



TEXAS ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

EDUCATION BENEFITS

HANDBOOK



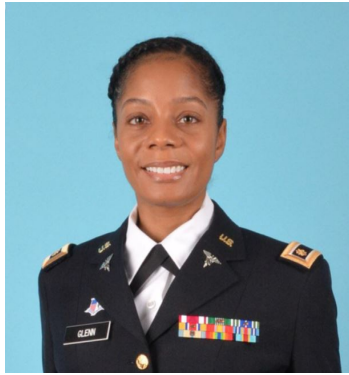
**EDUCATION,
YOUR KEY TO
READINESS &
RESILIENCE !**



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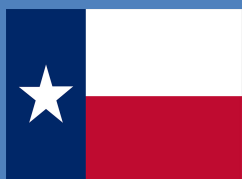
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TXARNG Education Benefits:

Sources of Funding



➤ State Tuition Assistance (State TA)

- Successfully complete basic training

➤ Hazlewood Act/Hazlewood Legacy

- Serve 181 days of **qualifying** Active Duty Service
- Receive a DD 214 at time of discharge



➤ Federal Tuition Assistance Program (FTA)

- Successfully complete AIT or BOLC

➤ Credentialing Assistance Program (CA)

- Successfully complete AIT or BOLC



➤ Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve CH 1606

- Sign a 6 year contract with a Reserve Component
- Successfully complete Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT)

➤ Montgomery GI Bill-Kicker

- Contract-Specific Benefit
(Signed w/enlistment or extension contract)

➤ Post 9/11 GI BILL CH 33

- Serve 90 days of **qualifying** Active Duty Service on/after Sept 11, 2001
- Receive a DD 214 at time of discharge

➤ Transfer Education Benefits (TEB): Post 9/11 GI BILL CH 33

- Serve 6-years of retirement eligible service
- Must agree to serve 4 years from date of TEB request

State Tuition Assistance (State TA)

<https://tmd.texas.gov/state-tuition-assistance-program>

How Do I Qualify?

- State benefit for actively drilling members in good standing with the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard or Texas State Guard (ADOS, Military Technician, M-Day are eligible). AGR Members are not eligible to use this benefit.
- Qualifying ranks: all enlisted ranks; Officers O1-O5; Warrant Officers WO1-CW3.
- Must be enrolled in an academic program of instruction leading to the first certificate, undergraduate, graduate or professional degree from an accredited Texas college or university. Second degrees must be progressive and not lateral.
- Must have completed Basic Training/BOT/RBOT.
- Visit <https://tmd.texas.gov/state-tuition-assistance-program> for more details.

What Do I Get?

- Up to 12 credit hours of tuition & mandatory fees per academic semesters; fall and spring only, funding not available for summer classes.
- The standard award begins at up to \$1,000 of tuition and fees per academic semester.
- Awards may be increased/upgraded up to 12 credits or \$4,500. (limited by program budget)
- State TA can only pay charges not paid with other "gift" aid from military and non-military sources; if other scholarships or grants have paid tuition charges, then a State TA award cannot be approved.
- Available for up to 5 years or 10 academic semesters of received benefit.

How Do I Apply?

At the beginning of each school year or semester for which tuition assistance funds are needed:

- Visit <https://tmd.texas.gov/state-tuition-assistance-program> for the application form, deadlines and other instructions.
- Email questions to: ng.tx.txarng.mbx.trp@army.mil
- Award upgrades are based partially on date of application receipt. Complete application as early as possible.

At the end of the semester

- Send electronic official transcript (PDF) to State TA Office to verify passing grades.
- Average payment time is 8-12 weeks after the end of the semester.

For additional information, please contact our office at: ng.tx.txarng.mbx.trp@army.mil

Hazlewood/Hazlewood Legacy Act

- <https://www.tvc.texas.gov/education/hazlewood/>

The Hazlewood Act is a State of Texas benefit that provides qualified Veterans, spouses, and dependent children with an education benefit of **up to 150 hours of tuition exemption**, including most fee charges, at public institutions of higher education in Texas. This does NOT include living expenses, books, or supply fees.

The Hazlewood Act is only available for use at a Texas (state tax supported) public college or university.

Veteran:

- At the time of entry into active duty the U.S. Armed Forces
 - Designated Texas as Home of Record
 - or entered the service in Texas
 - or was a Texas resident;
- Have received an honorable discharge or separation or a general discharge under honorable conditions as indicated on the Veteran's Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214);
- Served at least 181 days of active duty service (excluding training);
- Currently reside in Texas;
- If the student is receiving federal VA education benefits for payment of tuition and fees, he/she may receive both benefits concurrently only if the federal VA tuition and fees benefit amount does not equal or exceed the Hazlewood exemption value.
- Not be in default on a student loan made or guaranteed by the State of Texas;
- Enroll in classes for which the college receives tax support (i.e., a course that does not depend solely on student tuition and fees to cover its cost), unless the college's governing board has ruled to let Veterans receive the benefit while taking non-funded courses; and
- Meet the GPA requirement of the institution's satisfactory academic progress policy in a degree or certificate program as determined by the institution's financial aid policy and, as an undergraduate student, not be considered to have attempted an excessive amount of credit hours.



Child (Legacy Recipient):

- Be classified by the institution as a Texas resident;
- Be the biological child, stepchild, adopted child, or claimed dependent in the current/previous tax year;
- Be 25 years old or younger on the first day of the semester or term for which the exemption is claimed (unless granted an extension due to a qualifying illness or debilitating condition); and
- Meet the GPA requirement of the institution's satisfactory academic progress policy in a degree or certificate program as determined by the institution's financial aid policy and, as an undergraduate student, not be considered to have attempted an excessive amount of credit hours.

