

EDUCATION & INCENTIVES
NEWS LETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) /	3
State Tuition Reimbursement (STR)	5
Federal GI Bill	7
Federal Incentives	11
State Incentives	12
AIR NATL GUARD (ANG)	14

SPECIAL POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- New SharePoint site is live
- State Programs ETP tracker is Live
- SFY24 MN Circular published 01 July 2023

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ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT?

Where to start:

Taking the first steps towards starting classes can be an intimidating experience.

This guide will help walk you through the different programs and how /when you should apply for them.

Find a school:

Your first step is to figure out which school you are going to attend.

Once you have selected a school, work with the admissions office to enroll into your degree program.

Apply for FAFSA:

The best time to apply for your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is when you have received your course schedule.

FAFSA can help to take advantage of grants, student loans and is also a requirement to use the MN GI Bill.

Talk to your VA Rep.

Receiving your course schedule also marks a good time to speak with your school's veteran's office and your school's VA Certifying Official and/or Higher Edu-

cation Vets Program Coordinator.

They will counsel you on the education programs you qualify for and help select the best benefits package based on your service and goals.

They can also assist you in gathering documents for your benefits applications.

Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA):

Visit ArmyIgnitED.com to create your account. Then, create your education path and register for classes. Your school will upload your registration to your account, and you can select which classes should be funded.

GI-Bill: E&I

Chapter 1606, Chapter 30 and Chapter 33 GI Bill applications must be submitted to the VA through the va.gov website .

The VA takes about 1-2 months to approve applications so start early. Make sure your VA certifying official at the school is tracking you are a veteran using GI Bill benefits so they can process your verification of enrollment.

State Tuition Reimbursement:

In order to qualify for STR, you must be in good standing for the entire term. Your unit administrator is the point of contact for the STR program.

All STR applications must be submitted for payment no later than 90 days **AFTER** the end of the course.

NOTE: Use of FTA is mandatory to qualify for STR. There are exceptions, but don't be that person...

MINNESOTA GI Bill:

You should apply for the MN GI Bill before courses start, but you may apply as late as the last day of the term.

Since MN GI Bill is a "last payer program" you need to apply for any other sources of funding (including the required FAFSA) before the MN GI Bill will provide funds.

Additional assistance:

Your unit full time staff remain the first line of effort in assisting you with your

"FTA is required for like, everything now!"

- Everyone

FEDERAL TUITION ASSISTANCE (FTA) - GET STARTED

Login to <https://www.armyignited.army.mil/student> with your CAC and update your profile. Your army.mil email address, **personal email address, personal phone number**, and work phone number should all be completed. If any of these fields are blank, it may prevent you from submitting your FTA request.



FTA - EVALUATED DEGREE PLAN

It is required to obtain a copy of your evaluated degree plan (APAS, Degree Audit etc.) from your school before submitting an education goal! This is now a function that will block funding if not completed prior to requesting funds. It must contain the following:

1. Your enrolment in the degree of your choosing
2. Credit requirements for the course
3. Credit completion towards your goal

FTA—SUBMIT AN EDUCATION GOAL

The Education Goal is where you are going to school and what degree program you are enrolled in. **This is NOT a request for funding.** Once you complete your Education Goal, you may see a box under the goal called "Issues Blocking Funding." If there is anything in that box, you will need to resolve that issue before you can

FTA—SUBMIT A TUITION ASSISTANCE REQUEST (TAR)

Once you are **within 8 to 60 days of the start of class**, you can submit a request for funding. Each class that you want funded needs to be listed. If classes start and end on the same date, they can be on the same request. However, if you are taking classes that start mid-term, list those separately.

