



## HEADQUARTERS IOWA NATIONAL GUARD

### Office of the Adjutant General

#### *Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center*

7105 NW 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Johnston, Iowa 50131-1824

NGIA-TAG

17 June 2025

#### MEMORANDUM FOR All Units, Iowa National Guard

SUBJECT: Iowa National Guard's State Tuition Assistance through Iowa National Guard Service Scholarship and National Guard STEM-related recruitment and retention incentive programs for Academic Year 2025-26

#### 1. References:

- a. Iowa National Guard Service Scholarship, [Iowa Code 256.210](#) (20 NOV 2024).
- b. Iowa National Guard Service Scholarship, [Iowa Administrative Code, College Student Aid Commission Chapter 283.20.1](#) (05 FEB 2025).
- c. National Guard STEM-related recruitment and retention incentive programs, [Iowa Code 256.211](#) (20 NOV 2024).
- d. Scholarships to Iowa National Guard members for master's degree studies at eligible Iowa institutions, [Iowa Administrative Code, College Student Aid Commission Chapter 283.29.1](#) (09 JUL 2025).
- e. Federal/Military Tuition Assistance (FTA) before State Tuition Assistance (State TA) [Iowa House File 118](#) (02 May 2025).
- f. [Iowa Student Financial Aid Guide](#), Chapter 9 (10 APR 2025).
- g. [Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Designated Degree Program List](#) (17 Mar 2021).
- h. Board of Regents, State of Iowa, [Approval of 2025-2026 Tuition and Fees & Common and University / Program Specific Fees](#) (12 Jun 2025).

2. Purpose: This memorandum summarizes State TA requirements for qualification and execution of the Iowa National Guard Service Scholarship and the National Guard STEM-related recruitment and retention incentive programs for the Iowa National Guard and sets the award rates for the academic year.

3. I have set the maximum annual award for AY 2025-26 at 100% of the cost of tuition. SMs may receive less than this amount based on the cost of tuition after FTA (if applicable) has been applied by their academic institution and their rate of enrollment.

- a. Undergrad award not to exceed **\$4,648** each for fall and spring semester.
- b. STEM master award not to exceed **\$5,728** for spring semester.
- c. Summer semester award not to exceed half the fall/spring award rate, based on a 6 credits summer session (undergrad **\$2,324** and STEM master's **\$2,864**).

4. Eligible Service Members must meet all the following:

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a. Be a resident of Iowa, attend an Iowa-based education institution, and a traditional M-day or DSG Service Member (SM) of the Iowa National Guard. Title 5 Federal Technicians, who are IANG SMs, are eligible to receive the INGSS and are considered M-day applicants.

b. Has satisfactorily completed Initial Entry Training (IET) of the SM's service. ROTC Cadets are eligible after completing their required Initial Active Duty for Training (09R are exempt due to no IET requirement).

c. Must be in good standing at deadline (not flagged, has satisfactory drill and AT attendance, passing AFT physical fitness test, passing height/weight requirements) and maintain good standing throughout the term of the scholarship. Annual Training requirements should take priority over summer courses.

d. Students in undergrad program who have not utilized 120 semester-hours of assistance or earned a bachelor's degree or equivalent. If enrolled in an undergrad STEM program, that qualifies for assistance under the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship, SM may receive benefits up to 130 credit hours by submitting proof of enrollment from the education institute to the INGSS Program Manager. It is recommended this is done pre-emptively prior to the disapproval of benefits. Students in STEM master's program have not utilized 36 credits of graduate study hours or equivalent.

e. Has applied for the Iowa Financial Aid Application (IFAA) and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <https://iowacollegeaid.gov/IowaNationalGuard> by the application deadline date(s), 01 July for fall, spring and summer semesters or 01 December for spring and summer semester, unless excepted by policy or law. No exception to policy (ETP) request will be authorized for late applications. SMs on IADT or Title 10 mobilization orders over a deadline date have 30 days from end of orders (DD 214 separation date) or patching ceremony, to complete their applications.

f. Has utilized all available FTA toward upcoming courses at <https://www.armyignited.army.mil/student/public/welcome> by the application deadline. SMs with courses beyond ArmyIgnitED 60-day request timeline may send their FTA vouchers, after the application deadline, to INGSS\_eligibility@Army.mil to update their eligibility.

g. Maintains attendance and academic progress at the educational institution.

5. Ineligible Service Members. SMs failing an element of eligibility will receive a disapproval email upon application review. AGRs, dual status military technicians, enlisted with ETS before the end of semester, or a pending separation or IST before the end of the semester are also ineligible, but are encouraged to apply. The ability to fund will be based on the availability of funds and approved ETP.

6. Exceptions to Policy. SMs who are disapproved may be eligible for an ETP if extenuating circumstances require my attention. Each service (Army and Air) will determine their ETP process and consolidate requests under the IA ARNG Education Services Office for routing.

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ETPs must be received by the IA ARNG Education Services Office **NLT 45 days** after notification of disapproval. Contact the INGSS Program Manager to inquire if you are eligible for an ETP.

7. Funding. Iowa National Guard Service Scholarship and National Guard STEM-related recruitment and retention incentive programs are state funded programs, based on annual appropriations from the state legislature. Awards shall not exceed the difference between the tuition rate at the institution attended by the National Guard member less FTA.

8. Visit <https://www.iowanationalguard.com/education> and select Iowa National Guard Service Scholarship (INGSS) for further information.

9. Points of contact are Mr. Travis Lipscomb, Education Services Officer at [travis.l.lipscomb.civ@army.mil](mailto:travis.l.lipscomb.civ@army.mil) or Ms. Megan Cowman, State TA Programs Manager [megan.a.cowman.mil@army.mil](mailto:megan.a.cowman.mil@army.mil) at (515) 252-4468.



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