**If a child to whom hours have been delegated fails to use all of the assigned hours, a Veteran may re-assign the unused hours that are available to another child. Only one child will use Hazlewood Legacy benefits at a time.*

Spouse/Dependent:

Spouses and dependent children of eligible Active Duty, Reserve, and Texas National Guard who died in the line of duty or as a result of injury or illness directly related to military service, are missing in action, or who became totally disabled for purposes of employability as a result of a service-related injury or illness are entitled to each receive a 150 credit hours exemption.



- Be a spouse of a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or the Texas National Guard who died as a result of service-related injuries or illness, is missing in action, or became totally disabled (100%) as a result of service-related injury or illness or is entitled to receive compensation at the 100% rate due to individual unemployability (IU) due to a permanent service connected injury or illness;
- Have no federal Veterans education benefits, or have no federal Veterans education benefits dedicated to the payment of tuition and fees only (such as Chapter 33 or 31) for term or semester enrolled that do not exceed the value of Hazlewood benefits;
- Be classified by the institution as a Texas resident; and
- Meet the GPA requirement of the institution's satisfactory academic progress policy in a degree or certificate program as determined by the institution's financial aid policy and, as an undergraduate student, not be considered to have attempted an excessive amount of credit hours. This requirement does not apply to the spouse of MIA, KIA, or service connected deceased Veteran.

Apply:

1. Visit <https://www.tvc.texas.gov/education/hazlewood/> to download applicable forms.
2. Gather all the required documents. Submit the completed forms to your school.
3. Contact your school VA Representative, financial aid, or bursar office for guidance.

Hazlewood Checklist

Texas Hazlewood Act Exemption Documentation Checklist

TVC-ED-4
Eff. June 2016
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1. Required for Veteran
 - ☐ Hazlewood Application
 - ☐ DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
 - ☐ DD Form 215, Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (if necessary)
 - ☐ VA Certificate of Eligibility for GI Bill benefits (required if Veteran served on or after 9/11/2001)
2. Required for Legacy Applicant:
 - ☐ Hazlewood Application
 - ☐ Veteran's DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
 - ☐ DD Form 215, Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (if necessary)
 - ☐ VA Certificate of Eligibility for GI Bill benefits (required if Veteran served on or after 9/11/2001)
 - ☐ Birth Certificate, or Marriage Certificate, or Adoption Documentation, or IRS Transcript of Tax Return (https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript) from current or previous year indicating dependency of child, and identification of designee if applicable
 - ☐ Death Certificate for deceased Veteran
3. Required for Spouse or Child (other than Legacy):
 - ☐ Hazlewood Application
 - ☐ DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty if the Veteran died while on active duty
 - ☐ Veteran's DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
 - ☐ DD Form 215, Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (if necessary)
 - ☐ VA Certificate of Eligibility for GI Bill benefits (required if Veteran served on or after 9/11/2001)
 - ☐ Letter from VA indicating the Veteran's death was service-related
 - ☐ VA Rating Decision Letter if the Veteran is disabled
 - ☐ Birth Certificate, or Marriage Certificate, or Adoption Documentation, or IRS Transcript of Tax Return (https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript) from current or previous year indicating dependency of child, and identification of designee if applicable
4. To verify military service prior to January 1, 1950 the following forms are acceptable:
 - ☐ Record/Report of Service: WD AGO 53, WD AGO 53-55, WD AGO 53-58
 - ☐ Notice/Report of separation: NAVGCS-533, NAVMC-78-PD, NAVPERS-553
5. The DD Form 214 and other military records may be requested from the National Archives at the following website: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/>. A NA Form 13038 may be substituted for a DD Form 214 upon National Archives verification that the Veteran's DD Form 214 has been lost or destroyed. The Veteran still must prove home or record of place of entry into active duty as Texas per the procedures in Block 7 below.
6. Veterans with qualifying service on or after September 11, 2001, are required to provide a VA Certificate of Eligibility statement with their application regarding their Post 9/11 GI Bill eligibility (applies to all applicants, except as listed below). Legacy recipients where the Veteran's DD Form 214 has a separation date after September 10, 2001 and prior to August 1, 2009 do not need to submit a VA Certificate of Eligibility if the type of separation is listed as "Discharge" or "Retirement" (to include those medically retired, temporary or permanent).
7. Veterans whose DD Form 214 does not indicate a home of record at time of entry into active duty or the place of entry into active duty as Texas will be required to provide a Texas high school transcript indicating their graduation within one year of their enlistment. If the entry date is more than one year after high school graduation, the Veteran will be required to provide one of the following: lease or mortgage documentation, pay stubs, W2s, or any other documentation the school may require, verifying Texas residency in accordance with Subchapter B, Chapter 54, Texas Education Code.

TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION
Phone: 1-877-886-3033 or 512-463-3168 | TTY/TDD: 512-711-1111 | Fax: 512-463-3162 | E-Mail: Education@tvc.texas.gov | Web: www.tvc.texas.gov
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Instructions and Application

Texas Hazlewood Act Exemption Application Supporting Documentation Instructions

TVC-ED-1a
Eff. June 2016
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To apply for the Texas Hazlewood Act Exemption, you must **submit the following documents to your college or university**:

