

From: GoArmyEd
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 3:15 PM
Subject: FY14 Tuition Assistance Policy

On 1 January 2014 the Army's Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Tuition Assistance (TA) program will change. These changes are supportive of the intent of the TA program – to provide financial assistance for voluntary off-duty education in support of Soldiers' professional and personal self-development goals within a constrained budget environment.

The new policy will allow Soldiers to use TA after the successful completion of their first year of service after graduating from either Advanced Individual Training (AIT), Officer Candidate School (OCS) or Basic Officer Leaders Course (BOLC). Soldiers are eligible for up to 16 semester hours of TA-funded courses per fiscal year and they can use TA for a second, higher-level post-bachelor's degree after completing 10 years of service. The second degree time requirement applies to the movement from a bachelor's to a master's degree and not from an associate's to a bachelor's degree. Also, the 10-year policy only applies if Army TA was used to pay for any portion of the undergraduate coursework.

Soldiers will continue to receive up to \$250 per semester hour for up to 130 semester hours for completion of a bachelor's degree and up to 39 semester hours for completion of a master's degree. Soldiers cannot use TA for a second equivalent or lower degree, i.e., no second bachelor's or master's degree. All courses must be part of an approved degree plan. TA cannot be used for first-professional degrees, e.g., PhD, MD or JD.

The Army will honor TA requests for payment for Soldiers with approved TA requests by 31 December 2013 whose eligibility for TA will be affected by these policy changes. However, no further TA-funded enrollments will be authorized until they meet the new eligibility requirements.