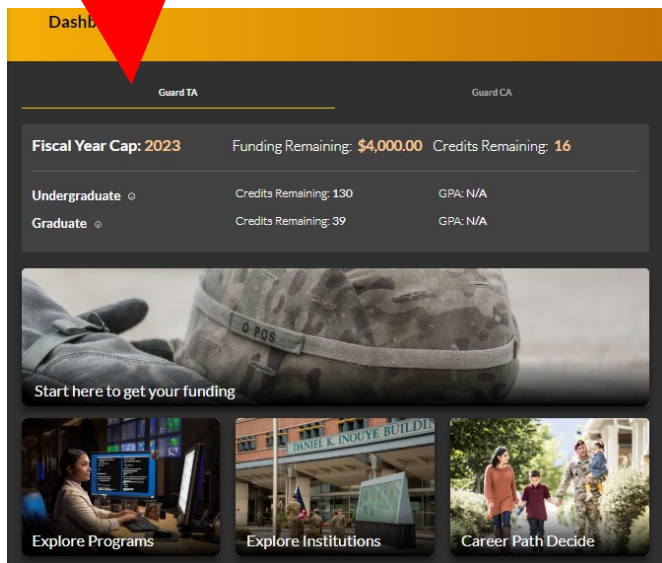
Do not wait to start this process! **FTA is now required to be eligible for STR.** If you have missed the massive 60 day window to apply for FTA, you may be eligible for a **one time** ETP through the MNNG education office.

If you have any questions about Federal Tuition Assistance, call 651-282-4589 or email us at: ng.mn.mnarnng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil

New Funding!!

OUT WITH
OLD IN
WITH THE
NEW!!!

FY24



FY24 is coming soon, SMs army wide will start to see a new allocation of credits and available funding for all classes that start after 01 October 2023.

Don't forget to apply for FTA right away after registering for Spring Classes!!

Spring registration typically starts in November, but guess what else does? The Holidays. If you were on the receiving end of a "one-time exception to policy",

- 01 October 2023 Brings next fiscal year allotment
- You can start applying for funding 60 days before class!
- \$4000.00 / 16 Sem Credit Hrs
- Don't wait until after the Holidays
- **You need to apply for FTA to be eligible for STR***
- **Do not hesitate to call us for assistance with FTA**



Call if you have any questions about Federal Tuition Assistance,

651-282-4589

or email us at: ng.mn.mnarng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil



STATE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

If you haven't heard, you must use FTA in order to qualify for STR. Most common exceptions are published in the current [MN National Guard Circular 621-5-1](#).

You must be in good standing with the MN National Guard! This includes APFT/ACFT, ANG PT, HT/WT among others.

STR will not reimburse you for degrees equal to or lesser than a degree you **already** hold.

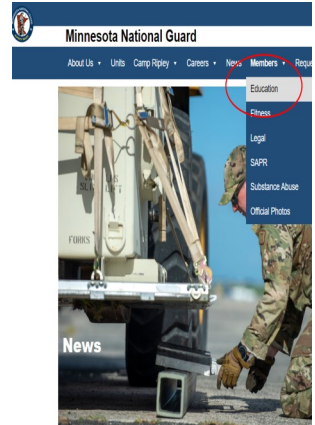
You must submit the following documents within 90 days of class completion to initiate your STR request:

- [Payment Request Form](#)
- grade Report

- Final fee statement provided by your school.

The final fee statement should clearly show the amount of tuition charged.

Ensure your EFT information is accurate and up to date in the State incentives database with your unit FTS.



minnesotational-guard.ng.mil

Circular and other STR forms

NEW STR RATES FOR 2023-2024

Undergraduate semester rate:

Up to \$557.55 per credit

Keep in mind STR payments will not exceed 100% of your tuition.

Undergraduate quarter rate:

Up to \$371.73 per credit

A combination of your STR, FTA and CH33 GI Bill can be used together; not to exceed the listed rates and/or your tuition costs.

Graduate rate:

Up to \$1194.75 per credit

You must use all available FTA in order to be eligible for STR; exceptions are made on a case by case basis.

"If you haven't heard, you must use FTA in order to qualify for STR. Most common exceptions are published in the current MN National Guard Circular 621-5-1."

MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL STATE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Do you want to become a Doctor, PA or Dentist for the MNNG?

Up to 100% Tuition Reimbursement!

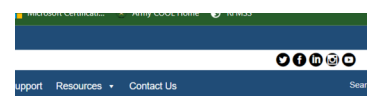
Contractual service obligation to the MNNG equals two years of service for every one year of use of the

program.