1. **The Hazlewood Exemption Application** (completed and signed). For a **tutorial** on completing the application, visit: <http://www.tvc.texas.gov/hazlewood-act.aspx>.
2. **Report of Separation or Discharge, DD Form 214 (and DD Form 215 if the DD Form 214 has been amended)** – To verify the Veteran's place of entry, home of record at the time of entry, character of service, length of service, and dates of service. The copy you provide to your institution must be legible and contain the information listed above. A DD Form 214 may be obtained from the National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>. If the Veteran was discharged prior to January 1, 1950 previously used separation documents may be used. If the Veteran's DD Form 214 was destroyed in the National Archives fire in 1973 or is otherwise unavailable, then the following documents may be used:
 - NA Form 13038, Certification of Military Service
 - Documentation from the National Archives that the Veteran's NA Form 13038 was sent in lieu of the DD Form 214 due to the DD Form 214 not being on file
 - Documentation that Veteran met the requirements of Subchapter B, Chapter 54, Texas Education Code for resident tuition on the date of entry into active duty indicated on the DD Form 214
3. **Certificate of Eligibility for federal GI Bill® benefits** – To verify eligibility for the Veteran's, or dependent's federal education benefits. Certificates of eligibility may be obtained by completing an application at <https://www.vets.gov/education/apply/>.
 - If the Veteran's final discharge is prior to 9/11/2001 the certificate of eligibility is not required.
4. **If the Veteran died while in service: Report of Casualty, Form DD Form 1300** – To verify the Veteran's place of entry or home of record, and that his/her death was service related.
5. **If the Veteran is deceased (not service connected)** – Death Certificate for deceased Veteran for use in a Legacy transfer.
6. **If the Veteran is totally disabled or individually unemployable due to military service-related illness or injury**: You must have a current (within one year) disability ratings decision letter from the VA indicating that rating.
7. **If you are not the Veteran, Relationship Documentation** – Submit one or more of the following documents to verify your relationship to the eligible Veteran:
 - Birth Certificate, or Marriage Certificate, or Adoption Papers, or Recent IRS Tax Transcript: <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript>.
8. Veterans must reside in the state of Texas during the term that the exemption will be used.
 - Children and spouse of eligible Veterans must be classified as a Texas resident by their institution.
9. **Hazlewood Online Database Registration** – To comply with the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requirements, all applicants (Veteran and dependents) must register into the Hazlewood online database to use the Hazlewood Exemption at <https://hazlewood.tvc.texas.gov/students/>.

TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION
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Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) Program

<https://tmd.texas.gov/federal-tuition-assistance-eligibility>

What Is It?

FTA is financial assistance provided for voluntary off-duty education programs in support of a Soldier's professional and personal self-development goals. (Reference: AR 621-5, Army Continuing Education System)

How Do I Qualify?

Tier 1:

- Be currently serving in the ARNG and completed either Advanced Individual Training (AIT), Warrant Officer Basic Course (WOBC), or Basic Officer Leaders Course (BOLC).
- Have not attained a bachelor's degree and wish to pursue an undergraduate academic certificate, associate's or bachelor's degree or
- Have attained a bachelor's degree and wish to pursue a graduate academic certificate or
- Have attained a bachelor's degree without the use of FTA and wish to pursue a master's degree.

Tier 2:

- Be currently serving in the ARNG and completed either Advanced Leader's Course (ALC), Warrant Officer Advanced Course (WOAC), Captain's Career Course (CCC), or equivalent.
- Have attained a bachelor's degree with the use of FTA and wish to pursue a master's degree.

Service Requirement/Obligation:

- Have an ETS or MRD after completion of FTA funded course(s).
- Officers and Commissioned Warrant Officers are subject to a four year Reserve Duty Service Obligation (RDSO) OR a two year Active Duty Service Obligation (ADSO).

Additional Criteria:

- The college is regionally or nationally accredited AND is a participant in ArmyIgnitED (AI).
- The funded course(s) meets a requirement listed in your education path provided by the school (this can include prerequisite courses).
- You maintain an undergraduate GPA of 2.0 or a graduate GPA of 3.0 for FTA-funded courses.
- You must submit your FTA request at least 5 business days prior to course start date (Exception for Soldiers is in effect due to ArmyIgnitED issues through 30SEP22).
- **Update:** FTA IS NOW authorized for concurrent use with Chapter 1606/MGIB-SR or Chapter 1607/REAP for the [SAME course](#).

What Do I Get?

- FTA will pay up to **\$250** per semester hour and up to **16 SHs** per fiscal yr.
- Lifetime limit of 130 undergraduate semester hours and 39 graduate semester hours.
 - Up to 21 additional semester hours for a Transition Certificate not previously received within the past five years. Must apply within three years of anticipated separation.
- FTA will pay toward one credential at each of the following levels:
 - Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Master Degree, Undergraduate/Graduate Certificate
 - First Professional degrees are NOT eligible (i.e. doctorate degrees, Juris doctorates).

Programs NOT Eligible For FTA

- Courses leading to a degree that are lower or lateral to the highest degree you have already earned.
 - Example: if you have a bachelor's degree (even if you came in the ARNG with one), you cannot use FTA to pursue a second bachelor's or associate's degree.
- Any program that bundles tuition and fees together into a lump sum charge.
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs) or courses that do not meet degree requirement.

How Do I Apply?

- Update: Visit <https://tmd.texas.gov/federal-tuition-assistance-eligibility> for a step-by-step guide.

Tips to remember when applying:

- Apply for FTA up to 60 days prior to the class start date, but no later than 5 business days prior to the class start date (all FTA MUST be approved prior to the class start date except for classes with a start date of 08MAR21 through 30SEP22 due to the Army-wide ETP).
- You must submit an FTA request for each individual course that you want FTA to fund.
- If your school charges by quarter hour or clock hour, AI will automatically convert them into semester hours on the FTA request.
- NOTES:
 - Schools are aware of the system issues and HQ is working with schools to provide training and payment for past TA classes.
 - Schools should not be requesting you to pay for what TA is approved for in the system. Please contact the education center if this happening.
 - Schools are responsible for final approval of your education path and for uploading your course enrollment file which list the classes you have to complete your degree.

