



# STRONG Act usage for Graduate Programs

The following points are meant to help Airmen, Soldiers, Leaders and University Administrators who have questions about using STRONG Act tuition reimbursement for graduate programs.

- STRONG Act tuition reimbursement funds may be used for graduate programs for the Fall 21 semester; members must submit applications for reimbursement within 90 days of the last day of instruction for the applicable academic period
- STRONG Act tuition reimbursement cannot exceed 40 semester hours towards a first master's degree
- TNG Members must apply for and use Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA), if eligible, through appropriate service branch as applicable
- STRONG Act tuition reimbursement funds may not be used retroactively for any semester prior to Fall 21
- TNG Members who used the STRONG Act to fund any portion of their undergraduate degree, have attained a bachelor's degree, and wish to pursue a master's degree will establish funding eligibility upon graduation from advanced leadership training. Advanced leadership training is defined as:

## ARMY

Advanced Leaders Course (ALC) for Enlisted Soldiers  
 Warrant Officer Advanced Course (WOAC) for Warrant Officers  
 Captains Career Course (CCC) for Officers

## AIR

Airmen Leadership School (ALS) for enlisted Airmen  
 Squadron Officer School (SOS) for Officers

- Many graduate programs have additional fees specific to each program. Fees will be processed as follows:
  - Fees may be paid if they are included in tuition and if they are the same for most students, regardless of discipline, i.e., standard library fees, standard technology fees, etc.
  - Fees may be paid if they are required by all students in a unique discipline to complete the degree program, provided the fee is included in tuition and is for a class or lab taught in a traditional academic environment.
  - Fees will not be paid, regardless if they are included in tuition, if they are specific to a unique discipline and they are taught outside of the traditional academic environment, including but not limited to aviation flight training fees, nursing co-op fees, fees for courses of study conducted abroad, or any fee listed by the university as a 'special' fee which is not imposed on all or most students attending the university.
- SM's who have received a master's degree from a US Military Academy (i.e. US Army War College) are ineligible to use STRONG Act funds for a graduate degree from a civilian institution