Encouraging currently accepted/enrolled medical and dental school students to accept a direct commission in the MNNG during completion of graduate-level medical or dental professional degrees.

Army and Air National Guard members who initially appoint as medical/dental student officers or who are already commissioned officers are eligible for this program.

Participation in this program does not prohibit concurrent participation in a



through the Minnesota National Guard. Opportunities include college of other programs. Members of the Minnesota National Guard may State of Minnesota that are in addition to other Federal benefits.

[Education and Incentives Newsletter - Joint \(pdf\)](#)

[Minnesota State Circular \(pdf\)](#)

MN GI BILL

How to apply:

Visit <https://mn.gov/mdva/resources/education/minnesotagibill/> or scan the QR code.

There are links for Higher Education, OJT/ Apprenticeships and Licensing and Certifications at the bottom of the page.



MN GI BILL ELIGIBILITY

Veteran who is serving or has served honorably in any branch of the United States armed forces at any time, or

Non-Veteran who has served honorably for a total of five credible years or more cumulatively as a member of the Minnesota National Guard or any other active or reserve component of the United States armed forces, and any part of that service occurred on or after September 11, 2001, and

Applicants must be a Minnesota resident defined by M.S. 197.05(b).

Enroll at a Minnesota institution

Complete FAFSA Financial Aid application if attending an institution of higher

MN GI BILL BENEFITS

Students may receive up to **\$5,000** per academic year and up to **\$15,000** maximum lifetime benefit. Service Members in OJT/Apprenticeship programs may receive up to **\$2,000** per fiscal year and your employer can receive up to **\$2,000** for participating in the program. You may also use your MN GI Bill to reimburse up to **\$5,000** of the costs of prep courses, exams and fees leading to licensure, certifica-

"Students may receive up to \$5,000 per academic year and up to \$15,000 maximum lifetime benefit."

MN GI BILL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- MDVA COE - you get this from the MDVA
- if you have not been deployed 23A: to show 5yrs in the guard
- if you have deployed your: DD214
- if you aren't in you need your: NGB22



FEDERAL GI BILL 1606 (SELECT RESERVE)

What is it?

The Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) (Chapter 1606) program offers up to 36 months of education and training benefits. you may be eligible for this benefit.

How do I qualify?

- Sign a six-year enlistment contract, extension, or officer Service agreement
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Complete your initial active duty for training (IADT) or Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC)

What do I get?

- \$439.00 per month for full-time enrollment (effective 1 Oct 2022)
- Payment is made directly to the soldier tax free each month from the DVA
- CAN be used alongside FTA (Federal Tuition Assistance) for the same courses, when attending half-time or more
- CAN be combined with most STA (State Tuition Assistance) check with education office to confirm eligibility.

For the unit:

When service members apply for 1606, their information in IPPS-A and iPerms is likely incorrect. Please validate civilian education, DD Forms 214 (IADT) and DD Forms 4 are accurate and updated in the respective systems of record. **These deficiencies may significantly delay the application process.**

Kicker:

The Kicker is paid in conjunction with a basic Montgomery GI Bill benefit, and eligibility can be established only if you're eligible for the MGIB-SR A

**"\$439.00
per month
for full-
time
enrollmen
t
(effective
1 Oct
2022)**





GI BILL KICKER CATEGORIES

\$200 Enlisted Accessions (EA)

Non-Prior Service (NPS)

- ASVAB score of 50 or above (Cat I-III A)
- Education tier level 1 (high school diploma or equivalent)
- Complete IADT or BOLC Phase 1
- Have a concurrent six-year service obligation from the date of the Kicker contract.

\$350 Re-Enlistment/Extension (RE)

- \$350 Re-Enlistment/Extension (RE)
- Re-enlist or extend DMOSQ grade E7 or below for at least six years.
- May extend any time after completing three continuous years of service in the ARNG, but prior to completing 14 total years of service.
- Deployed Soldiers with a 999K excess code are eligible.
- Soldiers in the Medical Management Activity (MMA) are not eligible while medically non-available.

