

COLORADO NATIONAL. CUARD

State Tuition Assistance Program 2018



CO NATIONAL GUARD STATE TA PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program is designed to assist:

- Colorado National Guard members with reaching their higher education goals
- >ARMY & AIR are eligible to participate
- ➤ Awards \$1.3 million dollars annually in assistance



WHAT DOES THE STATE TA PROGRAM COVER?

- The State TA program covers in-state tuition ONLY
- Tuition is authorized for the amount after the Colorado Opportunity Fund (COF) stipend has been applied



WHAT IS THE COF STIPEND?

The College Opportunity Fund (COF), provides a stipend to eligible undergraduate students that are current residents in the State of CO. The stipend pays a portion of total in-state tuition when members attend a participating college.

Eligible undergraduate students must apply, be admitted and enrolled in classes at a participating college to receive this benefit. Both new and continuing students are eligible for the stipend.

Qualifying students may use the stipend for eligible undergraduate classes only (graduates not eligible). The stipend is paid on a per credit hour basis directly to the college at which the student is enrolled. The credit-hour amount is set annually by the General Assembly.



APPLYING FOR THE COF STIPEND

- Members must apply just once and authorize the use of the COF stipend at their respective institution. This is typically done during the admissions process at the institution while verifying residency status.
- Without the COF stipend, a student is responsible for the full amount of tuition which equals in-state tuition plus the stipend amount.
- For current COF stipend amounts, eligibility requirements and application requirements, please visit:

<u>https://cof.college-assist.org/</u>





WHAT SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE TA PROGRAM?

Visit <u>www.colorado.gov/dmva</u> for complete list of participating schools

Some popular institutions CO National Guard Members are currently attending:

- Front Range Community College Campus/Online
- Metro State University Campus/Online
- Red Rocks Community College Campus/Online
- University CO Boulder, Denver, & Colorado Springs Campus/Online
- Pikes Peak Community College Campus/Online
- Arapahoe Community College Campus/Online
- Aurora Community College Campus/Online
- University of Northern CO Campus/Online
- CSU & CSU ONLINE PLUS Campus/Online





ACCESSING THE STATE TA WEBSITE

www.colorado.gov/dmva



BEFORE APPLYING ... GET PREPARED!

- ➤ Always access the **Student Resources** section of the State TA website before applying.
- > Obtain the most up-to-date document requirements.

Student Resources

Document & Submission Checklist For Applicants 06-18-18.pdf



FAQs Updated 11-01-17.pdf

GI Bill Comparison Chart - FY18.pdf

Education Benefits Pamphlet.pdf



APPLICATION DEADLINES

Always available on the State TA website

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPRING '19 APPLICATION DEADLINE NOW POSTED!

Deadlines

SEMESTER APPLICATION PERIOD

SPRING 2019

All registered classes between Jan 1st, 2019 - May 31st, 2019 **APPLICATION OPENS**

October 31st, 2018

APPLICATION CLOSES

December 4th, 2018 @ 11:59 pm MST

Application packets must be complete and submitted online by the deadline in order to be considered.



WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE?

- 1) Must apply online *every* semester
- 2) Must be meeting <u>ALL</u> of the following criteria:
 - √ 6 months of service in the CO National Guard <u>prior</u> to start of classes (this includes IST's, <u>no exceptions</u>)
 - > Copy of contract paperwork required (See Document Submission Checklist for details)
 - ✓ Satisfactorily meeting all performance requirements of the CO National Guard
 - > Must not have any flags or pending actions on record
 - ✓ Have ETS Date/MRD before the end date of the semester.
 - ✓ Enrolled in a State TA approved institution and provide proof
 - > Class schedule and cost breakdown, proof from school required
 - ✓ A CGPA of 2.5 or better and meeting all school academic requirements
- 3) Must submit a *complete* online application packet by the posted deadline



ETS/MRD DATES

Enlisted Members that have ETS dates before the *last day* of the semester <u>do not</u> qualify for State TA, *unless* they have <u>all</u> of the supplemental documentation outlined in the Document & Submission Checklist for Applicants

Officers that have an MRD before the last day of the semester <u>do not</u> qualify for State TA



ELIGIBILITY TABLE

Current CO National Guard Members Only

	Eligible for State Tuition Assistance?	
STATUS (Under United States Code)	YES	NO
Title 10 (Active Duty)		x
Title 10 (For deployment/call-up)	x	
Title 32 (Traditional)	x	
Гitle 32 (AGR)	x	
Fitle 32 (Federal Technician)	x	
Fitle 32 (MDAY)	x	
Title 38 (Veteran/Retiree)		x
Reservists		x

^{*}Additional eligibility information is available at: www.colorado.gov/dmva



HOW MUCH CAN A MEMBER QUALIFY FOR?

