiers attending PME courses (resident or distance learning) complete a Federal or civilian resume.
- Will completed before attending Senior Leaders Course, Warrant Officer Staff Course, or intermediate level education, as appropriate.

# NATIONAL GUARD

Your Regional  
Citizen Soldier for Life  
Career Readiness  
Counselors

**Jennifer Braden - Memphis/West TN**  
Career Readiness Counselor  
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**Rita Petraroi - Cookeville, TN**  
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**David Goodman - Knoxville/East TN**  
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**Susannah Marley - Nashville, TN**  
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**Dorothy Russell - Smyrna, TN**  
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**CITIZEN SOLDIER  
FOR LIFE**

**CAREER  
READINESS  
COUNSELOR**

***Providing***  
***Financial Literacy and Education***  
***Career Readiness Services***  
***Employment Skills Training***  
***Individual Case Management***

# CITIZEN SOLDIER FOR LIFE



## VISION

The CSFL program prepares and connects service members and their families within the 50 States and Territories with employment, education opportunities, and financial literacy to maintain a resilient force capable of accomplishing the State and Federal mission.

## PROVIDED SERVICES

- Small or Large Group Training & Briefs
- Individual Case Management / Follow-up
- Initial Counseling / Individual Assessment
- Introduction to Budget Management and Preparation of 12-month budget
- eBENEFITS Training and Registration
- MOS Crosswalk and Skills Gap Analysis
- Overview of the Individual Development Plan (IDP) and the Army Career Tracker (ACT)
- Basic Resume Guidance & Training
- Basic Job Seeker Assistance
- Assistance in Basic Resume Building
- Training for Job Interviews
- Conducting Mock Interviews

## BACKGROUND

In 2011, Congress ordered the Army's Transition Assistance Program (TAP) to be redesigned. The final phase of redesign included the development and delivery of Career Readiness Standards (CRS) through natural touch points in a Soldier's career.

The active Army delivers that education and counseling predominantly when the Soldier is departing military service—the Transition Phase of the Soldier Life Cycle (SLC). Service members depart Active Duty with the appropriate skills and knowledge for a successful transition to a civilian career path.

This approach did not meet the needs of Reserve Component (RC) Soldiers and therefore, the ARNG shifted focus to the initial phase of the Soldier Life Cycle.

The Citizen Soldier for Life program delivers training, education, Career Readiness Standards, and individual case management to Soldiers in the initial to mid-career phase of the Soldier Life Cycle.

A proof of concept was developed to expand this initiative to 9 states in 2016.

## PROOF OF CONCEPT

In 2009, the National Guard developed a pilot employment program within 4 states that placed over 10,000 participants with employment. This success occurred with 47 days of registering and produced an average salary of over \$17.50 an hour.

The success of this initiative was providing direct employment services that focused on one-on-one counseling through a case management system along with connecting to local employer partners within their communities.



## SERVICE WILL BE OFFERED TO:

- Any service member and their Family who need employment, education or financial education services.
- All service members who are unemployed or underemployed
- All service members who seek higher education opportunities
- All service members and their Families who seek financial education/services

# Before You Tell it to Your Inspector General

I Got A Beef  
With The System!  
What steps should  
I take now?

- ✓ **Be sure you have a problem, not just a peeve.**  
(Are the cooks turning out lousy chow or was it just one bad meal)
- ✓ **Give your chain of command a chance to solve the problem.**  
(Many problems must be addressed to the chain of command for resolution anyway)
- ✓ **If IG assistance is needed, contact your local IG first.**  
(IGs at higher commands will normally refer the case to the local IG for action)
- ✓ **Be honest and don't provide misleading information.**  
(IGs will discover the truth quickly in most cases and there are penalties for knowingly providing false information)
- ✓ **Keep in mind that IGs are not policy makers.**  
(If a policy is flawed, you can submit a proposed change on a DA Form 2028)
- ✓ **Keep in mind that IGs can only recommend, not order a resolution.**  
(Only Commanders can order; the role of the IG is to advise the Commander)
- ✓ **Remember IGs can only resolve a case on the basis of fact.**  
(Your claim that a supervisor has violated the rules doesn't make it fact. A claim must be supported with evidence)
- ✓ **Don't expect instant action on your request... be patient.**  
(Investigations take time, and IGs tend to have heavy workloads)
- ✓ **Be prepared to take "No" for the answer.**  
(In any case "Yes" or "No", the IG will explain why)



Contact your JFHQ IG office @ (615) 313-3063/ 3064/ 3065/ 3066/ 3067.

To complain without fear of reprisal is the right of any Soldier, Civilian, or Family Member seeking IG help. After all, problem-solving is one of the IG's primary missions.