\$350 Officer Commissioning (OC)

Officer Candidate School (OCS)

- Have previously completed IADT and have an Enlisted MOS
- Complete MGIB-SR Kicker Addendum (NGB Form 5435) after completion of OCS Phase 1 and prior to

commissioning.

- Have a concurrent six-year service obligation from the date of the Kicker contract.

Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC)

- Enrolled in the Simultaneous Member Program (SMP)
- Have previously completed IADT and have an Enlisted MOS
- Have not received an ROTC Scholarship (Title 10, Section 2107)
- Complete SMP Agreement (NGB Form 594-1) and ROTC Cadet Contract (DA Form 597 series) prior to contracting for the Kicker.
- Have a concurrent six-year service obligation from the date of the Kicker contract.

Warrant Officer Candidate (WOC)

- Have previously completed IADT and have an Enlisted MOS
- Complete Kicker Addendum after entry into commissioning program and prior to commissioning
- Have a concurrent six-year service obligation from the date of the Kicker contract.

"Must have a concurrent six-year service obligation from the date of the Kicker"



GI BILL POST 9/11 CHAPTER 33

What is it?

A benefit that is for Service Members who serve on active duty on or after September 11, 2001

How do I qualify?

- You're eligible for the benefit if you meet at least 1 of these requirements:
- Serve 90 days in a qualifying active duty on or after Sept 11, 2001
- Serve in a qualifying duty status for more than 30 continuous days and separate due to a service-connected disability or injury
- Purple hearts recipients eligible at 100% payment tier

What Do I Get?

- Up to 100% of in-state tuition if you are attending a public school.
- Maximum 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)

Monthly Housing Allowance

- Equivalent to BAH of E-5 with dependents
- Based on zip code where attending classes
- Must be attending more than half-time to qualify.
- If attending only online classes: \$988.00
- Soldiers serving on Qualifying Active Duty are NOT eligible for the Housing Stipend

Payment Tiers

Payments for all three benefits are pro-rated based on your percentage tier.

36 Months = 100% (includes Purple Heart Recipients)

30 Months = 90%

24 Months = 80%

18 Months = 70%

6 months = 60%

90 days = 50%

Apply for your GI BILL Now!

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

Note:

NOBE and COE are entirely different; Notice of basic eligibility is just that, a notice. Certificates of eligibility are what turn on your benefit.

NOBE and COE are NOT the same thing





BECOME A PILOT WITH YOUR GI BILL

Can I use my GI Bill to pay for flight training?

You may be eligible for flight training benefits if you meet all the requirements. All of these must be applied BEFORE you begin your flight program.

- Qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill or Montgomery GI Bill and,
- ALREADY have a private pilot's license, (not covered by the GI Bill) and,
- Have a second-class medical certificate valid for second-class privileges—or a first-class medical certificate if you want to pursue the Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) certificate.

*Private pilots licenses are not eligible for MNARNG benefits, contact the MNDVA to see if you may be eligible for MN GI Bill.



Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve (CH 1606)

You can get reimbursed 60% off the approved fees your flight school charges by the VA. Entitlement charged at the rate of one month for each \$439.00 paid. (36 months of benefit would cap out at \$15,804 and leave you with no remaining GI Bill benefits.) The VA makes all eligibility determinations for this program.

"Can I use my GI Bill to pay for flight training?"

"Yep"

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Ch. 33)

Payment depends on 3 things:

- Your level of eligibility (you're for a percent of benefits up to 100% depending on how much active time you have serve.
- How much entitlement you have left for school or training under CH 33
- The program and type of school you're in enrolled in. if you are enrolled.

What kinds of qualifications can I get through flight training?

ARNG FEDERAL INCENTIVES



If you are missing a bonus payment, please inform your unit ASAP!

Please read what you sign and keep a copy!