Credentialing Assistance (CA) Program

<https://tmd.texas.gov/credentialing-assistance-program>

Overview

- The Army Credentialing Assistance (CA) program provides up to \$4,000 in funding for training, material, fees, recertification and exams leading to an industry-recognized academic or vocational credential located on Army COOL.
- All Soldiers who have graduated IADT, BOLC, or WOBC are eligible to complete as many credentials as desired keeping in mind the \$4,000/FY cap.
- The Additional Service Obligation (ADSO) has been rescinded as of OCT21. All officers can utilize the CA program and will not incur an ADSO for CA use.
- Subject to recoupment if training is not passed or exam is not taken.

How Do I Qualify?

- Soldiers may begin work on their first credential upon successful completion of Advanced Individual Training, Warrant Officer Basic Course, or Basic Officer Leaders Course.
- Must not be flagged.
- Holds related to: Student agreements, GPA, Military Withdrawal, Course Drop, or any other hold related to TA will **NOT** keep Soldiers from using the CA program.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ✓ CompTIA | ✓ Certified Personal Trainer (CPT) |
| ✓ Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) | ✓ Certified Welder (CW) |
| ✓ Associate Professional in Human Resources (aPHR) | ✓ Commercial Driver License (CDL) |
| ✓ Certified Logistics Technician (CLT) | ✓ Lean Six Sigma |
| | ✓ Project Management Professional (PMP) |
| | ✓ And 1600 More! |

What Do I Get?

- Soldiers may use both Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) and Army Credentialing Assistance (CA); however, the combined usage **shall not** exceed **\$4,000** per FY.
- CA will pay credentialing expenses for classroom, hands-on, online/blended training (and associated materials) to include: **manuals, study guides, textbooks, processing fees, test fees, and recertification of credentials.**

Who is Ineligible for CA?

- Contracted Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship cadets (receiving either tuition and fees or room and board incentive)
- ROTC Cadets contracted under the Green to Gold ROTC program
- Soldiers flagged under provisions of AR 600-8-2

How Do I Apply?

- Update: Visit <https://tmd.texas.gov/money-for-college> for a step-by-step guide.
 - Create a Login.gov account and link it to your military email
 - Click the "Get Started" link to sign in and then click "Add a Credential Path" once logged in.
 - Select the Credential you are seeking- Any credential listed on ArmyCOOL
 - Select the Vendor- If the vendor is not listed, contact the education office to ask for vendor registration material. The process can take some time months to have them added)
 - Select the start/end dates- The request must be 30 **business** days out and end date can be up to 1 year from the start date.
 - Enter the cost and any invoices or documentation that shows you are eligible to take the training/exam.
 - Once submitted, your account will be in a pending status until your vendor has been paid.
- Payments to Vendors typically happen 3 days before the training will start. If your vendor hasn't been paid 2 business days before the start date, please open a helpdesk case or contact the education center.
- Soldiers must not pay any costs out of pocket or begin training prior to payment being made to the vendor. Reimbursement will not be approved for any out of pocket costs. They will not be reimbursed.

View an approved list of credentials at Army COOL: <https://www.cool.osd.mil/army/index.htm>

View an approved list of training providers:

https://www.cool.osd.mil/army/costs_and_funding/army_credential_assistance.htm

GI Bill Comparison Chart

https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.asp

MGIB-SR (Chapter 1606)	MGIB-AD (Chapter 30)	Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33)
Rates Eff. 01OCT2021	Rates Eff. 01OCT2021	Rates Eff. 01AUG2022
\$407/ month (Full time) \$305/ month (3/4 time) \$203/ month (1/2 time) \$101/ month (< 1/2 time) <u>Qualifications</u> 1) Six year contract or OSA 2) High School Diploma or Equivalent 3) IADT Complete (DD Form 214)	\$2150/ month (Full time) \$1612/ month (3/4 time) \$1075/ month (1/2 time) \$537 / month (1/4 time or <) <u>Qualifications</u> 1) 24 or 36 Month AD service 2) \$1,200 paid by SM 3) Not previously declined AGRs are eligible to Buy-In	Pays Tuition and Fees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to 100% at public school • up to \$26,381.37 annually at private school Pays Monthly Housing Allowance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be more than 1/2 time • Maximum rate = BAH rate for E5 with dependents • 1/2 the National Average for 100% on-line classes Pays Book Stipend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$1,000 annually <i>-Pay rate is based on qualifying service time.*</i> <i>-Transferable to dependents **</i>

* In support of a contingency operation...i.e. Iraq, Kosovo, Bosnia, Afghanistan and Noble Eagle, Border Mission, COVID and support to Capitol Police. (Other T32 ADOS or T32 ADSW does NOT count as Qualifying Service for NG Members). See the Post 9-11 Section of this book for more details.

** POST 9-11 Transfer will require 4 years of continued service from the date of transfer.

MGIB-SR KICKER	
Rate	Qualifications
OCS/WOCS/ROTC \$350/ mo	- Meet basic MGIB eligibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend/Reenlist for 6 years • Critical Unit or MOS* <i>(All qualifications must be IAW Current Kicker Policy)</i>
Officers Without Degree (OWD) \$200/ mo	
Enlisted \$200 or \$350/mo	

For more information visit: <http://www.gibill.va.gov> or call **1-888-GIBILL-1**

Try out the GI Bill Calculator tool: <https://www.va.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool/>

Force Readiness Non-Commission Officer is the contact for initiation of the MGIB benefits.

Note: TBD-To Be Determined; AD- Active Duty; AC-Active Component; RC-Reserve Component; IADT-Initial Active Duty for Training; SM- Service Member; OCS-Officer Candidate School; OSA-Officer Service Agreement; IAW- In Accordance With; NPS-Non Prior Service; WOCS- Warrant Officer Candidate School; SMP-Simultaneous Membership Program; LT-Lieutenant; TA- Tuition Assistance; VA-Veterans Administration; MOS-Military Occupational Specialty; MTOE-Modified Table of Organization and Equipment.

