



New York Army National Guard Education and Incentives Newsletter



1 June 2026

Overview

Thinking about going back to school or continuing your degree? Make sure you're tracking the latest changes to your military education benefits! Please be advised that new updates have been released regarding education programs that may affect your current or future education plans. To avoid any disruptions in your funding or enrollment processing, we highly encourage all Soldiers to review our quarterly newsletter.

The following newsletter is to provide Soldiers and their family members with up-to-date information on their education and incentive benefits.

For additional information on any topics discussed, please contact the E&I office at: ng.ny.nyarnng.list.education-ny@army.mil.

Education Updates



Update #1: The Education and Incentives Service Office is accepting Recruitment Incentive Retention Program (RIRP) applications for Fall 2026 semester. The application (DMNA 96-1), Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Checklist can be found on our DMNA website at: <https://dmna.ny.gov/education/>

Applicants meeting the deadline requirements will be notified by the program manager what additional documents are required for approval.

Important Reminders:

1. The DMNA 96-1 + MOU + Checklist must be received by the established deadline date, 15 August 2026
2. RIRP only covers tuition, it does not cover fees, books or room and board
3. If RIRP was previously used, grade reports are required, and will affect your current eligibility if not received
4. To use RIRP applicants must be: in good standing with their assigned unit, accepted and enrolled in an undergraduate degree-granting program for a minimum of six (6) credit hours per semester, a resident of the State of New York for a period of 186 days prior to using the program

Update #2: Federal Tuition Assistance and Credentialing Assistance (CA) Wave 2 Changes.

The updated AR 621-5, Army Continuing Education System, has been published effective, 19 March 2026. A summary of the Wave 2 policy changes is listed below:

1. Commander approval required for all TA/CA requests
2. Officers (O1-O10) are no longer eligible for CA (warrant officers and enlisted Soldiers remain eligible)
3. Soldiers will be suspended for 12 months from both TA/CA if they have two or more recoupment actions in the same fiscal year. FTA recoupment reasons: A, D or F grade (Undergraduate), or a C, D, or F grade (Graduate); Withdrawal from a course after school's add/drop period; An unresolved incomplete grade after 120 days from the course end date; Leaving service before service obligation ends. CA recoupment reason: Failure to pass exam or submit exam request within 180 days of the completion of the training.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: ARMY IGNITED APPROVALS

01 | Would the commander or commander's representative receive an email notification to approve the TA/CA request?

Answer: Yes. Prior to a Soldier submitting a Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) or Credentialing Assistance (CA) request, they must first provide the email address of the commander or commander's representative. This is why it is critical for them to communicate their intent to request FTA/CA beforehand, ensuring they have the correct email address for the appropriate approval authority.

02 | Would the commander or commander's representative be required to have an account or role in Army Ignited?

Answer: No. The commander or commander's representative is not required to have a specific account or role within the Army Ignited system. The approval authority will receive an automated email containing a link that directs them to the Soldier's approval page where they can approve or disapprove the request.

Update #3: New Period of Service for Post 9/11 GI Bill Benefit

DC Safe and Beautiful Mission, ICE Support, Memphis Safe Task Force & New Orleans Special Safety Mission

While the following missions are community service and public safety efforts, it reflects the kind of active-duty service that can count toward your Post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement. If you supported any of the missions listed and meet the qualifying criteria (e.g., 90+ days active duty after Sept. 11, 2001, or certain disability/discharge conditions), it can be included in your GI Bill calculation.

Key takeaway: If you've served in any community mission or similar federal/local active-duty assignments, ensure your service is documented (via DD Form 214) and that you meet the Post-9/11 GI Bill eligibility requirements. The 2025 entitlement expansion could add up to an extra year of benefits, making it worth verifying your service record and applying through the VA's eBenefits portal.

Transferring Education Benefits (Post 9/11 GI Bill)

Transferring your Post 9/11 GI Bill is honestly one of the most impactful decisions you can make for your family's future. You've earned every bit of this benefit through your service, and we both know your family has sacrificed right alongside you. By passing those education benefits to your spouse or kids, you're giving them a massive head start whether that's a college degree or vocational training without the heavy burden of student debt. It's about taking care of your own and making sure the benefits you've worked so hard for serve the people who support you the most.

