

	<b>GI BILL</b>	<b>FEDERAL TUITION ASSISTANCE (FTA)</b>	<b>CREDENTIALING ASSISTANCE (CA)</b>	<b>STATE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT (STR)</b>	<b>MINNESOTA GI BILL</b>
<b>WHAT IS IT?</b>	The GI Bill is a federal program that provides up to 36/48 months of benefits to be used to pay for college, trades, certification, OJT, etc.	FTA is a federal program for active duty and reserve Army Soldiers that pays for tuition only.	Credentialing Assistance is financial assistance to help Soldiers pursue a licensure, a certification and/or apprenticeship (credentials)	STR is a state program for MN National Guard members that reimburses you for tuition costs after successful course completion	The MN GI Bill is a state program that provides post-secondary financial assistance to all eligible MN veterans attending a MN college.
<b>FUNDING \$\$</b>	Dependent upon which GI Bill Chapter you qualify for. See GI Bill Section for more details	Up to \$250 per semester Credit/\$167 per quarter credit, with a maximum benefit of 16 Semester Hour credits or \$4,000 per fiscal year.	\$4,000 per fiscal year. CA is subject to the same funding ceiling as TA. A Soldier may use both TA and CA but cannot exceed the annual fiscal year limit.	Reimburses up to \$520.50/ per semester credit, for undergraduate And up to \$1,115.25/ per semester credit for Graduate level.	Full Time attendance: up to \$3,000 per year, may be used in one term Part Time attendance: \$500 per term Max: \$3K/calendar yr \$10K lifetime
<b>WHERE TO APPLY</b>	<a href="http://www.vets.gov">www.vets.gov</a>	<a href="http://www.armyignited.com">www.armyignited.com</a>	<a href="http://www.armyignited.com">www.armyignited.com</a>	With your Unit Full Time Staff	<a href="https://mn.gov/mdva/resources/education/minnesotagibill/">https://mn.gov/mdva/resources/education/minnesotagibill/</a>
<b>WHEN TO APPLY</b>	Before courses begin (deadline last day of the term)	Before courses begin, up to 60 days prior and no later than 5 days before the course starts.	Must apply 60 days prior to exam and/or training start date	MOU must be signed before payment processed.  Submit for payment no later than 90 days after course(s) ends.	Before courses begin, after completing the FASFA. You may apply up to the last day of the term.
<b>POINT OF CONTACT</b>	Higher Education Veterans Representative (HEVP) ----- School VA Certifying Official ----- State GI Bill Manager (651) 282-4589	Higher Education Veterans Representative (HEVP) ----- MN ARNG Ed Office (651-282-4589)	MN ARNG Ed Office (651-282-4589)	Higher Education Veterans Representative (HEVP) ----- Unit Full Time Staff ----- MN ARNG Ed Office (651-282-4589)	Higher Education Veterans Representative (HEVP) ----- School's Financial Aid Office ----- MN ARNG Ed Office (651-282-4589)

**Updated 11/17/2021**

NOTE: A Service Member can combine the GI Bill, FTA, and STR to fund up to 100% of their tuition costs.

# MN NATIONAL GUARD EDUCATION BENEFITS 101

1. **Federal Tuition Assistance:** Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) is a **federally funded** program paid directly to the school.

- **FUNDING LEVEL:** FTA will fund up to 100% of tuition; up to \$250.00 per semester credit or \$167.00 per quarter credit, with a maximum of 16 credits per military fiscal year. Lifetime caps are 130 undergraduate credits and 39 graduate credits and 21 certificate credits. To apply for FTA go to [www.armyignited.com](http://www.armyignited.com)

- **ELIGIBILITY TIERS:**

**Soldiers establish Tier 1 FTA eligibility as follows:**

- Completed Advanced Individual Training, Warrant Officer Basic Course or Basic Officer Leaders Course.
- Have not attained a bachelor's degree and wish to pursue an undergraduate academic certificate, or associate's or bachelor's degree or
- Have attained a bachelor's degree without the use of FTA and wish to pursue an undergraduate or graduate academic certificate or master's degree.

**Soldiers establish Tier 2 FTA eligibility as follows:**

- Completed Advanced Leaders Course, Captain's Career Course, Warrant Officer Advanced Course or equivalent.
- Have attained a bachelor's degree and wish to pursue a graduate academic certificate, or a master's degree and
- Used FTA for any portion of their undergraduate degree.

- **GRADES:** Required to be C or higher for Undergraduate courses and B or higher for Graduate courses, or recoupment will occur. Soldiers must maintain a 2.0 or 3.0 GPA.
- **Soldiers and Veterans should utilize the HEVP coordinator in their region.** List is available at: [http://www.mnveteranservice.org/documents/Veterans\\_Coordinators.html](http://www.mnveteranservice.org/documents/Veterans_Coordinators.html)
- **Applications must be approved before the Start Date of each Course.** FTA must be applied for and approved before the start date of each course at [www.armyignited.com](http://www.armyignited.com)

**The POC for Federal Tuition Assistance is:**

**Phone:** 651-282-4589 **E-mail:** [ng.mn.mnarng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil](mailto:ng.mn.mnarng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil)

2. **Credentialing Assistance:** Credentialing Assistance is an additional program under Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) which is a **federally funded** program paid directly to the vendor.