Montgomery GI Bill- Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) CH1606

<https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/montgomery-selected-reserve/>

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 (Reference: Title 10 USC Chapter 1606; DoDI 1322.17).

How Do I Qualify?

- Sign a six-year enlistment contract or Officer Service Agreement to serve in the ARNG.
- Have a High school diploma or equivalent.
- Complete Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) or Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC).
- Be actively serving in the ARNG (cannot be in the Inactive National Guard-ING or Individual Ready Reserve-IRR).
- Not be AGR or on Active Duty.
- Not be flagged for unsatisfactory participation.
- Not be using a Dedicated Army National Guard ROTC Scholarship (Ref: Title 10 USC 2107).

What Do I Get?

- \$407 per month for full-time enrollment (Effective 1 October 2021).
- Payment made directly to the Soldier each month from the DVA.
- In most cases your eligibility begins immediately after you complete IADT/BOLC.
- CAN be combined with Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) for the same course.
- CAN be combined with State Tuition Assistance (State TA).

How Do I Apply?

- Contact your State Education Office to ensure your eligibility is updated.
- Submit the Veterans Online Application at: www.va.gov
- Notify the VA Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Continue to verify your enrollment each month online at: www.gibill.va.gov/wave



Montgomery GI Bill “Kicker”

www.benefits.va.gov/gibill

What is it?

The Kicker incentive is an additional education payment to attract Soldiers to specific units, skills, or positions to meet and sustain ARNG readiness requirements (Reference: DoDI 1322.17).

How Do I Qualify?

- **Categories:**

- Non-prior service applicants (enlisted only); 50 or higher on ASVAB (CAT IIIA or higher), agree to serve in a critical skill/critical unit.
- Prior service applicants (enlisted only); 50 or higher on ASVAB (CAT IIIA or higher), MOS qualified, E-5 or below, and enlist in an MTOE or medical unit.
- Currently serving enlisted Soldiers; served between 3 and 14 years in the ARNG, SFC or below.
- Officer commissioning program; ROTC/SMP, OCS, WOC, must contract prior to commissioning.

- **Basic Criteria:**

- Be eligible for the MGIB-SR/Chapter 1606 or MGIB-AD/Chapter 30
- Complete Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) or Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC).
- Sign a six-year enlistment contract, Officer Service Agreement (OSA) or extend to have six years on their contract remaining and meet all other relevant criteria in the current SRIP policy.

- **Additional Criteria:**

- Have an Honorable discharge from all previous periods of service.
- Be actively serving in the ARNG (cannot be in the Inactive National Guard-ING or Individual Ready Reserve-IRR).
- Not be in Military Technician, AGR, or Active Duty Status.
- Not be flagged for unsatisfactory participation.
- Not on a Dedicated ARNG ROTC Scholarship (Reference: Title 10 USC 2107).

What Do I Get?

- Up to \$350 per month in addition to your basic GI Bill payment (paid directly to the Soldier).

How Do I Apply?

- When applying online for your GI Bill at www.va.gov, indicate you have a kicker by marking "I have a reservist kicker" when prompted.
- Notify the School Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Continue to verify your enrollment each month online at: www.gibill.va.gov/wave

Post-9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33

<https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/>

What is it?

The Post 9/11 GI Bill is an education program for Service Members who serve on active duty after September 10, 2001 and receive an honorable discharge. (Reference: Title 38 USC Chapter 33, DoDI 1341.13)

How Do I Qualify?

Serve at least 90 days in a period of qualifying active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Qualifying Active Duty service is:

- Service in any active component
- Title 10 AGR or Title 32 AGR
 - Title 10 U.S.C. Sections 688, 12301(a), 12301(d), 12301(g), 12301(h), 12302, 12304, 12304a, or 12304b
- Title 32 U.S.C., Section 502(f), in which orders occur during following dates and include references to these approved missions:
 - between 11 Sep 01 – 31 May 02, In Support of Operation Noble Eagle
 - as of FEB 15, 2019, in support of Southern Border Mission
 - as of APR 02, 2020, in support of COVID-19 Mission
 - thru May 23, 2021, Capitol Police Mission
- Separation from qualifying service period due to a service connected disability or injury requires only 30 continuous days in a qualifying duty status

Basic Training and AIT can be added to qualifying time if:

- You have completed 24 months of other qualifying active duty; and
- Your Basic Training and/or IADT occurred on or after September 11, 2001

The following service time does NOT qualify for Post-9/11:

- Title 32 ADOS/ADSW/FTNGD
- The Service Obligation from a Service Academy Contract
- The Service Obligation from a ROTC Active Duty Contract (Dedicated Guard only)
- Active Duty used for Active Duty Loan Repayment (Title 10 Sec. 109)
- Active Duty period receiving less than Honorable discharge

What Do I Get?

Tuition and Fees

- Up to 100% of in-state tuition if you are attending a public school
- Max payment of \$26,381.37 per year for private or foreign school

Book and Supply Stipend

- Up to \$1,000 per academic year (\$41.67/credit hour)

Qualifying Service	Percentage Tier
At least 36 cumulative months	100%
At least 30 cumulative months	90%
At least 24 cumulative months	80%
At least 18 cumulative months	70%
At least 6 cumulative months	60%
At least 90 cumulative days	50%

Monthly Housing Allowance

- Equal to BAH rate - E-5 with dependents
- Based on zip code of campus where attending class
- MUST be attending more than half-time to qualify
- If attending only online classes: \$871.00
- AGR and Active Duty Soldiers are NOT eligible for the Housing Stipend

Payment Tiers

- Payments for all three benefits are prorated based on your percentage tier. The book and supply stipend and MHA are also adjusted based on your enrollment (number of credit hrs).

