

FY18 Education Programs Overview

❖ New Jersey National Guard Tuition (Waiver) Program

- 30 Participating New Jersey Public Institutions of Higher Learning (see list below)
- **Undergraduate & Graduate** Tuition waived for NJNG members (Army or Air)
 - Must remain in good standing with your New Jersey National Guard unit
 - Must apply for financial aid *annually* using FAFSA www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Apply for Post 9/11 GI Bill (If eligible) – not required if transferred to dependents
 - NJDMAVA Form 621-2-R “Commander’s Certificate” *every semester* (unit issued)
 - Must comply with school policies, procedures and academic standards

Atlantic Cape Community College	Mercer County Community College	Rowan University
Bergen Community College	Middlesex County College	Rutgers University
Brookdale Community College	Montclair State University	Salem Community College
Rowan College at Burlington County	County College of Morris	Stockton University
Camden County College	New Jersey City University	Sussex County Community College
Cumberland County College	NJ Institute of Technology	The College of New Jersey
Essex County College	Ocean County College	Thomas Edison State University
Rowan College at Gloucester County	Passaic County Community College	Union County College
Hudson County Community College	Ramapo College of NJ	Warren County Community College
Kean University	Raritan Valley Community College	William Paterson University of NJ

Each school has their own policies and procedures for administering the NJNGTP. You must find out which office is responsible for this program and meet with a representative from that office before you register. This will ensure that you follow the school’s policy. For assistance, contact the Veterans Affairs Representative, the Financial Aid Office or the Registrar’s Office. For website links to New Jersey Public Colleges and Universities go to:

<http://njarmyguard.com/eso-njngtp>

❖ Army Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)

- Subject to the availability of funds from current Fiscal Year (FY) budget
- Must attend a DoD MOU approved school: dodmou.com/InstitutionList.aspx
 - \$250 per semester hour } Not to exceed 100% of tuition; fees not authorized
 - \$166 per quarter hour } Up to \$4,000 per soldier, per Fiscal Year
- Limited to 16 semester hours per FY; Lifetime Max: 130 undergrad, 39 graduate
- FTA is **ONLY** available after completing 1 yr of service following AIT/OCS/BOLC
- FTA may be used for a second higher degree **ONLY** after 10 years of service; Unless FTA was **NOT** used toward any portion of undergraduate coursework.
- Soldiers must meet APFT and Height/Weight standards; and no SFPA Flags.
- Soldiers must request and activate account at: www.GoArmyEd.com
- Must apply for FTA up to 60 days prior to and no later than 10 days before course start date.
 - Applications will not be approved on or after course start date
- Grades funded:
 - Undergrad “C” or better
 - Graduate “B” or better



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njarmyguard.com/eso

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FY 18

FY18 GI Bill Benefits Overview

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❖ Montgomery GI Bill–Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) Chapter 1606

➤ Basic Eligibility Requirements

- High School Diploma or equivalent (GED)
- Completion of IADT (Basic Training AND Advanced Individual Training)
- First Reserve Component 6 Year Contract or service obligation after 30 June 1985
- Remain in good standing while serving in an active Selected Reserve unit

➤ Benefits of the MGIB-SR:

- Provides 36 full-time payments (months of entitlement) at VA approved schools*
 - FY18 monthly rates for Chapter 1606 are based on training time or rate of pursuit:
 - ◆ Full-time (12+ college credits) **\$375 per month** (Max 36 full-time months)
 - ◆ ¾ Time (9-11 college credits) **\$281 per month** (Max 48 three-quarter time months)
 - ◆ ½ Time (6-8 college credits) **\$187 per month** (Max 72 half-time months)
 - ◆ < ½ Time (< 6 college credits) **\$93.75 per month** (Max 144 less than half-time months)
- Expires **14 years** from the day of eligibility. Total entitlement = 36 x \$375 = **\$13,500**

❖ Montgomery GI Bill–Active Duty (MGIB-AD) Chapter 30

➤ Basic Eligibility Requirements

- Active duty or AGR soldiers (Title 10 or 32) who have served 2 years or more
- Character of discharge is “honorable”
- Soldier paid enrollment fee of \$1200

➤ Benefits of the MGIB-AD:

- Provides 36 full-time payments (months of entitlement) at VA approved schools*
- FY18 Payment rates for Chapter 30 are based upon time served on AD:
 - AD Service of 3 Years or more: Full-time student = **\$1,928.00** per full-time month of entitlement
 - AD Service Less Than 3 Years: Full-time student = **\$1,566.00** per full-time month of entitlement
 - Less than full-time rates are prorated based on training time or rate of pursuit
- Expires **10 years** from most recent release from active duty or exhaustion of benefit

❖ GI Bill–Application Procedures for any chapter

➤ Step 1 – Go to: www.vets.gov/education/apply/

- Students applying for benefits for the first time must submit **VA Form 22-1990 “Application for VA Education Benefits”**
- VA initial processing time is usually 3-5 weeks. You will receive a Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) in the mail. You can call (888) GIBILL-1 to check the status of an application.
- Applications for **Chapter 30 and 33** must be accompanied with supporting documents of qualifying service i.e. Discharge from Military Service (DD Form 214).
- Be sure to have all required information to include your bank account and direct deposit info

➤ Step 2 – Register for Classes and Visit your School Certifying Official (SCO)

- Your enrollment into training must be certified to the VA by the SCO at a VA approved institution. Find your Certifying Official at: <http://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub>
- If a tuition payment is due before you receive your CoE, your SCO may be able to place your school account on hold to wait for VA payment. Check with your SCO for their policies.

➤ Step 3 – Verify School Attendance each month at: www.gibill.va.gov/wave/

- Required to continue receiving GI Bill payments. Not required if using Post 9/11 GI Bill.
- You can also complete your monthly verification by calling 1-877-823-2378

➤ Step 4 – Next Semester: Register Early and Make Appointment with your SCO

- If you have received benefits, but are now switching schools or GI Bill chapters, you must submit a **VA Form 22-1995 “Request For Change of Program or Place of Training”**

* NOTE: Maximum 48 full-time months of entitlement may be used if eligible for more than one chapter.

For more information go to: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill

Post-9/11 GI Bill “2.0” (Chapter 33): General Info with S3447 Changes



Who is eligible for benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

Individuals who serve at least 90 days of aggregate qualifying active duty service after September 10, 2001. Veterans must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

To be eligible for **100%** of the benefit, an individual must have served an aggregate of 36 months of active duty service, or have been discharged for a service-connected disability after 30 days of continuous service.

For those who served fewer than 36 months, the percentage of benefit ranges from 40% to 90%:

40% - 90 or more days	60% - 12 total months	80% - 24 total months
50% - 6 total months	70% - 18 total months	90% - 30 total months.

For example, an individual with nine months of qualifying service could receive 50% of the tuition benefit, 50% of the monthly housing allowance (if eligible), and a maximum of \$500 books and supplies stipend per year.

What entitlements do students receive under the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

The Post-9/11 GI Bill reimburses your tuition & fees to your school and makes housing and other payments directly to you.

→ **Tuition & Fees** - Your school will receive a percentage, as determined by your length of active duty service, of the following:

- For resident students at a public Institution of Higher Learning (IHL) all tuition & fee payments are reimbursed;
- For private and foreign IHLs tuition & fee reimbursement is capped at \$22,805.34 per academic year.

NOTE: If you are attending a public IHL as a non-resident student or a private IHL that is more expensive than the \$22,805.34 cap you may be eligible for extra payment under the Yellow Ribbon program. See “Yellow Ribbon payments”

→ **Monthly living stipend** - A monthly housing allowance (MHA) equal to the basic allowance for housing (BAH) amount payable to an E-5 with dependents, in same zip code as your school. This allowance is paid proportionately based on your enrollment. MHA rates will be adjusted for new BAH rates on 1 August instead of 1 January. **NOTE:**

- If you are attending school at the 1/2 time or less rate, or if you are on active duty or the spouse of an active duty member (with transferred entitlements), you will not receive any MHA.
 - If you are attending school overseas you will receive a MHA of the average BAH amount for all CONUS locations.
 - If you are enrolled solely in distance learning you will receive a housing allowance equal to 1/2 the national average.
- MHA is also prorated based on length of service. For your school’s current rates check <http://inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/>

→ **Books and supplies stipend** - Up to \$1000/year payment issued directly to the student. This benefit is paid proportionately at \$41.67 per credit hour, not to exceed 24 credit hours per academic year, and is prorated based on length of service. A lump sum payment is paid with the first housing stipend each academic year.