- **FUNDING LEVEL:** Federal Tuition Assistance will pay up to \$4,000 for classroom, hands-on online/blended training (and associated materials), manuals, study guides and materials, text books, processing fees, test fees, and related fees for continuing education requirements and recertification of credentials. Soldiers may use both Federal TA and Credentialing Assistance at the same time but they cannot exceed the \$4,000 limit for the fiscal year. To apply for CA go to [www.armyignited.com](http://www.armyignited.com)

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- **ELIGIBILITY:** Soldier has completed AIT/BOLC/WOBC. Must be serving satisfactorily (cannot be Flagged). Soldier must have enough time on their contract to finish the prep work or take the exam.
- **PROCESS:** Soldiers will create an account in ArmyIgnitED and complete the Credential Plan and SOU and submit for review. All requests must be submitted at least 60 days prior to the course/exam date. All approved fees are paid prior to the start date of the course/exam. The Soldier will not be reimbursed for anything paid out of pocket. ACCESS AU will notify Soldiers when their charges have been paid via a helpdesk case in ArmyIgnitED.
- **ARMY COOL:** Only credentials listed in Army COOL are authorized for the CA program: [www.cool.osd.mil](http://www.cool.osd.mil)

The POC for Credentialing Assistance is:

Phone: 651-282-4589 E-mail: [ng.mn.mnarnng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil](mailto:ng.mn.mnarnng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil)

### **3. State Tuition Reimbursement (STR) Program.** STR is a state funded program that reimburses up to 100% of tuition upon successful completion of the coursework, with a **MAXIMUM** yearly benefit of **\$18,000.00** for Undergraduate courses and **\$28,000.00** for Graduate courses. The maximum lifetime benefit is **144** Semester Credits. **STR funds certificate programs, associate, bachelors, masters, and professional degree/doctorate.**

(1) **UNDERGRADUATE RATE:** STR rate will not exceed 100% of the tuition charged by the educational institution up to 100% of the U of M Resident Undergraduate rate (\$520.50)

(2) **GRADUATE RATE:** STR rate will not exceed the tuition charged by the educational institution up to 75% of the U of M Graduate School Resident General Tuition rate (\$1,115.25 per credit as of 01JUL21).

(3) **APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** SMs must fill out a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) before payment is processed. STR payment request form along with your fee statement and your grade slip (from your school) must be submitted to the unit full time representative no later than 90 days after the end of your course/term.

**(The restriction of applying for FTA before receiving STR is temporarily suspended for State Fiscal Year 2022. Soldiers MUST apply for FTA before receiving STR after 30JUL22.)**

You will receive your STR payment within 30 - 45 days. If you are attending a school with shorter classes, you should still follow the traditional school semester calendar (submit for classes completed every 8-12 weeks)

#### **State Tuition Reimbursement option for SPOUSES**

- Spouses of Service members (SM) who are authorized to use the remaining balance of a service member's STR. The spouse can use up to 12 semester credits/17 quarter credits per year (01 July through 30 June). The SM must have accumulated eight years of qualifying service in the MNNG before the spouse can be eligible for this benefit. Payments will be direct deposited into the SM's bank account. Obligation and Payment requests will work the same as for the SM.

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#### **4. GI Bill Programs -**

Service members are authorized 36 months of benefits upon qualification for one of the chapters listed below. Soldiers who qualify for two or more chapters simultaneously may be authorized an additional 12 months of benefits, for a total of 48 months. Soldiers are limited to using a maximum of 36 months of benefits under a single chapter of GI Bill.

#### **MGIB-Selected Reserve Chapter 1606 eff: 1 OCT 2021**

##### **Eligibility requirements:**

- 6 year enlistment/service obligation
- Graduate from IADT/BOLC
- High School Diploma/GED

Eligibility ends upon separation from ARNG. Soldiers who mobilized may receive an extension to use benefits equal to length of deployment +4 months

<b>Training Time</b>	<b>Monthly Rate</b>
Full time	\$407.00
3/4 time	\$305.00
1/2 time	\$203.00
Less than ½ time	\$101.75

\*Chapter 1606 GI Bill MAY NOT be used with FTA when students are attending training less than ½ time as determined by the school.

#### **Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP) 1607**

**THIS PROGRAM EXPIRED ON 25 NOV 2019.** Service Members may contact the VA to see if they have eligibility to transfer to the Chapter 33 Post 9-11 GI Bill program.

#### **MGIB-Active Duty Chapter 30**

##### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Must elect to participate when serving a qualifying period of Active Duty (AGRs must use FTA in conjunction with CH 30 while in active status)
- \$1200.00 paid by SM to participate

Eligibility ends 10 years after last separation from Active Duty (Title 10/32). Subsequent tours reset eligibility window.