Qualifying Service	Percentage Tier
At least 36 cumulative months	100%
At least 30 cumulative months	90%
At least 24 cumulative months	80%
At least 18 cumulative months	70%
At least 6 cumulative months	60%
At least 90 cumulative days	50%

Timeline/Expiration of Benefits:

- If your last day of qualifying Active Duty is on or after 1 Jan 13, your benefits never expire
- If your last day of qualifying Active Duty is before 1 Jan 13, your benefits expire 15 years from your last day of Active Duty
 - You can reset your expiration date by completing another qualifying period of service of at least 90 consecutive days
 - Submit VA Form 21-4138 with your new DD214 to the VA Regional Processing Center

How Do I Apply?



- Submit the Veterans Online Application at: www.va.gov
- Notify the School Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Check Claim Status: 1-888-GIBILL-1
- Effective August 2021, Soldiers must verify enrollment each month online at: www.gibill.va.gov/wave

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 - The “Forever GI Bill”

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/ForeverGIBill.asp>

Overview

The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act, also known as the “Forever GI Bill,” was signed into law on August 16, 2017. The law will allow more Veterans and service members to qualify for the GI Bill and more time in which to use it. Some of the changes go into effect immediately, and some go into effect at later dates as listed below.

Effective 16 August 2017:

- **Removal of Delimiting Date:** Service members whose last day of Active Duty is on or after 1 January 2013 and Fry Scholarship recipients who become eligible on or after 1 January 2013 no longer have a delimiting date (their Post-9/11 GI Bill will never expire).
- **Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP):** Service Members who lost eligibility for REAP (Ch. 1607) due to the REAP Sunset may now convert unused months to the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- **Independent Study Programs:** Service members who are eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill can now use their GI Bill benefits for Independent Study programs.

Effective 1 January 2018:

- **Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA):** The MHA for students who use their Post-9/11 GI Bill for the first time on or after 1 January 2018 will increase or decrease with BAH rates.
 - Students who used their Post-9/11 GI Bill BEFORE 1 January 2018 will not have MHA decreased if BAH decreases.

Effective 1 August 2018:

- **Qualifying Periods of Service:** Title 10 Sections 12301(h), 12304a, and 12304b are qualifying service for Post-9/11 GI Bill.
 - 12301(h) service on or after 11 September 2001.
 - 12304a and 12304b service on or after 30 June 2008.
 - Payments for Service and eligibility for TEB will begin 1 August 2018.
- **Transfer of Education Benefit (TEB):**
 - Service members can re-transfer Post-9/11 benefits if the original dependent dies, even after the service member separates; applies to deaths on/after 1 August 2009.
 - Dependents can re-transfer Post-9/11 benefits if the transferor dies and they have remaining months; applies to deaths on or after 1 August 2009.
- **Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA):**
 - MHA based on campus where attending.
 - MHA is pro-rated and may be paid for days in a month the service member is not serving on active duty.



Effective 1 August 2018:

- **Purple Heart Recipients:** Purple Heart recipients eligible at 100% payment tier.
- **Yellow Ribbon:** Fry Scholarship and Purple Heart recipients eligible for Yellow Ribbon Program.
- **License and Certification:** Entitlement charge for License and Certification tests are pro-rated.
- **Institution Closures:** Service members may recover some benefits when the institution they are attending closes on or after 16 August 2017.
- **Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance:** Students using Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (Chapter 35) who enroll after 1 August 2018 are limited to 36 months of benefits. Payments under Chapter 35 increase on 1 October 2018.
- **Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment:** Title 10, Sections 12304a and 12304b are qualifying service for Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Chapter 31).

Effective 1 August 2019:

- **Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship:**
 - Adds up to an additional 9 months of benefits after exhausting Post-9/11.
 - Maximum payment \$30K.
 - Cannot be transferred.
 -

Effective 1 August 2020:

- **Payment Tiers:**
 - 40% payment tier is eliminated.
 - 90 days to 6 months of service eligible for 50% payment tier.
 - 6 months to 18 months of service eligible for 60% payment tier.

Effective 1 August 2022:

- **Yellow Ribbon.** Service members on active duty are eligible for Yellow Ribbon.

Other Changes:

- VA High Technology Pilot Program.
- Opportunity to enroll in High Tech programs.
- VA determines eligible skills and training based on employer input.
- Can use Chapters 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 1606, or 1607.
- VA will use automated and electronic processing as much as possible.
- Work Study program continued.
- Schools must report whether they allow priority enrollment for Veterans
- VA will provide information to schools about all GI Bill programs a Veteran or service member is entitled to. Student may opt out.
- School Certifying Officials must be trained by VA.
- VA will provide counseling on selected campuses.
- Various agencies must provide GI Bill use data reports to Congress.
- Increase in payments to State Approving Agencies.

Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB)

Post-9/11 GI Bill

https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/public/faq/Education_Benefits-How_to_Transfer_Benefits

What is it?

TEB is an incentive for continued service offered to Service Members who qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. All ARNG Soldiers considering TEB should initiate the TEB process as soon as they meet the requirements (Ref: Title 38 USC Section 3319; DoDI 1341.13).

How Do I Qualify?

- Qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill at any payment tier
- Be currently serving in the Uniformed Services, with at least six years completed
- NOT be flagged for adverse action, APFT/ABCP failure, or as Unsatisfactory Participant
- Agree to a four-year service obligation from the date of your transfer request
- Transfer to an eligible dependent
 - Spouse and/or dependents must be listed under you in DEERS
 - Transfers to children must be completed before each child's 23rd birthday (21st birthday if they aren't enrolled full-time at an Educational Institution)

What Do I Get?

