

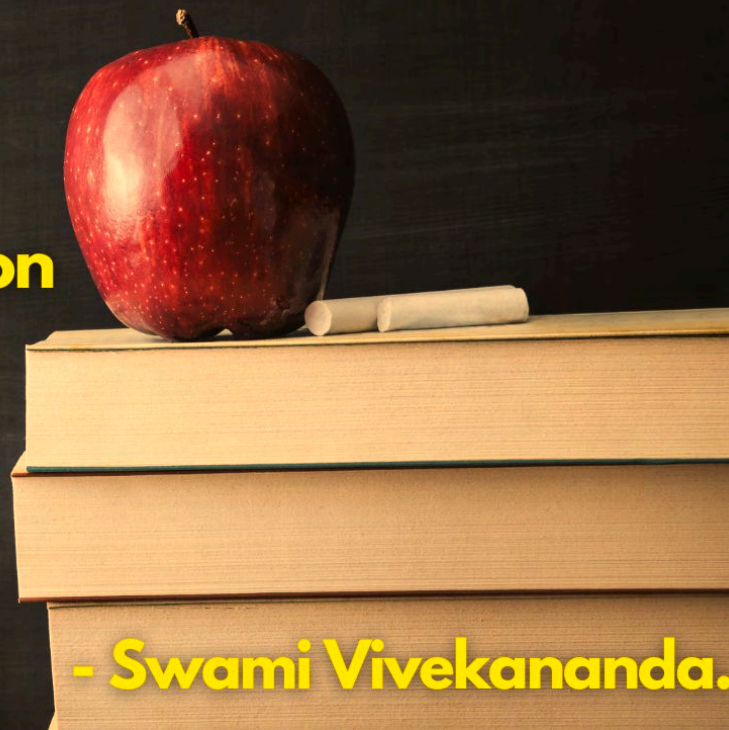
OCT 2024 • VOL. 1

MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



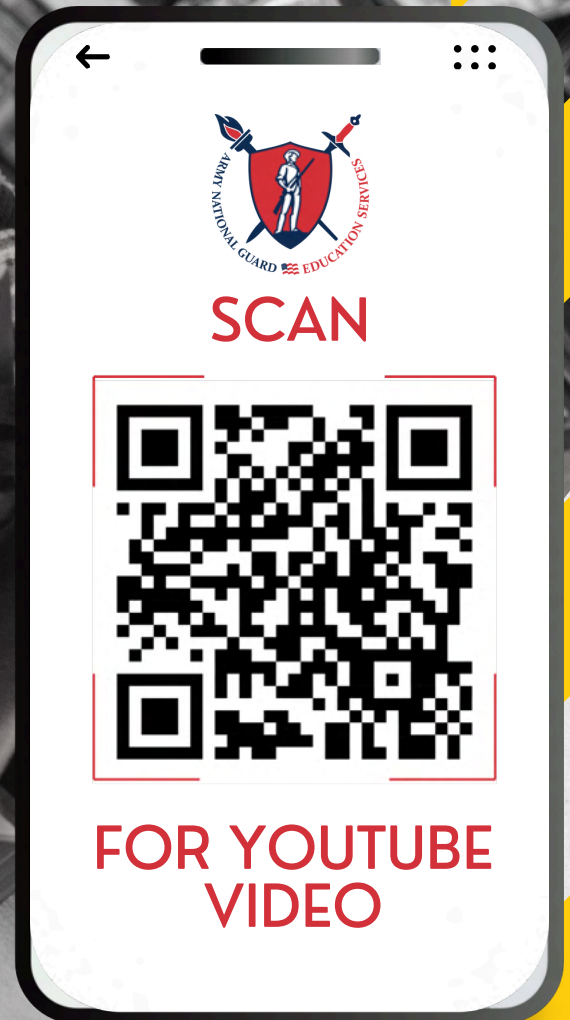
**“A good education is a
foundation for a better
future.”**

**Education is the manifestation
of the perfection already
existing in man**



- Swami Vivekananda.

ARMYIGNITED 101 TRAINING REQUIRED



Starting tomorrow, 1 October 2024, ArmyIgnitED 101 training is required before Soldiers can get a new education goal approved.

After reviewing the brief, Soldiers must send a message to their education counselor via ArmyIgnitED stating that they completed the training. Soldiers who have previously used ArmyIgnitED to receive FTA are exempt from this requirement.