<b>Training Time</b>	<b>Monthly Rate &lt; 3yr Enlistment</b>	<b>Monthly Rate 3yr Enlistment</b>
Full time	\$1,722.00	\$2,122.00
3/4 time	\$1,291.50	\$1,591.50
1/2 time	\$861.00	\$1061.00
less than 1/2 time more than 1/4 time	\$861.00*	\$1061.00*
1/4 time or less	\$430.50*	\$530.50*

\* Tuition and Fees **ONLY**. Payment cannot exceed the listed amount to the school.

#### **Post 9-11 GI Bill (Chapter 33)**

##### **Eligibility Requirements**

- An aggregate of 90 days or more of qualifying Title 10 active duty (688; 12301a, 12301d, 12301g, 12301h, 12302 or 12304, 12304a/b) commencing on or after 11 September 2001

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- An aggregate of 90 days or more of qualifying Title 32 (AGR) commencing on or after 11 SEP 01. (ADSW/ADOS time is not qualifying service.)
- SM must make an IRREVOCABLE election to convert to Post 9-11, by giving up another GI Bill benefit

Eligibility ends 15 years after last discharge from Active Duty, or no expiration date for service ending after 01 January 2013.

<b>Individuals serving an aggregate period of active duty after September 10, 2001, of:</b>	<b>Includes entry level and skill training?</b>	<b>Percentage of Maximum Benefit</b>
At least 36 cumulative months, or Purple Heart recipients	Yes	100
At least 30 cumulative months	Yes	90
At least 24 cumulative months (Basic and AIT may be included in calculation after this point.)	Yes	80
At least 18 cumulative months	No	70
At least 06 cumulative months	No	60
At least 90 cumulative days	No	50
The 40% tier was eliminated and upgraded to 50%, and the 50% tier was upgraded to 60% 01AUG20		

- Tuition and fees payment prorated based on benefit level and rate of pursuit (see above). It is also limited to the highest per credit hour tuition and the maximum fees charged by a public institution for undergraduate training in the state where the student is enrolled (state cap). Private and foreign higher education institutions are capped at \$26,042.00 per academic year effective 01 Aug 2021.
- Monthly housing allowance equal to the basic allowance for housing payable to a military E-5 with dependents, in the same zip code as your school (prorated based on method of delivery, tier percentage, and rate of pursuit – i.e. full-time, half-time, etc)
- Students attending classes exclusively online receive BAH at ½ the national average MAH rate. (\$871.00 per mo.)
- Yearly books and supplies stipend of up to \$1000 per year (\$41.67 per credit prorated based on benefit tier)

### **Transfer of Post 9-11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) Benefits**

- Soldiers with at least 6 years of service and eligibility for Chapter 33 can transfer unused benefits to eligible family members with a 4-year service obligation from date of transfer.
- Spouses may begin using benefits after the Soldier has served 6 years of service and may use the benefit to the Service Member’s delimiting date. (15 Years before 01 January 2013, or no expiration date for service ending after 01 January 2013.)
- Dependent children may begin using benefits after the Soldier has served 10 years time in service. Eligible children must be under the age of 23 on the date of transfer. Children may use the benefit between the ages of 18 and 26.
- Dependents must be enrolled in DEERS to complete the transfer process. To transfer benefits, Soldiers must complete the application at <http://milconnect.dmdc.mil>, and select the “Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB)” link. Before the application is completed, Soldiers without a remaining four-year service obligation must extend their enlistment and notify the GI Bill Manager of the extension. All supporting documents must be processed through SIDPERS and saved in IPERMS before transfer can be approved.

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### **Application for Federal GI Bill benefits**

Applications for VA benefits can be submitted online: <https://www.vets.gov/education/apply/>

**4. MINNESOTA GI BILL** – The Minnesota GI Bill program was established in 2007 to provide postsecondary financial assistance to eligible Minnesota veterans and service members as well as eligible spouses and children of deceased or severely disabled eligible Minnesota veterans. Full-time undergraduate or graduate students may be eligible to receive up to \$3,000 per year [which may be used in one term] and part-time students may be eligible to receive up to \$500 per semester or term. Maximum yearly benefit is \$3,000 per calendar year; \$10,000 lifetime benefit.

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

- You must be a Minnesota resident enrolled at Minnesota Educational institution and meet one of the following additional eligibility requirements:
- Veteran who is serving or has served honorably in any branch of the United States armed forces at any time; or
- Non-veteran who has served honorably for a total of five years or more cumulatively as a member of the Minnesota National Guard or any other active or reserve component of the United States armed forces, and any part of that service occurred on or after September 11, 2001, (5 years starts at first day of basic training) or;
- Spouse or child of a person who has served in the military at any time on and who has died or has a total and permanent disability as a direct result of that military service. (Student must also be eligible to receive federal veteran's education benefits as a spouse or dependent.)

See website for additional info: <https://mn.gov/mdva/resources/education/minnesotagibill/>

#### **Minnesota National Guard Education Office**

600 Cedar St, Saint Paul, MN 55101-2509

**Phone:** 651-282-4589 **Email:** [Ng.mn.mnarng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil](mailto:Ng.mn.mnarng.mbx.assets-education@army.mil)

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