Currently program awards up to max of \$4,250/semester in tuition ONLY

Examples:

Maximum award per year (3 semesters): \$12,750 (Spring, Fall & Summer) (Summer funding subject to funding availability)

Maximum award per year (2 semesters): \$8,500 (Spring, Fall)

Aggregate Caps:

> 132 semester hours or 198 quarter credit hours

Or

- > 8 years total use of program
- Aggregate caps are based on whichever cap is reached first



WHICH PROGRAMS ARE ELIGIBLE?

One Program of study permitted at each level, so long as it leads towards a degrees or certificate

- Associates
- Bachelors
- Post Graduate (Masters, Ph.D, Ed.D)
- Certificates of completion (in most cases)
- Members must be in a degree seeking status and have not exceeded the 132 aggregate credit hour or 8 year limits





UTILIZING THE PROGRAM FOR CERTIFICATIONS

Certifications and certain licensures may be authorized if they are 100% administered by the member's state funded school <u>and</u> must be billed to the member's student account

Boards/Exams, Course Test Outs (such as CLEP) and most licensures are not typically administered and billed through institutions so they would not qualify for payment with State TA

DO A DOUBLE CHECK: If a member goes outside of their school for example: to take an exam or complete a certification and have to pay a fee to sit for an exam or obtain a license, State TA <u>cannot</u> pay for the exam/license or reimburse the member





ACCESSING THE STATE TA APPLICATION

Student Resources

Document & Submission Checklist For Applicants 06-18-18.pdf

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STATE TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATION - APPLY HERE



STATE TA APPLICATION SITE STEP 1: REGISTRATION



State of Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

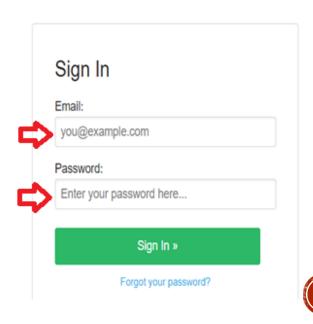
Application Portal

HELP

Welcome to the Colorado National Guard State Tuition Assistance Application Portal!

If you have applied for State Tuition Assistance in **2018**, you can select **Sign In**. Otherwise, please create a username and password by selecting the **Sign Up** button below.

Spring 2019 application period will open October 31st and closes December 4th, 2018 at 11:59 pm (midnight), MST.



STATE TA APPLICATION SITE STEP 2: COMPLETE TASKS

State Tuition Applications

To get started, please complete the Eligibility Requirements form below:

Your Tasks



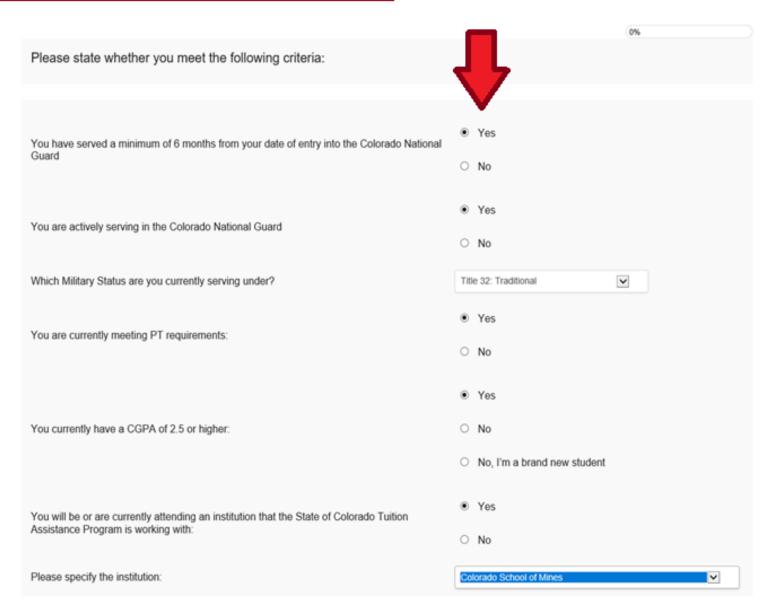
Not all required user tasks have been completed.