Watch the training on YouTube



Training slides are available for easy download on our LinkedIn Page



Download the brief from the the ARNG- Public Education Services Team in the general channel files tab.

Contact Maryland Education Office for more information.



Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)

Receive money towards your college tuition!



What Is It?

Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) is financial assistance provided for voluntary off-duty education programs in support of a Soldier's professional and personal self-development goals.

How Do I Qualify?

- Be currently serving in good standing in the ARNG and have a Common Access Card (CAC)
- Not be flagged
- Not have a hold on your ArmyIgnitED account (once created)
- Maintain a 2.0 or higher GPA for undergraduate courses or a 3.0 or higher GPA for graduate courses

Service Requirement/Obligation:

- Enlisted: Have an ETS or MRD 60+ days remaining in service after completion of FTA-funded course(s)
- Officers and Warrant Officers: Subject to a two-year active duty service obligation (ADSO) or four-year reserve duty obligation (RDSO)

What Do I Get?

- Up to \$250 per semester hour, up to 16 SHs for a total of \$4,000 per fiscal year (Max TA and CA)
- One degree at each of the following levels, Associates, Bachelor's and Master's
- Lifetime limit of 130 undergraduate semester hours and 39 graduate semester hours
- CAN be used simultaneously with Chapter 1606/ MGIB-SR for the same course, when attending half-time or more
- One academic certificate (undergraduate or graduate) up to 21 semester hours per lifetime/career

How Do I Apply?

- Go to <https://www.armyignited.army.mil> and establish an account by clicking "Get Started" (CAC ID required)
- Request an Education Goal (select your school and degree program)
- Enroll in courses at your School
- Return to ArmyIgnitED and request TA for the courses you want to use TA for
 - Courses can be requested up to 60 days prior to the course start date, but **MUST** be requested at least **7 days prior** to the start date of the course
 - Once courses are approved, 'go back to ArmyIgnitED, print the authorization form and provide it to the school
- An evaluated degree plan/audit will be required after registration of two courses using FTA funding.

For More Information:

- Contact your MD State Education Services Office:
mdngeducation@army.mil
- Contact the Education Support Center:
667-296-4139 or 667-296-4164
- Visit us Online:
<https://military.maryland.gov/hro/Pages/Education.aspx>

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill.



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Maryland State Tuition Waiver Program

Popular Partner Schools

- University of Maryland College Park: 50% Undergraduate
- MOST Community Colleges: 50%
- Towson University: 50% up to 6 credits
- Morgan State University: 50% Undergraduate
- University of Maryland Global Campus: 50% Undergraduate
- Notre Dame University of Maryland: 50% Undergraduate/25% Graduate
- Johns Hopkins: 50% off 1st 6 credit hours per term
- Undergraduate
- McDaniel College: 25% Undergraduate
- Stevenson University (Both Campuses): 50% up to 6 credit hours Undergraduate/20% up to 6 credit hours Graduate
- Bowie State University: 50% Undergraduate
- Coppin State University: 50% Undergraduate
- Frostburg State University: 50% Undergraduate
- Loyola University: 50% Undergraduate
- St. Mary's College of Maryland: 50% Undergraduate
- Washington College: 50% Undergraduate
-

And Many More

What Is It?

- Maryland state tuition waiver program is financial assistance provided for voluntary off-duty education programs in support of a Soldier's professional and personal self-development goals.

Eligibility Requirements

- Be a member in good standing of the Maryland National Guard, including, without limitation, a recruit, at the beginning of and throughout the entire semester for which the waiver is granted
- Attend an in state college that the MDNG is partnered with
- Be currently attending drill/AT unless otherwise excused
- Number of degrees is unlimited
- Not be in default on any federal Title IV loan or owe a refund on federal Title IV funds previously disbursed
- Passing APFT/ACFT
- No FLAGS
- Maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA

What Do I Get?

- Up to 50% off tuition at Maryland partner schools. Percentage and degree type vary from school to school. Please reach out MDNGEducation@army.mil to verify the percentage for the school you wish to attend.

How do I apply?

Contact your MD State Education Services Office:
mdngeducation@army.mil

Contact the MD Education Support Center:
667-296- 4139 or 667-296-4164

Visit us Online:

<https://military.maryland.gov/hro/Pages/Education.aspx>



Montgomery GI Bill®

Selected Reserve Chapter 1606 (MGIB-SR)

Start pursuing
your degree
today!



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.

How Do I Qualify?

