



# Quick Facts

## Federal Military Tuition Assistance (FMTA)

### What is Federal Military Tuition Assistance?

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

### Who qualifies for TA?

#### Tier 1:

- Be currently serving in the Guard 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 Guard 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 TA.
- The funded course(s) meets a requirement listed in your personalized degree plan 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 TA request at least 5 business days prior to course start date.

### What are the benefits I will receive under TA?

For eligible Soldiers, FTA funds up to \$250 per semester hour for up to 16 semester hours each fiscal year—all towards tuition to advance your education. Here's a look at the FTA lifetime limits of the program:

- 130 undergraduate semester hours
- 39 graduate semester hours
- 21 certificate/diploma semester hours

To be eligible, your college or university must be regionally or nationally accredited—and a TA participant.



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### What are the benefits I will receive under TA? (Cont.)

TA will pay toward one credential at each of the following levels:

Associate degree, bachelor's degree, master's degree, undergraduate/graduate certificate  
First professional degrees are NOT eligible (e.g., doctorate degrees, juris doctorates)  
Tuition assistance is for advancing your post-secondary education, so it may not be used to achieve a lower or lateral diploma or degree.

*Exceptions: Initial state teacher certifications, chaplain certification or prerequisites for the Interservice Physician Assistant Program (IPAP) may be eligible after receiving a master's degree.*

Remember, FTA is tuition assistance, which means it is for tuition only. It does not cover fees, examinations, e-learning or other expenses that are outside of an official degree plan.

### What are the steps to apply for TA?

Each military branch has its own TA application form and procedures. To find out how to get started, visit your local installation education center, go online to a virtual education center or click on the following links for each service branch:

- [Army](#)
- [Marine Corps](#)
- [Navy](#)
- [Air Force](#)

*Prior to your course enrollment, you may be required to develop an education plan or complete TA orientation.*

Be sure to keep the following important information in mind when you apply:

- Military tuition assistance may only be used to pursue degree programs at colleges and universities in the United States that are regionally or nationally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S Department of Education. A quick way to check the accreditation of a school is by visiting the [Department of Education](#).
- Your service's education center must approve your military tuition assistance before you enroll in a course.