STATE TA APPLICATION STEP 3: COMPLETE ELIGIBILITY REQ.'S

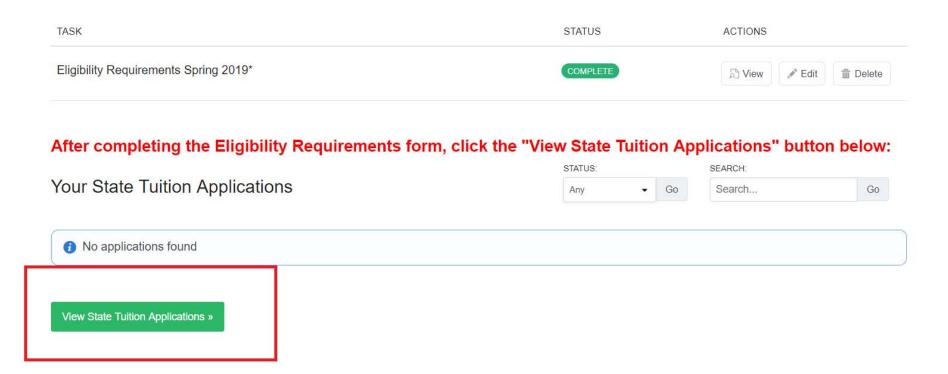
Eligibility Requirements Spring 2019

Back to Account





STATE TA APPLICATION STEP 4: VIEWING AVAILABLE APPLICATIONS

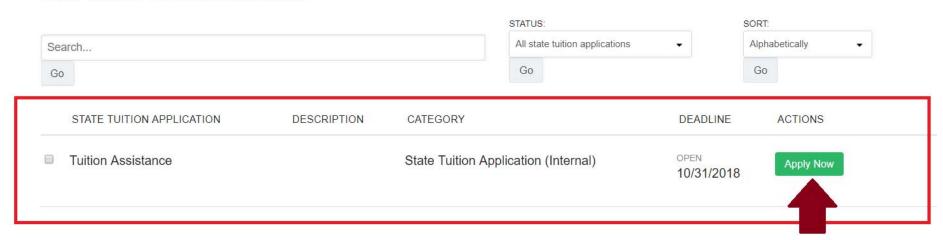




STATE TA APPLICATION STEP 5: APPLY NOW

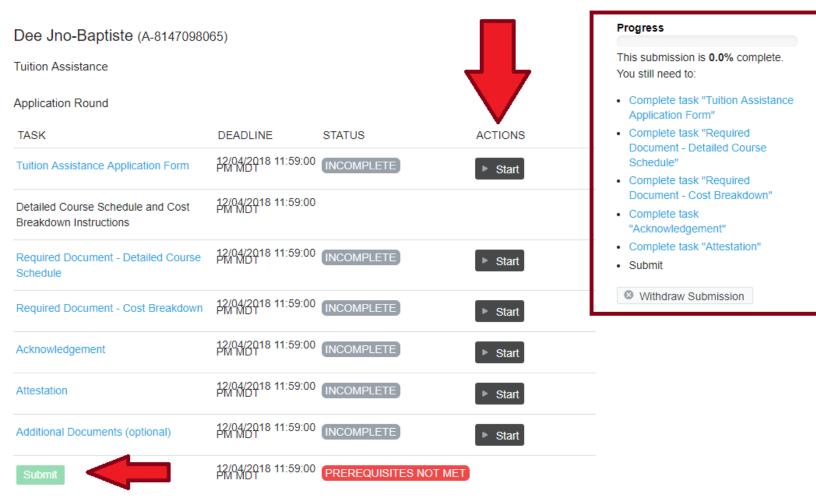
State Tuition Applications

You are eligible for 1 state tuition application(s).





COMPLETING ACTIONS





ANSWERING QUESTIONS

Enter your current DOE (Date of Entry) into the Colorado National ettard (Referred your most current enlistment/reenlistment contract for this date - MM/DD/YYYY) *

* If you are transferring from another service branch (Active Duty) or from another State as a National Guard member, you are not eligible to apply until you have served in the Colorado National Guard for a minimum of 6 months. Your Date of Entry into the CONG should be the only date listed here.