- Sign a six-year enlistment contract, extension, or Officer Service Agreement
- Have a High school diploma or equivalent
- Complete Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) or Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC)

What Do I Get?

- \$481 per month for full-time enrollment (effective 1 Oct 2024)
- Payment is tax free and is made directly to the Soldier each month from the DVA
- CAN be combined with Federal Tuition Assistance for the same course, when attending half-time or more.
- Can be combined with most State Tuition Assistance programs. Check with your state education office to confirm eligibility. www.nationalguard.com/select-your-state

How Do I Apply?

- Contact your State Education Office to verify eligibility.
- Submit the Veterans Online Application at:
<https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits>
- Notify the VA Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment
- Continue to verify your enrollment each month via text message, email, or calling 1-888-GIBILL1 (1-888-442-4551)

For More Information:

Contact your MD State Education Services Office:
mdngeducation@army.mil

Contact the Education Support Center:
667-296-4139 or 667-296-4164

Visit us Online:
<https://military.maryland.gov/hro/Pages/Education.aspx>

GI Bill® 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.



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Montgomery GI Bill® “Kicker”

What Is It?

An incentive given upon enlistment/reenlistment to attract Soldiers to specific units, skills, or positions to meet and sustain ARNG readiness requirements.

How Do I Qualify?

Categories:

- Non-prior service applicants (enlisted only); 50 or higher on ASVAB, enlist in a critical skill/unit
- Prior service applicants (enlisted only); 50 or higher on ASVAB/ AFCT, MOS qualified, E-7 or below, and enlist in an MTOE or medical unit
- Currently serving enlisted Soldiers who have completed 3 consecutive years of service, but no more than 14 total years of service, 50 or higher on ASVAB, SFC or below
- Officer commissioning programs; ROTC/SMP, OCS and WOCS
- Currently serving officers; up to one year after commissioning

Basic Criteria:

- Be eligible for the MGIB-SR/Chapter 1606 or MGIB-AD/Chapter 30
- Sign a six-year service obligation (Enlistment contract, extension, or Officer Service Agreement)
- Complete MOS or Branch Qualification in contracted skill

What Do I Get?

- Depending on your category and date of contract, either \$200 or \$350 per month added to your basic GI Bill Payment

How Do I Apply?

- Complete an ARNG MGIB-SR Kicker Contract
- Submit the Veterans Online Application at: www.va.gov
- Notify the School Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Continue to verify your enrollment each month via text message, email, or calling 1-888-GIBILL1 (1-888-442-4551)

For More Information:

Contact your MD State Education Services Office:
mdngeducation@army.mil

Contact the Education Support Center: 667-296-4139 or 667-296-4164

Visit us Online:
<https://military.maryland.gov/hro/Pages/Education.aspx>

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Receive an
additional
\$200 or \$350
a month!



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Credentialing Assistance

Become a
Certified
Professional!



What Is It?

The Credentialing Assistance (CA) Program provides Soldiers with funding for more than 2,100 credentials listed on <https://www.cool.osd.mil/army>

How Do I Qualify?

- Be currently serving in good standing in the ARNG and have a Common Access Card (CAC)
- Not be flagged
- Officers no longer incur a Military Service Obligation (MSO)
- Have an ETS or MRD 31+ days remaining in service after completion of CA- funded course(s)/exam(s)

What Do I Get?

- Up to \$4,000/fiscal year (max TA and CA)
- Maximum of \$1,000/year to pay for select aviation related credentials (Active Duty/AGR Soldiers only)
- Pays expenses for course training, materials, supplies, textbooks, and exam
- Can be used for any credential listed on www.cool.osd.mil/army and does not have to be related to the Soldier's MOS
- All expenses are paid prior to course/exam start date (Soldiers who pay out of pocket will not be reimbursed)
- Popular Certifications:
 - CompTIA Network+ and CompTIA Security+
 - Project Management Professional (PMP)
 - Private Pilot, Airplane Single Engine
 - Certified Personal Trainer (NASM-CPT)
 - Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

How Do I Apply?

- Contact your State ESO/ESS to discuss the CA application process and verify eligibility
- Ensure your credential is listed on Army COOL at: <https://www.cool.osd.mil/army/search/CredSearchAlpha.htm>
- Apply online at: <https://www.armyignited.army.mil> 45+ days prior to course/exam start date

For More Information:

Contact your MD State Education Services Office:
mdngeducation@army.mil

Contact the Education Support Center:
667-296-4139 or 667-296-4164

Visit us Online:
<https://military.maryland.gov/hro/Pages/Education.aspx>



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Post-9/11 GI Bill® Chapter 33

What Is It?