- Dependent(s) receive the same payment eligibility tier as Soldier
- Spouses:
 - May use transferred benefits immediately
 - If your last day of qualifying service is before January 1, 2013, your spouse's eligibility ends 15 years from the last day of that qualifying duty
 - If your last day of qualifying service is on or after January 1, 2013, your spouse's eligibility never ends
- The spouse of a Soldier on Active Duty/AGR is NOT eligible for the Housing Stipend
- Children:
 - Cannot use the benefit until transferring Soldier has completed 10 years in the Armed Forces
 - Is always paid as if Soldier is in a Non-Active Duty Status
 - Can begin using the benefit on their 18th birthday or upon high school graduation, whichever comes first
 - A child's eligibility ends on their 26th birthday unless you specify an earlier end date.
 - Ward/Foster children must reside with the Soldier under court order for a minimum of 12 months in order to be eligible to receive transferred benefits.
- You can modify and/or revoke months between any dependent you originally transferred months 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**

- Call 1-888-GIBILL-1, ask how many months you have remaining in each GI Bill program.
 - If you are only eligible for one program, subtract those months from 36. This is the number of months you are eligible to transfer.
 - If you are eligible for more than one program, subtract the total months from 48. You may transfer this number of months or 36 months, whichever is fewer.

- **Step 2: Complete Extension (If required)**

- Enlisted Soldiers MUST have an ETS date that is four or more years after the TEB request date. If you do not have four years remaining, you will need to extend before your TEB will be approved.
- Officers' MRD MUST be four or more years after the request date
- IMPORTANT! Your TEB request cannot be approved until the ETS/MRD is updated in GIMS.



- **Step 3: Complete Application for Transfer**

- Log into milConnect
<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>
- Verify your dependents are listed as eligible to receive the transfer.
 - Your dependents will be listed in the List of Family Members chart.
 - If your dependent(s) is under 23 years old and is identified as ineligible, contact your DEERS office to enroll that dependent into DEERS.
- Enter the number of months you wish to transfer to each dependent
- Entering a Transfer End Date is optional, and not recommended. If left blank, the dependent will receive the longest period of eligibility allowed by law.
- Click the "OK" button and repeat for each dependent.
- Complete the application by reading every statement and selecting EVERY check box. Be sure to click the SUBMIT button.

- **Step 4: Access your Enterprise Email and follow TEB email instructions**

- The ARNG GI Bill Support Team will review your application and send approval instructions to your military email (mail.mil account).
- Once you have met all the requirements, you will receive a "TEB APPROVED" email from the GI Bill Support Team.
- Login to milConnect, review your obligation end date (OED), print your approval form.
- **NOTE: IF YOU VOLUNTARILY SEPARATE FROM THE ARNG PRIOR TO COMPLETING YOUR OED, YOUR TEB WILL BE TERMINATED AND ANY FUNDS PAID TO YOUR DEPENDENTS WILL BE RECOUPED!**

- **Step 5: Dependent Application to VA**

- When ready to attend school, your approved dependent(s) apply for the Post 9/11 GI Bill at: www.va.gov
- Notify the VA Certifying Official at your school to certify your enrollment.

How to Apply for GI Bill Benefits

<https://www.va.gov/education/how-to-apply/>

Step 1: Apply for your Certificate of Eligibility (CoE)

- Be sure you have all of the required information before you start. You must complete the form in one session – there is no option to save and come back later.
- **Required information:**
 - Applicant's Social Security Number
 - Military history (Service Members only)
 - Sponsor's Social Security number (Dependents only)
 - Information about the school you wish to attend
 - Bank account and direct deposit information
 - Education history
- Go to www.va.gov and click on "Apply for Education Benefits".
- Click on "Find Your Education Benefits Form".
- Answer the questions in this section by clicking the appropriate bubble until you reach a point where you can select "Apply Now."
 - Section 1: Applicant Information
 - Section 2: Eligibility
 - In general, dependents will select 'Post-9/11'.
 - Service Members select the program you are eligible for and wish to use.
 - Page 3: Service Members - Military History
 - If you are currently on Title 32 ADOS, select 'No' for "Are you on active duty now".
 - ROTC Cadets: Confirm whether your scholarship is Section 2107 or Section 2107a. If 2107a, select no for both questions.
 - Student Loan: Do not check this box if your Student Loan Repayment contract was from the Guard/Reserves.
 - Section 5: Education History
 - Section 6: Employment History
 - Section 7: School Selection
 - Section 8: Contact and Direct Deposit Information
 - Section 9: Review information and click "Submit Application".
- Normally, the VA will process your application within 30 days. You will receive a Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) in the mail.
 - You can call (888) GIBILL-1 or visit: <https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/home> to check the status of an application.

Step 2: Register for classes as soon as your school's registration period opens.

Step 3: Visit your School Certifying Official (SCO).

- This is a school employee who typically works in the financial aid, admissions or Veterans affairs office.
 - The SCO will certify your registration. This tells the VA how many hours you are taking and the cost of tuition & fees and reports your rate of pursuit (1/2 time, 3/4 time, full time).
 - If a tuition payment is due before you receive your CoE from the VA, your SCO may be able to place your school account on hold to wait for payment from VA. Check with your school's Finance Office for their policies
- When you receive your CoE from the VA, give a copy to your SCO.



Step 4: Verify Attendance

- While you are in school, you must verify EVERY MONTH with the VA that you are still attending courses to receive your next monthly deposit. (Monthly verification is not required if you are using the Post-9/11 GI Bill.)
- You can complete your monthly verification in one of two ways:
 - Call 1-877-823-2378
 - Go online at: www.gibill.va.gov/wave and verify attendance through the Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (WAVE).

Step 5: Next Semester

- Do not repeat the application on va.gov unless changing schools or degree plans.
 - If you changed your school or degree plan, repeat the process in Step 1 and file a Form 22-1995.
- As soon as registration for the next term opens, register for classes early and make another appointment with your SCO.



TESTING SERVICES-DANTES

<http://www.dantes.doded.mil/>

What Is It?

DANTES provides numerous programs and services to assist service members seeking to further their voluntary education goals and objectives.

How Do I Qualify?