11/09/2015

Current ETS (Estimated Term of Service) *

11/08/2021

Refer to your most current enlistment/reenlistment contract for this date (MM/DD/YYYY)

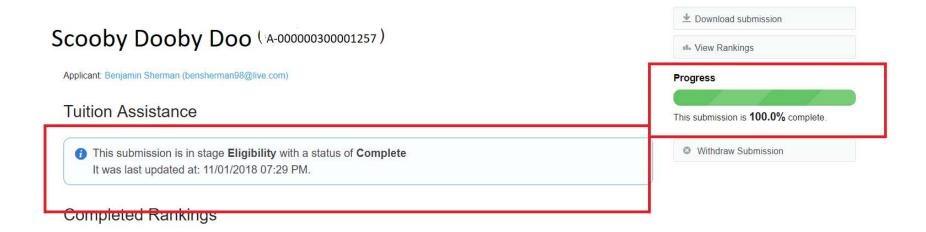
This is the date you are expected to the leave the Colorado National Guard and your contract expires. Please specifically indicate the date listed on your contract. If your ETS will be ending before the end date of the semester you are applying for, you must have additional documentation ready to submit in this application. Please save your application at this time and return to our homepage. Under the Student's Corner, download the Comprehensive Guide to Applying Online and view the document checklist page for details on what is required.

- Make sure ALL information reported is correct
- Dates must be reported directly off of contracts & re-enlistment paperwork
- ➤ Information is verified



APPLICATION STATUS

- Applicants can log in at any time to view the status of their application.
 - Make sure <u>noreply@fluidreview.com</u> is on your safe-senders list so you are receiving all notifications throughout the application process!





STATE TA APPLICATION STEP 6: ELIGIBILITY STATUS

- Members are notified of their approval/denial after their application packet has been fully reviewed
- An email notification like this one will be sent to the email address registered in the online application
- Member's approved for funding receive an Authorization/FERPA Release form attached to the CONGRATS email that they must fill out, sign/date and submit to their institution's billing dept. by add/drop



Dear <TEST user>,

Congratulations! You have been authorized to participate in the State Tuition Assistance program for the <TEST reviewers_var__157534__0uZJa0Inma_1> semester!

Complete the following steps to finish the State TA process:

- Sign/date the FERPA Release Section of the form attached in this email.
- Turn this signed form into your school's State TA or third party billing official immediately. If you are unsure who this person is, please contact your school's billing office.
- 3. Please do not return this form to the State TA Office

WARNING: This form must be signed and submitted **no later than** your school's add/drop period in order to qualify for timely billing through your school. Failure to do so will result in non-payment of your State Tuition Assistance for the semester.

Sincerely,

The Colorado National Guard State Tuition Assistance Office

This is an automatically generated email. This email address is not monitored



STATE TA APPLICATION STEP 7: SIGN AUTHORIZATION/FERPA RELEASE FORM

STATE OF COLORADO

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs State Tuition Assistance Office 6848 South Revere Parkway Centennial, Colorado 80112-6703 Phone (720) 250-1550

Email: Tuition@dmva.state.co.us



Fitasy, November 17, 2017	
Scooby Doo	
1234 Main Coolsville, Colorado, 80215	
Student ID: 4d5f46s5dtr	
AUTHORIZATION NOTICE	
Dear Scooby Doo, congratulations! You have been authorized for State Tuition Assistance.	
Semester: Fall	
Institution: Colorado Mesa University	
# Credit Hours: 13	
Estimated Amount Authorized: \$4000	
FERPA RELEASE	
I certify that I am the above stated individual on this form and authorize the appropriate school officials to provide all necessary information to the State Tuition Assistance Office, including, but not limited to: all transcripts, accounts, and enrollment information pertaining to my eligibility. The school will keep a copy of this letter on file for FERPA requirements.	
Signature:Date	
Student: Submit this signed form to the appropriate State TA billing officials at your school no later than add/drop period.	
Always keep a copy of this letter with the date you submitted it to your school.	



WHEN WILL STATE TA BE CREDITED TOWARDS A MEMBER'S ACCOUNT AT SCHOOL?

- > Tuition payments will be credited to the eligible member's student account once the following steps have been completed:
 - The institution has received the signed Student FERPA Release/Expectations form

<u>and</u>

- 2) An invoice is submitted to the State TA Office by the member's school
- > This occurs after the school's add/drop period





Questions?

RESOURCES FOR RECRUITERS AND MEMBERS

STATE TA:

www.colorado.gov/dmva

FEDERAL TA:

https://www.goarmyed.com/

AIRFORCE TA:

https://www.my.af.mil/faf/FAF/fafHome.jsp

SCHOOL RESOURCES:

http://department-of-veterans-affairs.github.io/gi-bill-comparison-tool/

FAFSA (FREE APPLICATION FOR STUDENT AID) (TITLE IV)

https://fafsa.ed.gov/

VA- GI BILL CONTACT INFORMATION:

http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/school_decision.asp

FAQ'S

Visit: www.colorado.gov/dmva for answers to Frequently Asked Questions

REFERENCES

http://highered.colorado.gov/finance/cof/