Yellow Ribbon payments - The Yellow Ribbon Program allows degree-granting institutions to enter into a voluntary agreement with VA to fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate for individuals eligible for the 100% payment tier. The institution can contribute up to 50% of those expenses and VA will match the same amount as the institution. This payment is issued to the school when the school certifies and VA processes the student’s enrollment. (*For details [http:// www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow_ribbon.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow_ribbon.asp)*)

What other kinds of education and training does the Post-9/11 GI Bill cover?

- Non-college degree (NCD) programs: Pays actual net cost for in-state tuition and fees at public NCD institutions. At private and foreign institutions, pays the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees or \$22,805.34, whichever is less. Also pays a yearly books and supplies stipend of up to \$1000 paid proportionately based on enrollment;
- On-the-job and apprenticeship training: Pays a monthly benefit amount prorated based on time in program and a yearly books and supplies stipend of up to \$1000 paid proportionately based on enrollment (up to \$83 per month);
- Flight programs: Per academic year, pays the actual net costs not to exceed \$13,031.61;
- Correspondence training: Per academic year, pays the actual net costs not to exceed \$11,076.86.
- Allows reimbursement for more than one National Testing Programs/Licensing or Certification (up to \$2,000 per test).
- Allows reimbursement of fees paid to take national exams used for admission to an institution of higher learning (e.g., SAT, ACT, GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT). **CAUTION:** *even low-cost tests are charged one month of entitlement per test.*

NOTE: If an individual is eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill as well as other GI Bill benefits, s/he will be required to make **an irrevocable choice** of which benefit to receive.

What is the period of eligibility for the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

Service members whose last day of Active Duty is on or after 1 January 2013 no longer have a delimiting date. For all others the period of eligibility for the Post 9/11 GI Bill ends **15-years** from the date of the last discharge or release from active duty of at least: 90 consecutive days; Or, 30 days but less than 90 days if released for a service-connected disability; **or**, 15 years from the date of discharge for the last period of service used to meet the minimum service requirements of 90 aggregate days of service.

For more information go to: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill> or 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551)

Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33): “Transferability” (Add Dependents as Beneficiaries)

Who is eligible to “transfer” Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to qualified dependents?

Individuals who are currently serving in the Armed Forces (on or after 1 August 2009), have completed **at least six years of service**, and agree to serve up to four more years (must not have an Adverse Action Flag). Extension must be made to add the amount of time to current ETS to equal four years from the date of election for transferability.

Service members can transfer up to 36 months of remaining entitlements to their spouse and/or children. Can **add, revoke or modify** transferability benefits while **servicing** in the Armed Forces. Retirees or separated service members cannot add new beneficiaries; they can only **revoke** or **modify** existing transferred benefits. Service members can re-transfer Post-9/11 benefits if the original dependent dies, even after the service member separates. Dependents can re-transfer Post-9/11 benefits if the transferor dies and they have remaining months.

Spouses

- Can use benefits after service member has served at least **six years** in the armed forces
- Can use benefits up to member’s 15-year eligibility period unless member specifies earlier date
- Can use benefits if divorced after the transfer (unless revoked by Service member)

Children

- Can transfer to unmarried child under age of 18, or if in college, **under the age of 23**
- May use benefits after transferor has served **10-years** in the Armed Forces
- Will receive full veteran benefits even if transferor is on active duty (housing and books)
- May use benefits from **age of 18 until age of 26** regardless of transferor’s eligibility period
- May continue to receive benefits after marriage



✓ Procedures to Transfer benefits (must be done in sequence)

- Confirm that your family member is enrolled in DEERS as a qualified dependent
- Log into the DOD TEB website to complete your transfer request: You can access TEB through milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil (Sign In, click on “Transfer my education benefits”).
- Confirm that your current Expiration Term of Service (ETS) date meets the required service obligation – extend contract if necessary – allow processing time for extension. If your ETS is not updated in the personnel system after 70 days your request will be denied and you will need to request TEB again.
- A Service Representative will approve, reject, or set your request to a pending status. If a Statement of Understanding (SOU) form is required by your service - they will contact you with instructions.
- To track the status of your request, you will need to return to the DOD TEB website to check the ‘Status’ in the Sponsor information section. It is important to follow up and ensure this section states “Approved.”
- Once your transfer request is approved, your data is sent to the Dept of Veterans Affairs (DVA).
- To use the benefit complete VA Form 22-1990e (only when benefit is needed) with the DVA online at www.vets.gov/education/apply/
- DVA will process the dependent’s application and provide a Certificate of Eligibility to the dependent
- Dependent brings the Certificate of Eligibility to the Veterans Affairs Certifying Official at the school they attend to begin processing for payment of benefit.

