Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)

Developed by:

ARNG Education Services Branch

National Guard Bureau

(ARNG-HRH-C)

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Agenda

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Overview

What Is it?

- Financial assistance to help Soldiers with off-duty voluntary civilian educational pursuits.

What Do I Get?

- 100% of tuition cost up to $250 per semester hour ($167 per quarter hr., or $5.55 per clock hr.)

- Up to 16 semester hours per fiscal year

- FTA will not fund fees, books or materials

- Pays for one bachelors degree (130 credits), one masters degree (39 credits) and one undergraduate or graduate certificate (21 credits), every five years

Eligibility

How Do I Qualify?

- Actively serving in the ARNG

- Successfully complete IADT/BOLC

- Not flagged or pending unfavorable action

- Preferred college is accredited and participating in GoArmyEd

- All Federal TA requests must be submitted and approved <u>prior to</u> the class start date

- Military Service Obligation:
  - Commissioned Officers/Warrants (2 years/AGR, 4 years/TPU/Mday)
  - Enlisted/Warrants One (complete FTA-funded courses prior to ETS)

- Tiers:
  - Tier 1: Never used FTA and/or attained their degree without FTA (AIDT, BOLC, WOBC)
  - Tier 2: Used FTA previously and wish to pursue a graduate degree (ALC, WOAC, CCC)

- Maintain 2.0 undergraduate or 3.0 graduate GPA for FTA-funded courses

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Recoupment

Soldiers will be subject to recoupment if they:

- Receive a failing grade (grades **D & F** are recoupable in an <u>undergraduate</u> degree; grades **C, D & F** are recoupable in a <u>graduate</u> degree), **OR**

- Receive an incomplete for the course **OR**

- Withdraw from a course without an approved military withdrawal **OR**

- Do not complete their MSO

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FTA Process

How Do I Apply?

- Go to www.GoArmyEd.com (select 'Student' at the Create/Activate GoArmyEd Account log-in)
- For assistance, contact GoArmyEd Helpdesk (listed below), ARNG Education Services Office, or U.S. Army Education Center
- May apply within 60 days prior to course start date (NLT 5 days of course start date)

Navigating GoArmyEd.com (Getting Assistance):

- Visit the GoArmyEd Assistance Center to search for answers and information on GoArmyEd related topics: http://help.GoArmyEd.com/?cid=23928
- After logging in, select the green question mark icon to access the Helpdesk Resources page. This section provides answers to many questions about functions within GoArmyEd.com
- Still need help? Visit the GoArmyEd Helpdesk Resources page (blue icon at bottom of same screen) to create a Helpdesk case
- Still need more help? Call the Helpdesk directly for support at 800-817-9990

Steps in GoArmyEd

STEP 1

- Contact your state's Education Services Specialist for counseling and information on how to submit an FTA request

STEP 2

- Go to **www.GoArmyEd.com** and click '**Request TA Access**' and complete VIA
- Select a school and a degree and complete '**Course Planner**'
- Upload the required documents to eFile or Tuition Assistance Request
- Submit a Tuition Assistance Request, click on '**Request TA…**'

STEP 3

- Complete the course

Instructions:
https://www.goarmyed.com/docs/training/soldier/Requesting_Tuition_Assistance.pdf

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Steps in GoArmyEd

- Click on '**Request TA…**'

Steps in GoArmyEd

- Search for your school, and enter course subject and catalog number
- Click '**Next**'

Steps in GoArmyEd

- Select course start and end dates
- Select Instruction mode

Steps in GoArmyEd

This is where you will need to attached your account summary (bill) and student detailed schedule to your TA request.
(in this particular case, the soldier had already scanned both of these documents together as one and placed in their efile prior to requesting TA. You can attach them via "efile" or by "adding attachment" button.

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Steps in GoArmyEd

Steps in GoArmyEd

- Click '**Submit**'

FTA Tips

Smart Links:

- After logging in, you may select one of the following Smart Links:
  - ✓ My Education Record (lists previously approved courses, grades, etc.)
  - ✓ Other Links (useful information for before and after you request FTA)
  - ✓ Course Planner (when required; you will create your virtual degree plan)
  - ✓ Request TA
  - ✓ Withdraw from a Class
  - ✓ Change Degree/School

VIA:

- VIA is a decision support tool in GoArmyEd that helps Soldiers research and choose a long-term civilian career goal, a degree that prepares them for their career goal, and a "best fit/best value" school.
- VIA sources unbiased and comprehensive decision support data for career and education planning to help increase student retention and degree completion rates.
- Soldiers do not have to select VIA recommendations, and may use the advanced search function to find other degree programs and schools.

Withdrawals and Exceptions

Military Withdrawals (WM):

- If an unanticipated military mission or significant life event prevented you from successfully completing courses, you may submit a Helpdesk case to your ESO by requesting a WM and providing the following:
  - ✓ Request for TA Recoupment Waiver/Withdrawal for (WM) Military Reasons Form, signed by your Unit Commander or higher
  - ✓ Substantiating documentation to support the WM request
  - ✓ Upload all documentation into eFile in your "My Education Record" smartlink

After-the-Fact Exception to Policy (ETP):

- If unable to receive FTA approval because of a GoArmyEd.com system or Army Education Counselor error, you may submit a Helpdesk case to your Education Services Officer requesting an ETP. You will need to include the following:
  - ✓ Soldier statement/justification
  - ✓ Course enrollment verification (courses, SHs, start/end dates)
  - ✓ Itemized course cost verification (which lists tuition and fees separately)
  - ✓ Upload all documentation into eFile in your "My Education Record" smartlink

Points of Contact

For More Information:

- Contact your State Education Services Office at:
  - ✓ www.nationalguard.com/contacts/eso

- ARNG Education Support Center (ESC)
  - ✓ arng.esc@mail.mil or call: 1-866-ARNGESC (1-866-276-4338)

- Visit us On-Line:
  - ✓ www.nationalguard.com/education

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