An education program for Service Members who serve on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.

How Do I Qualify?

Serve at least 90 days in a period of qualifying active duty on or after September 11, 2001:

- Service in any active component
- Title 10 USC Sections 688, 12301(a), 12301(d), 12301(g), 12301(h), 12302, 12304, 12304a, or 12304b
- Title 10 AGR or Title 32 AGR
- Title 32 USC, Section 502(f) as follows:
 - Operation Noble Eagle: September 11, 2001 – May 31, 2002
 - Southwest Border (Operation Guardian Shield): February 15, 2019 – January 20, 2021
 - COVID-19 Pandemic Response: March 22, 2020 – July 1, 2022
 - Capitol Police (59th Inauguration): January 11, 2021– May 23, 2021
- Serve for 30 continuous days and separate due to a service-connected disability or injury

What Do I Get?

- Tuition and Fees:
 - Up to 100% of in-state tuition at public schools
 - Effective 1 Aug 24, up to \$28,937.09/year at private or foreign schools
- Books and Supply Stipend:
 - Up to \$1,000/academic year (\$41.67/ credit hour)
- Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA):
 - Equal to BAH rate—E5 with dependents
 - \$1,177.50 if attending only online classes
- Payments pro-rated based on your qualifying service:
 - 36 Months = 100% (Includes Purple Heart Recipients)
 - 30 Months = 90% •24 Months = 80% •18 Months = 70% •6 Months = 60% •90 Days = 50%

How Do I Apply?

- Apply online at: www.va.gov
- Notify the School Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Continue to verify your enrollment each month via text message, email, or calling 1-888-GIBILL1 (1-888-442-4551)

For More Information:

Contact your MD State Education Services Office:
mdnageducation@army.mil

Contact the Education Support Center:
667-296-4139 or 667-296-4164

Visit us Online: <https://military.maryland.gov/hro/Pages/Education.aspx>

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill.

Start
pursuing
your
degree
today!

MARYLAND
ARMY
NATIONAL
GUARD



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Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB)

Post- 9/11 GI Bill®

Transfer
your
benefits today!

What Is It?

An incentive for continued service offered to Service Members who qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

How Do I Qualify?

- Be currently serving in the Uniformed Services, with at least six years completed
- Qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill at any payment tier
 - NOT be flagged for adverse action, ACFT/ABCP failure, or as an Unsatisfactory Participant
- Agree to a four-year service obligation from the date of your transfer request

NOTE: IF YOU VOLUNTARILY SEPARATE FROM THE ARNG PRIOR TO COMPLETING YOUR SERVICE OBLIGATION, YOUR TEB WILL BE TERMINATED AND ANY FUNDS PAID TO YOUR DEPENDENTS WILL BE RECOUPED!

What Do I Get?

- Dependents receive same payment tier as the Soldier
- Spouses may use transferred benefits immediately
- Child/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 or benefits are exhausted
 - Natural, step children, adopted children and wards and foster children who have lived with the SM for 12 months are eligible
- You can modify and/or revoke months for any dependents you originally transferred month of benefits to – even after you separate from service
- IMPORTANT!
You must be currently serving to add a "new" dependent

How Do I Apply?

- Step 1: Contact the VA at 1-888-GIBILL-1 to determine the number of months of benefits you have remaining
- Step 2: If you have less than four years of service remaining, complete extension
- Step 3: Go to Milconnect and complete your TEB application at: <https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>
- Step 4: Access your Military email and follow email instructions
- Step 5: Apply for benefits
- When ready to attend school, your approved dependent(s) apply at: www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/
- Notify the VA Certifying Official at your school to certify your enrollment
- Verify enrollment each month via text message, email or calling, 1-888-GIBILL1 (1-888-442-4551)

For More Information:

Contact your MD State Education Services Office:
mdneducation@army.mil

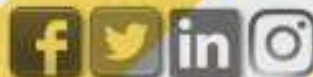
Contact the MD Education Support Center:
667-296- 4139 or 667-296-4164