TEB must be initiated for each dependent **BEFORE** you retire or separate!!!



Montgomery GI Bill "Kicker"

1. What is it?

- The Kicker incentive is an additional education payment to encourage Soldiers to enter into specific units or skills to meet and sustain ARNG readiness requirements. Enlisted, Officer Candidates, and Officer-specific Kicker Incentives are available – each with specific criteria and rules (Reference: DoDI 1322.17).

2. How Do I Qualify?

- Be eligible for the MGIB-SR/Chapter 1606 or MGIB-AD/Chapter 30
- Agree to serve in a critical skill/critical unit or enter an officer commissioning program.
- Sign a six-year enlistment contract or Officer Service Agreement (OSA).
- Complete Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) or Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC).
- Must have an Honorable discharge from all previous periods of service.
- Be actively serving in the ARNG (cannot be in the Inactive National Guard-ING or Individual Ready Reserve-IRR).
- Not be in Military Technician, AGR, or Active Duty Status.
- Not be flagged for unsatisfactory participation.
- Not on a Dedicated ARNG ROTC Scholarship (Reference: Title 10 USC 2107).

2. What Do I Get?

- \$200 or \$350 per month depending on your Kicker contract.
- Kicker is paid directly to the Soldier and is in addition to your basic GI Bill payment.

3. How Do I Apply?

- Contact your Readiness NCO to validate your eligibility in the Guard Incentives Management System (GIMS) and contract for the Kicker on the same day as six year service obligation.
- Submit the Veterans Online Application at: www.vets.gov
 - Be sure to include a copy of your Kicker contract.
- Notify the School Certifying Official at your school so they can certify your enrollment.
- Continue to verify your enrollment each month online at: www.gibill.va.gov/wave

For More Information:

- Visit the VA Web Site: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill
- Contact your State Education Office:
 - ◆ ng.nj.njarng.list.nj-education@mail.mil ◆ njarmyguard.com/eso



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GI BILL RESOURCES:

Veterans Administration
benefits.va.gov/gibill

Apply for GI Bill Benefits
www.vets.gov/education/apply/

Apprenticeship
dol.gov/apprenticeship

TUITION ASSISTANCE:

Apply for Federal TA Benefits
goarmyed.com

TESTING:

DANTES: dantes.doded.mil

CLEP Exams
clep.collegeboard.org/military

Study Materials
nelnetsolutions.com/dod

Credentialing Opportunities
cool.army.mil

HELP IN CHOOSING A COLLEGE:

Department of Defense TA DECIDE
dodmou.com/TADECIDE

Department of Education College Navigator
nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator

VA GI Bill Comparison Tool
vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool

GoArmyEd VIA Tool
www.goarmyed.com/via

MILITARY TRANSCRIPTS:

JST: Joint Services Transcript
jst.doded.mil

VMET: Officer Credits
dmdc.osd.mil/tgps

ATTRS: Army Training Requirement and Resources
atrrs.army.mil

Order DD 214
archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records

Promotion Point Certification
hrc.army.mil

CGSC: Command and General Staff College
usacac.army.mil/organizations/cace/cgsc

CAREER GUIDANCE/PLANNING:

Army e-Learning:
atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/eLearningWelcome.aspx

Peterson's DOD MWR Libraries Education Lifelong Learning Center: petersons.com/dod

Military OneSource: militaryonesource.mil

Free Tutoring: tutor.com/military

Kuder College & Career Planning Counseling Services:
dantes.kuder.com

For More Information:

- ❖ Contact your State Education Services Office:
 - ◆ ng.nj.njarng.list.nj-education@mail.mil ◆ njarmyguard.com/eso



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