2-year reenlistment- \$5,000.00 lump sum

4-year reenlistment - \$12,000.00 lump sum (can be combined with state bonus)

6-year reenlistment - \$20,000.00 lump sum (can be combined with SLRP and state bonus)

SLRP requires a 6 year reenlistment and provides up to \$50,000.00 with max of \$8,333.33/ year towards student loans (can be combined with 6 year federal bonus and state bonus)

Qualifications-

- Soldier needs to be in a hard slot
- Must have a current and passing record ACFT/APFT
- Must have a current and passing height and weight
- Must have no more than 13 years and 1 month time in service

Soldiers can change MOS during contract and maintain bonus eligibility.

The contracted MOS has to be maintained as the secondary MOS in systems of record (IPPS-A and GIMS).

E&I

Soldiers can also change UIC to MTOE and authorized TDAs (deployable units).

If you have any questions about Federal Incentives call 651-282-4589 or email us at: ng.mn.mnarng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil



MINNESOTA STATE INCENTIVES

**The State Re-Enlistment Bonus (SRB):**

SRB bonus has two options:

- 4 year- \$6,000
- 6 year- \$15,000

If you have a federal reenlistment bonus, you may be eligible for the state bonus as well.

What is needed of the Soldier:

Check with your unit to make sure that:

- You must have completed 6 years time in service creditable for retirement and must have 20 or few years of service for retirement on current ETS date.
- Make sure the Education office has your current banking information on file. If not, you need complete a State EFT Form (Annex D-1) with your unit admin ASAP.

Eligibility:

- Meet Minnesota National Guard reenlistment eligibility criteria.
- ARNG members must be duty-MOS qualified. All Service Members must also be the grade of the assigned position or one grade below the required grade of the position to be eligible.
- SM MUST have a passing and current APFT/ACFT and HT/WT 3 months prior to the date of service member's reenlistment date.
- No retroactive incentives are authorized. Any incentives offered after reenlistment are not valid for payments.
- AGR and Full-Time Permanent Technicians ARE eligible to receive the SRB.

See our circular for all state programs and eligibility criteria:

Link: [MNNG Website](#)

SharePoint: [01 MN State Circulars](#)

RECLASSIFICATION BONUS ELIGIBILITY

MN National Guard Circular 621-5-1

Annex H-2

1 July 2023



RECLASSIFICATION BONUS-ELIGIBLE MOS/AFSCs
MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD
2023-2024

This list of reclassification bonus-qualifying MOS/AFSCs is effective **15 Aug 2023**, and is valid until amended or rescinded. This list is subject to change without notice. Change generally occurs quarterly for the Airforce and annually for the Army.

MOS		AFSC	
11C	Indirect Fire Infantrymen	2A6X1	Aerospace Propulsion (Engine Shop)
13B	Cannon Crewmember	2A0X1	Avionics/Test Station/POD
13F	Fire Support Specialist	3P0X1	Security Forces
13R	Field Artillery Firefinder Radar Operator	5R0X1	Chaplain Assistant
17E	Electronic Warfare Specialist	1C7X1D	Cyber Defense Operations Security
25Q	Multichannel Transmission Systems Operator-Maintainer	2A5X1	Aerospace Maintenance (Crew Chief)
74D	Chem, Bio, Rad, and Nuc (CBRN) Specialist	1D7X3C	Cable & Antenna Operations
88M	Motor Transport Operator	2T2X1	Air Transportation
91A	M1 Abrams Tank System Maintainer	2T1X1	Vehicle Ops/Dispatch
91B	Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic	3E5X1	Engineering Assistant
91C	Utilities Equipment Repairer		
91E	Allied Trades Specialist		
91F	Small Army/Artillery Repairer		
91M	Bradley Fighting Vehicle System Maintainer		
92G	Culinary Specialist		

EDUCATION & INCENTIVES

ANG Program Points of Contact (POCs)

State Tuition Reimbursement (STR):

133rd AW: Local Unit Training Manager (or Unit STR rep)

148th FW: For questions, email 148.fw.str.org@us.af.mil

For information, visit Wing app (Links and Resources)

GI Bill: [Department of Veterans Affairs \(VA\)](#) 888-442-4551 (or Local Retention Office)

Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA): Base Education & Training Office

State Reenlistment Bonus

Effective 01 Feb 2022, the State Reenlistment Bonus returned and eligibility criteria was edited shortly after to allow MORE service members to apply! Visit your local Unit Career Advisor or Retention Office to see if you qualify.