Be an actively drilling member of the ARNG.

What Do I Get?



- **Free Academic and College Credit Equivalency Exams:**
 - College credit equivalency exams (CLEP, DSST)
 - Tests are administered at National Test Centers (NTCs)
 - Locate a local NTC to schedule CLEP exams at:
<https://clep.collegeboard.org/test-center-search>
 - Locate a local NTC to schedule DSST testing at:
<http://getcollegecredit.com/institutions/search>
 - **NOTE: DANTES no longer supports the reimbursement of SAT, ACT, GMAT, GRE, or Praxis exams.**
- **Free Test and College Prep Materials:**
 - Khan Academy: www.khanacademy.org -Comprehensive videos and practice quizzes to help with college level mathematics, science, and history tests.
 - EBSCO Learning Express: EBSCO's DoD Learning Express Test Prep library provides eLearning tutorials, practice tests, e-books, flashcards and articles that help users build their skills in a wide array of core subjects for success in the classroom, on the job, and in life, including preparation for CLEP, DSST, ACT, GRE and more. Access the DoD MWR Digital Library online by visiting <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/>. Select the menu icon in the upper right. Then, select the MWR Digital Library link. Go to the bottom of the page and select the "ACCESS THE LIBRARY" button under the "For Adults" section. You will now be able to select the tile titled "EBSCO DoD Learning Express Test Prep." You will need to register and login using your authentication certificate to have access to the EBSCO library.
 - OASC/CPST: <https://dantes.petersons.com/> -Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) and the College Placement Skills Training course (CPST). The OASC focuses on preparing you with the academic skills needed to do well on the ASVAB/AFCT. The CPST helps learners achieve college readiness and place into college-level courses by scoring well on the ACCUPLACER exam.
 - Free DSST Practice Exams: https://www.getcollegecredit.com/dsst_practice_exam/
 - Free College Board CLEP Study Material- Upon registration, military members will receive a free eGuide available at: <https://clep.collegeboard.org/earn-college-credit/military-benefits>
 - Free CLEP Prep: <http://www.free-clep-prep.com/index.html> -This website tells you what to expect for many CLEP and DSST exams, offers all kinds of test-taking tips, study guides, and resources, plus it's 100% free

Army Personnel Testing (APT)

www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantesnet/

What Is APT?

APT encompasses standardized tests used to determine eligibility for specialized training and to support the Army's personnel selection and classification process, including language proficiency testing (Reference: AR 611-5).

- **How Do I Qualify?**

- Be an active drilling member of the Army National Guard (ARNG).

- **What Tests Can I Take?**

- APT offers career-enhancing exam options, such as:
 - Armed Forces Classification Test (AFCT)
 - Selection Instrument Flight Training (SIFT)
 - Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT)
 - Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB)
 - Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI)*
- *The OPI is not currently offered at Camp Mabry

- **What Are The Benefits of These Tests?**

- AFCT: Raise GT/Line Scores to Re-class MOS or Qualify for Officer Candidate School.
- SIFT: Qualify for Aviation School.
- DLPT/DLRPT/DLAB/OPI: Qualify for Foreign Language Billets and Proficiency Bonuses.

- **How Do I Apply?**

- Application for APT is through your local State Education Office or Army Education Center.

CONTACTS & RESOURCES



TMD Education & Incentives Office

2200 W. 35th Street, Bldg 15
Camp Mabry, Austin, TX 78703
Main: (512) 782-5515
Website: <https://tmd.texas.gov/money-for-college>

Email addresses:

Education Benefits (FTA, STA, GI Bill):
ng.tx.txarng.mbx.education@army.mil

Incentives (SLRP, Bonuses):

ng.tx.txarng.mbx.incentives@army.mil

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Toll-free: 888-GIBILL-1 (888) 442-4551
From Overseas: 001-918-781-5678
Website: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>

WEAMS Institution Search

<http://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchInstitutionCriteria.do>

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Main: 1-800-4FED-AID
Website: www.fafsa.gov
Website: www.studentaid.ed.gov

Texas Veterans Commission

1700 North Congress, Suite 800
Stephen F. Austin Bldg
Austin, TX 78701
Main: (512) 463-5538
Toll-free: 1-877-898-3833
Website: <https://www.tvc.texas.gov/education/hazlewood/>
Email: hazlewood@tvc.texas.gov

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

1200 E. Anderson Lane,
Austin, TX 78752
Main: (512) 427-6101
Toll-free: 1-811-311-8881
Website: <http://www.collegeforalltexas.com/>

College Scholarships.org

Website: <http://www.collegescholarships.org/financial-aid/>

Higher Education Resource Center

100 Dalton Place Way, Suite 105
Knoxville, TN 37912
Toll-free: 1-866-624-5920 or 1-865-657-2171
Website: <http://highereducationresourcecenter.com/>
Email: support@degreequickly.com

TESTING

CLEP Exams-College Board

Website: <http://clep.collegeboard.org/military>

Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES)

6420 Saufley Field Road
Pensacola, FL 32509-5243
Main: 850-452-1111
Website: <https://www.dantes.doded.mil/>

Peterson's DOD MWR Library

3 Columbia Circle, Suite 205
Albany, NY 12203-5158
Toll-free: 1-609-896-1800
Website: <http://www.petersonsdodlibrary.com/>

MILITARY TRANSCRIPTS

Joint Services Transcript (JST)

<https://jst.doded.mil/jst/>

FREE TUTORING/ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Tutor.com

Toll-free: 1-800-411-1970
Website: <http://www.tutor.com/>

**Texas Army National Guard
Education & Incentives Office
2200 W. 35th
Camp Mabry, Austin, TX 78703**

Email: ng.tx.txarng.mbx.education@army.mil

Website: <https://tmd.texas.gov/money-for-college>

Office: (512)782-5515



Connect with us