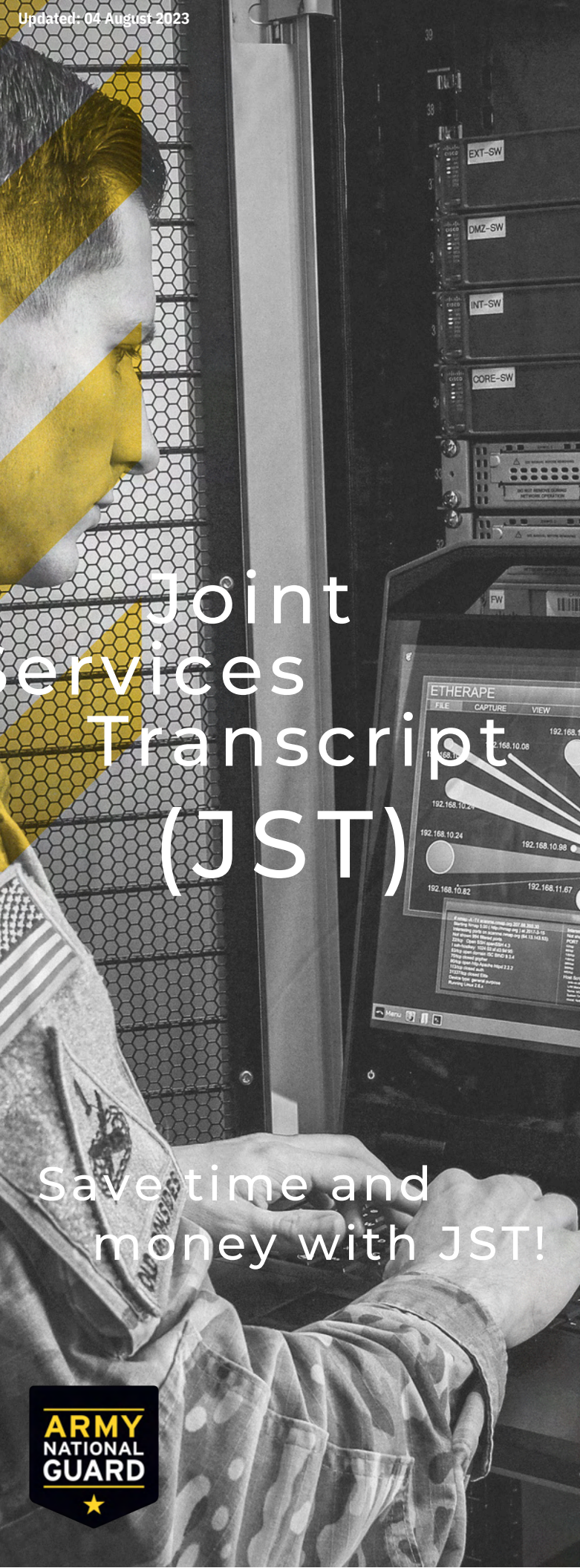
Contact your State Education Services Office:
www.nationalguard.com/select-your-state

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Joint Services Transcript (JST)

Save time and
money with JST!



What Is It?

A 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.

How Do I Qualify?

All Military Members, current or former, are eligible to receive a JST.

What Do I Get?

- The JST 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
- The JST saves time and money by recommending the award of college credits, which means less tuition to pay and less time spent in the classroom
- The acceptance of ACE credit recommendations varies depending on an institution's policies, procedures, and degree requirements

How Do I Apply?

- Request your JST at: <https://jst.doded.mil/jst/>
- Submit your official JST to any institution located on the "Official Transcript Request" page
- If you are missing an ACE-accredited course that you completed more than two months ago, upload a copy of the training certificate (DA Form 1059) or other course completion document through the JST website

For More Information:

- Contact the Education Support Center: 866-ARNGEDU (276-4338) or arng.esc@army.mil
- Visit us Online: www.nationalguard.com/education
- Contact your State Education Services Office: www.nationalguard.com/select-your-state



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College Scholarships

Save Money!



.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 use agreement.

- Fisher House
- Enlisted Associated of the National Guard (EANGUS)
- National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)
- 25 Great Scholarships for Members of the Military and Their Families
- The American Legion
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Student Veterans of America
- DoD stem opportunities
- Science, Mathematics and research for transformation (smart) scholarship program
- Strokes Educational Scholarship program
- Collegeboard
- Finaid
- Careeronestop
- Scholarshipamerica

.COM Websites Hosting Scholarships

.COM websites are typically for-profit organizations. Use .com search engines cautiously and be aware you may receive numerous unsolicited emails if you submit an inquiry.

