

Educational Guide for Mobilizing Soldiers

Preparing for Deployment

Informing the School/Withdrawing from School

When a Soldier is mobilized Colleges/Universities require the Soldier to officially withdraw from the College/University and provide a copy of their orders as proof of mobilization. For most Colleges/Universities this paperwork can be done through the Dean of Undergraduate/Graduate Programs Office. See your College/University for additional details on their process.

Tuition Liability

- Soldiers who attend Colleges/Universities physically located in New York State are protected by the Patriot Plan. All schools in NY are required to drop all charges when a Soldier mobilizes and **properly informs the school**.
- Soldiers who attend Colleges/Universities outside of NY fall under different laws. Currently, there is no Federal protection for Soldiers attending school outside of NY. If a soldier has any issues, they should contact the NYARNG Education Services Office for assistance and guidance at education@ny.ngb.army.mil.

Tuition Assistance Benefits While Deployed (*Enlisted and AGR Soldiers*)

Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)

While mobilized National Guard Soldiers must receive their Federal Tuition Assistance benefits from Active Army (AD).

Active Army offers Tuition Assistance toward an Associates, Bachelors, Masters or First Professional Degree. The program pays tuition up to \$250 per credit, with a cap of \$4500.00 per fiscal year (1 Oct-30 Sep).

Applying for Active Duty (AD) Federal Tuition Assistance

To receive AD Federal TA, Soldiers must provide a copy of their degree plan to the Education Services Office at their mobilization site. If there is an Education Services Office at their Forward Operating Base (FOB), the Soldier can work through them. Once the degree plan has been approved, Soldiers must submit an application through www.goarmyed.com.

Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (State Tuition Assistance)

Deployed Soldiers can continue to use the Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program as long as the Soldier and the school meet all eligibility requirements. The program provides 100% Tuition Assistance to any SUNY or CUNY or \$2175 a semester to a private located within NYS. For additional details on this program, see the Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program webpage under Tuition Assistance.

Tuition Assistance Benefits While Deployed (*ARNG Officers only*)

Federal Tuition Assistance

While deployed, ARNG Officers will continue to receive Federal Tuition Assistance through the NYARNG. In order to use Federal Tuition Assistance, the Officer must agree to serve 4 years with the ARNG from the date of FTA completion.

FTA offers tuition assistance toward an Associates, Bachelors, Masters or First Professional Degree. The program pays tuition up to \$250 per credit, with a cap of \$4500.00 per fiscal year (1 Oct-30 Sep).

Applying for ARNG Federal Tuition Assistance

To receive ARNG Federal TA, Officers must submit an application through www.virtualarmory.com no later than the class start date. Once they must the application, they must provide a copy of their degree plan to the NYARNG Education Services Office at education@ny.ngb.army.mil or (518) 272-6831 (fax) in order for their tuition assistance application to be approved.

Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (State Tuition Assistance)

Program provides 100% Tuition Assistance to any SUNY or CUNY or \$2175 a semester to a private located within NYS. For additional details on this program, see the Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program webpage under Tuition Assistance.

GI Bill Benefits While Deployed

Montgomery GI Bill

During mobilization Soldiers can not collect GI Bill and Tuition Assistance at the same time. While mobilized a Soldier must chose which benefit they would like to use. However, if the Soldier chooses GI Bill, the GI bill will only cover up to the cost of the tuition and fees. Since GI Bill has a limited number of months, it is recommended that Soldiers use the AD Federal Tuition Assistance while mobilized.

Returning to School after Deployment

Informing the School/Returning to School

Once the Soldier returns from mobilization, the Soldier will have to fill out an application stating they are returning to the College/University. A Soldier who has been mobilized does not have to go through the admissions application process. Any Soldiers who have issues withdrawing or returning should contact the NYARNG Education Services Office at education@ny.ngb.army.mil or (518) 272-6349/4032.

Education Benefits after Deployment

In order to remain eligible for ARNG Education Benefits, a Soldier must remain an active member of the ARNG.

Federal Tuition Assistance

Following a deployment, all M-day Officers and Soldiers that remain in the NYARNG will go back to receiving Federal Tuition Assistance from the NYARNG.

FTA offers tuition assistance toward an Associates, Bachelors, Masters or First Professional Degree. The program pays tuition up to \$250 per credit, with a cap of \$4500.00 per fiscal year (1 Oct-30 Sep).

Applying for ARNG Federal Tuition Assistance

To receive ARNG Federal TA, Officers must submit an application through www.virtualarmory.com **no later than the class start date**. Once the Soldier/Officer completes the application, he/she must provide a copy of their degree plan to the NYARNG Education Services Office at education@ny.ngb.army.mil or (518) 272-6831 (fax) in order for their tuition assistance application to be approved.

Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (State Tuition Assistance)

Program provides 100% Tuition Assistance to any SUNY or CUNY or \$2175 a semester to a private located within NYS. For additional details on this program, see the Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program webpage under Tuition Assistance.

Chapter 1607 GI Bill -Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

Soldiers called to title 10 orders for 90 days or more are eligible for GI Bill benefits under Chapter 1607. Eligibility rates vary depending on the length of mobilization. For more information on the current rates, visit the VA's website at http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/rates/CH1607/ch1607rates100107.htm. Soldiers will be briefed on this benefit during the demobilization process.

Collecting Chpt 1607

To collect Chpt 1607 GI Bill, the Soldier must bring a copy of the DD 214 to the VA Rep at the school. The VA Rep will direct the Soldier to fill out VA form 22-1990 Application for Benefits (if they have never collected VA benefits before) or VA form 22-1995 (if they collected VA benefits before under another chapter).

Eligibility for Chpt 1607 GI Bill After Leaving the ARNG

Once a Soldier has gained eligibility for Chpt 1607, the Soldier remains eligible as long as they are an active member of the NY Army National Guard. If a Soldier separates from an ING or IRR status, Chpt 1607 eligibility will be terminated.

If a Soldier separates from an active drilling status, they can retain Chpt 1607 eligibility for 10yrs after separation.

NYS Veterans Tuition Assistance Award

Effective 1 Jul 2008, NYS provides a Tuition Assistance award to NYS Residents who are Combat Veterans. **Veterans do not have to be current members of the NYARNG to collect this benefit.** The Tuition Assistance award pays 98% of the SUNY tuition rate or \$4,287.50 a year whichever is less. This benefit can be used for Undergraduate or Graduate Study. The benefit is run by NYS Higher Education. For more information on this benefit, please see our link on the NYS Veterans Tuition Award or visit the Higher Education website at

http://www.hesc.com/content.nsf/SFC/2/Veterans_Tuition_Awards.