To initiate a transfer, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be eligible for Post 9/11 GI Bill
- Agree to serve 4-years from the date of the TEB request
- Not have any suspension of favorable action flag, including AFT and ABCP

To complete a TEB request visit: <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>

Total months of benefits cannot exceed 36 months between eligible dependents

Spouses: Use benefit immediately

Children:

- Cannot use the benefit until transferring Soldier has completed 10 years in the Armed Forces
- Can begin using the benefit on their 18th birthday or upon high school graduation, whichever comes first
- Eligibility ends on their 26th birthday unless an earlier date is specified



"Don't leave this on the table; make sure you look into transferring it while you still have the time in service to do so."



Incentives and More



1. Excess (9993) Update:

FY26 National Guard SRIP policy requires all Soldiers with an incentive agreement be assigned to a primary position commensurate with their MOS to maintain eligibility. Soldiers coded standard excess, for any reason, is subject to termination with recoupment in accordance with the SRIP.

State G1 Incentives personnel have been identifying Soldiers with an incentive agreement assigned to excess positions and working with each Battalion to move these Soldiers to a valid vacant position. This process is meant to ensure checks and balances of the Unit Manning Report so Soldiers with an incentive agreement are not mistakenly recouped safeguarding their financial stability and improving retention.

2. Blended Retirement Continuation Payment (BRS_CP) Update:

State G1 Incentives personnel have been working with NGB to resolve a systematic issue with BRS_CP payments being automatically moved to a bin the incentive team are unable to action. There has been progress in fixing this issue, and Soldier that requested CP should see payments hitting their account in the next 2 to 3 weeks. If this is not the case, please reach out to your Battalion Career Counselors for assistance.

Foreign Language Proficiency Pay

Do you speak a second language? The National Guard offers Foreign Language Proficiency Pay (FLPP) to Soldiers serving in designated language positions. Even if you do not serve in an official linguist role, documenting your language proficiency can open doors to unique job opportunities, qualify you for temporary duty assignments, or secure liaison roles at foreign embassies.

The Department of Army has approved a 2026 Army General Purpose Forces Strategic Language List (GPF SLL). The new list authorizes additional payments for six languages: Arabic-Modern Standard, Chinese-Mandarin, Korean, Persian-Farsi, Russian and Spanish to Soldiers serving in language-dependent and language-capable MOS/AOC. Soldiers serving in designated language position can collect an additional payment up to \$1000.00 monthly.

How can I get my second language added to my record?

A Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) or Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) is required with a minimum proficiency rating of 2. Upon completion of computer-based DLPT or OPI, Soldiers must provide a copy of the DA Form 330 (Language Proficiency Questionnaire) to their Unit Administrators for submission to the Education and Incentives Services Office.



To schedule a DLPT or OPI contact any of the following Education Test Centers:

West Point Army Education Center

Phone: 315-774-9535

Email: counseling@usma.edu

Office Hours: Monday to Friday (7:30am to 4:30pm)

Fort Hamilton Army Education Center

Phone: 718-630-4978

DSN: 232-4978

Office Hours: Monday to Friday (8am to 4:30pm)

Fort Drum Army Education Center

Phone: 315-772-6878

APT: 312-772-1251

DSN: 772-6878

Office Hours: Monday to Friday (9am to 4pm)



Upcoming Scheduled Events



Below are upcoming informational education events:

Unit Brief Events

5 June 2026: Headquarter, Headquarters Company, 42d Combat Action Brigade, Glenville, NY
5 June 2026: Headquarter Support Company Rear Detachment. 42d Infantry Division, Troy,
6 June 2026: Charlie Company, 1-69th Infantry, Harlem, NY
6 June 2026: 105th Military Police Company, Buffalo, NY
6 June 2026: Hotel Company, 427th Brigade Support Battalion, Fort Drum, NY
8 June 2026: Medical Detachment (MEDCOM), Camp Smith, NY
11 June 2026: 442d Military Police Company, Camp Smith, NY
13 June 2026: Headquarter, Headquarters Detachment, Joint Forces Headquarters, Latham, NY
13 June 2026: Bravo Company, 427th Brigade Support Battalion, Fort Drum, NY
14 June 2026: 501st Explosive Ordnance Battalion, Newburgh, NY
16 June 2026: Counter-drug Task Force Region AO1, Rochester, NY
17 July 2026: 1569th Transportation Company, New Windsor, NY
18 July 2026: 106th Regional Training Institute, Camp Smith, NY
6 August 2026: 2nd Squadron, 101st Cavalry Regiment, Fort Drum, NY
18 August 2026: 152nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, Fort Drum, NY

College Events

18 September 2026: College Event - SUNY Westchester County, Virtual

GI Bill Webinars

1. GI Bill 101 - 10 June 2026 at 1:00 p.m. ET, Virtual
2. VET TEC 2.0 - 11 June at 3:00 p.m. ET, Virtual
3. Apprenticeship 101 - 24 June 2026 at 1:00 p.m. ET, Virtual

Virtual Events

1. Lunch & Learn - Transitioning Programs - 9 June 2026 at 12:00 p.m. ET, Virtual

CLICK/SCAN THIS QR CODE OR
USE OUR TEAMS CODE TO JOIN

Teams Code: **1oeyukp**



2. Amazon Military Opportunities - 16 June 2026 at 3:00 p.m. ET, Virtual

Contact us for additional details on webinar access and virtual events.

Calling all NYARNG units! If you want us to brief your Soldiers on their education benefits, simply reach out. We schedule on a first-come, first-served basis, so don't delay. Contact us via email or phone today to secure your briefing.



518-786-0460



ng.ny.nyarnng.list.education-ny@army.mil

Saluting Our Military Scholars

We would like to take a moment to recognize the outstanding dedication of our Soldiers, Airmen and Naval Militia Service Members who have recently earned their academic degrees. Balancing the demands of mission readiness with the rigorous requirements of higher education is no small feat. Your commitment to continuous learning and professional development strengthens not only your individual capabilities but also the overall readiness of our formation.

To our recent graduates: Congratulations on reaching this significant milestone. We commend your discipline, resilience, and hard work!

List of Scholars:

Army National Guard Members:

Specialist Emmauelle Nortey - May 2026 - Masters of International Affairs, Journalism

Command Sergeant Major Jay Symonds - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Emergency Management

Second Lieutenant Andre Vanlange - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Sergeant First Class Michelle Cowley - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Addiction Studies

Sergeant First Class Tanesha Williams - May 2026 - Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration

Sergeant First Class Paul Morath - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Nursing

Sergeant Rowan Davison - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Science and Technology

Sergeant Robert Guthy - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Homeland Security

Sergeant Evanston Falcon Koss - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology

Sergeant Zachary Richard Nikolov - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Business Analytics



Air National Guard Members:

Senior Airman Karen Diaz - May 2026 - Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice Institutional Theory and Practice

Naval Militia Members:

Coming Soon!

Congratulations to the following members for achieving academic excellence in the Spring 2026 semester! Balancing the demands of life and military service is tough, but maintaining a perfect GPA and staying on track to graduate with honors is a truly elite achievement. We salute your discipline and dedication. Keep up the phenomenal work!

Army National Guard Members:

Staff Sergeant Ryan Gosse - G.P.A. - 4.00

Private First Class Gage Halavin - G.P.A. - 4.00

Private First Class Nicholas Distefano - G.P.A. - 4.00

Air National Guard Members:

Technical Sergeant Timothy Kerstiens - G.P.A - 4.00

Staff Sergeant Luke Ruggaber - G.P.A. - 4.00

Airman First Class Logan McIntosh - G.P.A. - 4.00

Naval Militia Members:

Lance Corporal Anthony Jarama - G.P.A. - 4.00



SUMMA CUM LAUDE!