Basic eligibility requirements, members must:

- Be 3-level-qualified & at or one grade below assigned position,
- Be a satisfactory participant 3 months prior to reenlisting,
- Reenlist for 4 or 6 yrs,
- CAN BE AGR/Perm-Indef Technician,
- MUST sign bonus contract on the day of reenlistment,
- Have less than 20 years of service credible for retirement.

Transferring to the Air Guard?

There are Federal bonuses for certain jobs & if you have a state reenlistment bonus, it transfers over with you! Scan this code and send us your contact info to hear more:



Inside this issue

GI Bill TEB Process ... 2

Federal Incentives ... 2

State Incentives.....1&3

Acronyms

- ARNG = Army National Guard
- ETP = Exception to Policy
- ETS = End Term of Service
- FTA = Federal Tuition Assistance
- OED = Obligation End Date
- SCO = School Certifying Official
- SM = Service Member
- STR = State Tuition Reimbursement
- TEB = Transfer of Education Benefit
- VA = Veterans Affairs



Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) Process*

*See attached “how-to” for the TEB process

IMPORTANT! If you have applied for the transfer **PRIOR** to it moving to myEducation and it has not yet been approved, your request may be cancelled in July 2023 and you’ll have to restart the 4yr svc oblig.

RECOMMENDATION: If you have applied to transfer your Post 9/11 GI Bill, print the Approval letter from MilConnect.

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

- Benjamin Franklin

FAQ:

Q: Where can I find current Federal Incentive Information?

A: 148th: Wing App;
133rd: LinkTree (see QRC below);

Either: Contact Unit Career Advisor or Retention Office Mgr.



Federal Incentives Update

Source: FY23 ANG Federal Incentives Operational Guidance, Ch2

1C8X3 RAWS	2A6X4 Aircraft Fuel Systems
1D7X2F Spectrum Def. Operations	2A6X5 Aircraft Hydraulic Systems
1N0X1 Intelligence Analyst	
1T0X1 SERE	
1W0X1 Weather	
2A0X1 Avionics and Components	

<—Locate Federal Ops Guidance to read about your eligibility, or contact the POCs listed.

2A3X3 Aircraft Maintenance

2A3X5 Integrated Avionics

2A6X2 AGE

2A6X3 Aircrew Egress Systems

2A6X6 Aircraft E & E



*"You are not stuck where you are...unless you decide to be."
- Wayne Dyer*

State Reclass Bonus List (program details on side panel —>)

Each quarter, a list of AFSCs are recommended to be eligible for the State Reclass Bonus. Each Wing is allowed to request five AFSCs, so just because it's listed doesn't mean there's a vacancy at your Wing—check with your Retention Office or Recruiting Team for details.

Effective 15 Aug, the following AFSCs have been approved for a State Reclass Bonus (will be reviewed again in early Nov 2023):

1D7X3C Cable & Antenna	2T1X1 Vehicle Ops/Dispatch
1C7X1D Cyber Defns. Secur.	2T2X1 Air Transportation
2A0X1 Avionics /Test Station	3E5X1 Engineering Assistant
2A5X1 Aerospace Maint	3P0X1 Security Forces
2A6X1 Aerospace Propulsion	5R0X1 Chaplain Assistant

Members can qualify for both federal and state incentives at the same time.

MN Reclass Bonus

Purpose

Incentivize members who reclass into understaffed AFSCs

Who can apply?

Those having:

- Grade equal to, or no more than 1 grade below, projected position;
- <16 years "Sat. service";
- Ability to serve 3 years in MN ANG (from date new 3-level is awarded);
- Status as Drill Status Guardsman (aka "Traditional") &/or FT Fed. Tech.;

How much?

\$10,000 lump sum

When am I paid?

After new AFSC 3-level has been awarded (when back from new Tech School, check in w/Retention Office Manager)