Main Tuition Assistance Policy Changes

Although each point on the Tuition Assistance Policy is pertinent, below are some main changes from the new policy effective 01 July 2024.

Section 5 from new Tuition Assistance Policy

- a. Any member of the Colorado Army & Air National Guard (CONG), including transfers from other states or service components, is eligible to use State Tuition Assistance. There is no waiting period for members transferring from other states or service components, providing they have completed Basic Training.
- b. For transfers from other states or service components, if there is a break in service and additional requirements to attend basic training, this must be completed to qualify for tuition assistance.
 - 1) Proper documentation must be provided at the time of applying to verify completion.
- c. New members to the Colorado National Guard must complete Basic Training *before* applying for tuition assistance. Proof of Basic Training completion must be provided to the tuition assistance administrator at the time of applying for tuition assistance.
 - 1) Proof of completion includes any of the following:
 - DD FORM 214
 - DD FORM 220
 - DD FORM 4
 - Certificate of Completion
 - For Army National Guard Officers:
 - Oath of Completion NGB Form 33 AND Officer Record Brief (ORB). (You may redact all other information *except* your name, MRD, and Civilian Education).
 - For Air National Guard Officers:

- Oath of Office NGB Form 337 or AF Form 133 AND Career Data Brief (CDB). (You may redact all other information *except* your name, MSD, and Civilian Education).
- d. Students who received State Tuition Assistance during Spring 2024 semester and do not meet the revised requirements effective 01 July 2024, will be grandfathered in, and permitted to continue to use State Tuition Assistance funds. This is only provided the member remains in good standing with the Colorado Air or Army National Guard.

1) New applicants must meet the revised qualifications as 01 July 2024.

- e. It is required that all applicants get approval from their Commanding Officer or Commander's delegate to apply for Colorado State Tuition Assistance.
 - Approval will be based on the command's determination, providing the applicant has completed basic training and is in good standing with the Colorado Air or Army National Guard.
 - 2) The Commanding Officer or Commander's delegate must approve the Guard member to apply for State Tuition Assistance by completing and signing the Tuition Assistance Authorization Form located on the CONG Tuition Assistance website.
 - 3) By approving, the Commanding Officer, or Commander's delegate, attests that the Guard member is currently in satisfactory standings with guard performance.
 - Once complete, the Tuition Assistance applicant must upload the completed authorization form with their application to be considered for State Tuition Assistance funds.
 - 5) Applications will not be approved without this completed authorization form.
- f. Members must also be enrolled at a designated State Tuition Assistance participating institution of higher education and be in good standing as an active member of the CONG, meeting all the continuing requirements of the school and this regulation.

- g. Only active CONG members under the following statuses are eligible to apply for State Tuition Assistance:
 - 1) Title 32: AGR or Federal Technician, M-Day/Traditional Member, One-Time-Occasional-Tour (OTOT), or CONG Temporary Title 10 orders.
- h. Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship applicants who have made the "tuition and fees" election are *not* eligible for State Tuition Assistance. If they elect the "room and board" option of the scholarship, they may still apply for State Tuition Assistance.
 - 1) ROTC applicants are required to upload the following documents to determine eligibility:
 - DA FORM 597, 597-1, 597-3, or 597-4
- i. ROTC applicants who elect the "room and board" option of their scholarship and apply for Colorado State Tuition Assistance must get approval from their Commanding Officer, or Commander's delegate, to receive Colorado State Tuition Assistance.
 - Approval will be based on the determination of the command providing current satisfactory performance and the ROTC member is not currently using scholarship funds for tuition and fees by completing the Tuition Assistance Authorization Form mentioned above.
- j. ROTC members must actively attend weekend drills with the Colorado Air or Army National Guard.

Section 6 from new Tuition Assistance Policy

g. Members will supply the required documentation as mentioned in section (5.c.1.) to verify current satisfactory guard performance, enlistment information, unit information, and attendance requested by the State Tuition Assistance office. If an applicant falsifies any part of this attestation, the member may be permanently disqualified from participation in the program.

1. Required documentation includes the following:

- Detailed Course Schedule
- Tuition Cost Breakdown

- Reenlistment Documents (if applicable)
 - i. ARMY National Guard Submit:
 - DA FORM 4836 Oath of Extension Document for CO National Guard. Provide a completed re- enlistment packet with both you and your Unit Commander's signatures.
 - ii. AIR National Guard Submit:
 - AF Form 418 for CO National Guard. Provide a completed re-enlistment packet with both you and your Unit Commander's signatures.
- h. No State Tuition Assistance shall be granted without a complete online application packet submitted, in addition to any/all other necessary documents outlined in the application process by the State Tuition Assistance office. All forms for each semester/quarter must be submitted by the deadlines established by the State Tuition Assistance office. Deadlines are posted on the State Tuition Assistance webpage.

Section 7 from new Tuition Assistance Policy

p. Officers who use State Tuition Assistance incur a service obligation of two years, calculated from the completion date of the last course for which State Tuition Assistance was paid. The command the officer is assigned to is responsible for tracking the service obligation for each officer using State Tuition Assistance.