- u.s. veterans magazine
- Scholarships.com
- fastweb.com
- CollegeRecon.com
- Army Educational Outreach Program (AEOP)–Science, Technology, Engineering and Math(STEM)
- Petersons.com
- DANTES Financial Aid & Scholarships
- edvisors.com

For More Information:

- Contact the Education Support Center: 866-ARNGEDU (276-4338) or arng.esc@army.mil
- Visit us Online: www.nationalguard.com/education
- Contact your State Education Services Office: www.nationalguard.com/select-your-state



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Financial Aid and Grants

Types of Aid Available

Government Financial Aid

- Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- Federal Student Aid

Grants

- 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.gov/understand-aid/types/grants>

Loans

- 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
- <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans>

Work Study

- Available to students with financial need who are pursuing undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees
- 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.gov/understand-aid/types/work-study>

How Do I Apply?

- For ROTC, contact the ROTC POC for your school or the Officer Strength Manager in your state
- For VA benefits go to: <https://www.va.gov/education>
- For Federal Aid, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available at: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- Colleges usually use the FAFSA to determine your eligibility for additional state funded financial aid available to you. Check with your college financial aid office for more information

For More Information:

- Contact your State Education Services Office: www.nationalguard.com/select-your-state
- Visit us Online: www.nationalguard.com/education
- Contact the Education Support Center: 866-ARNGEDU (276-4338) or arng.esc@army.mil

Save Money !



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**TUTOR.COM for
U.S. MILITARY FAMILIES**
www.tutor.com/military

Get on track for college admissions success

New! No-cost **College Admissions Self-Paced** support via Tutor.com/military

College-bound students in DoD civilian and military families can now get comprehensive admissions support built by The Princeton Review®.



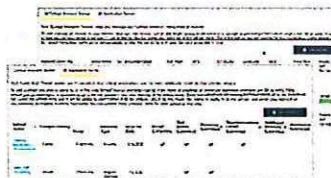
Checklists by Grade Level

Step-by-step plan with videos from college admissions experts, activities, and readings to support a productive college process.



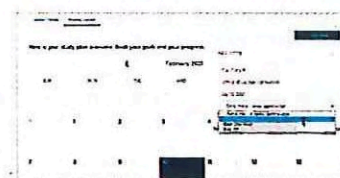
Activities List Tool

Tracker for admissions-related deadlines as well as study and standardized test dates.



Research and Application Tracker

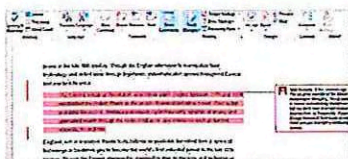
Extracurricular tracking, management, and output capabilities for students to chart their accomplishments throughout high school.



Calendar and Planning Features

Tools for generating college-specific data to help determine target schools and manage the complete application process for each.

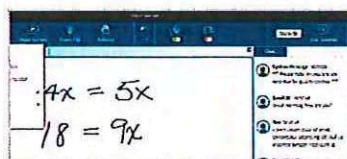
In tandem with their new College Admissions Self-Paced access, students can benefit from other resources through **Tutor.com/military**, including...



Writing Review

Dropoff review: Upload college and scholarship essay drafts, resumes and cover letters, and other written work—and get expert feedback within 12 hours.

Live writing review: Connect on demand 24/7 with an expert tutor to review writing in real time.



1-to-1 Expert Tutoring

Whether you're prepping for the SAT® or ACT®, studying for AP® exams, or working on assignments, get real-time help 24/7 from a subject-matter expert. Connect quickly via voice or text and work with a tutor safely and anonymously in our secure online classroom.



SAT®/ACT® Essentials from The Princeton Review

Maximize test scores and earn admission- and merit-based financial aid at your dream schools with self-paced test-prep modules that include 20 full-length practice tests, detailed score reports with key areas of focus, video lessons, and practice drills.

Feature availability varies by program. SAT® and AP® are trademarks registered by the College Board, which is not affiliated with, and does not endorse, this product. All tests are registered trademarks of their respective owners. None of the trademark holders is affiliated with The Princeton Review or this product. The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University. The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement. To comply with the Child Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), certain features are unavailable to program users under age 13. Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families is funded by the Department of Defense (DoD) MWR Library Program and Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA). Those who fund the program determine eligibility for its use. Long-term availability of the program is not guaranteed. Check student eligibility requirements at tutor.com/military.