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Federal Tuition Assistance

How do I qualify for Federal TA and how may I apply to use it?

- Eligibility
 - Currently serving in the Army National Guard
 - Issued a CAC Card (BCT and AIT/BOLC completion no longer required for Guard/USAR)
 - Do not have an ETS or MRD prior to completion of course
 - Passing APFT, height/weight standards
 - Not flagged
 - Attending/will attend a qualified, participating institution
 - Pursuing first master's degree or less
 - Not receiving any ROTC Scholarship
 - Apply 60 to 8 days before classes start (application must be approved before class start)

What does the benefit pay?

- FTA pays up to \$250 per hour, up to 18 semester hours per fiscal year (\$4,500)
 - Lifetime limit of 130 undergraduate semester hours
 - Lifetime limit of 39 graduate semester hours
 - Benefit is paid directly to school
 - Students attending flat rate schools may take additional hours without additional cost
- Additional 21 semester hours may be used towards a Transition Certificate
 - Certification must be within 3 years of anticipated separation
 - Must not have been previously received within past 5 years
- Up to \$2,000 per year may also be for Credentialing Assistance (CA)
 - Approved list can be found here- <https://www.cool.osd.mil/army/credsearch/index.html>
 - CA can pay upfront for a preparatory course, study guide, tools/equipment, and exam
 - Soldiers may use FTA at the same time, but will exhaust the \$4,500 annual allotment faster
 - Contact FTA Manager at least 60 days before exam date to arrange payment

Is there a minimum GPA required?

- Undergraduate courses below 2.00 GPA may be recouped
- Graduate courses below 3.00 GPA may be recouped

What expenses are NOT eligible?

- Courses for a degree that is lower or equivalent to what you already have (e.g. 2nd Bachelors)
- Courses above a Master's Degree
- Any program that bundles tuition and fees together into a lump sum charge
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs)
- Courses that do not meet a degree requirement
- Housing, meal cards, and most fees such as parking, graduation, health center, and enrollment

Is there a service obligation?

- Officers incur a service obligation following their last use of FTA:
 - Reserve Officers - 4 years
 - Active Duty Officers - 2 years (includes AGR/ADOS Guard officers)

May I use Federal TA in conjunction with State TA and GI Bill®?

- May use with any GI Bill
- May use with State Tuition Assistance if also eligible
- Tuition benefits are applied in the following order:
 - State TA
 - Federal TA
 - Post 9-11 GI Bill

How do I apply?

- Go to <https://www.armyignited.army.mil> and click "Get Started" (CAC ID required)
- Complete the AIED 101 Training & Career Path Decide (CPD) support tool
- Request an Education Goal (select your school and degree program)
- Enroll in courses at your School
- Return to ArmyIgnitED and request FTA for the courses
- FTA 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

May I add classes or change schools after submitting my application?

- Service members wishing to change schools should contact the FTA Manager
- Classes added late are not covered