

# Tuition Assistance

Columbus State University participates with the Department of Defense (DoD) Tuition Assistance (TA) Program. TA is a financial aid program for Active duty, National Guard, and Reserve Service members through their branch of service. The application process varies by branch. Before enrolling in courses, contact your servicing Educational Assistance Office for program details.

## For Members of the U.S. Army

The Army will pay 100 percent of tuition, up to \$250 per semester hour with a maximum of \$4,500 paid per fiscal year.

### How to get started:

1. Create an account in the ArmyIgnitED system. Soldiers will need to visit their local Education Center for assistance. Soldiers are now required to receive an ArmyIgnitED 101 briefing.  
**The Fort Benning Education Center is located at**  
**BLDG 9230, Soldiers for Life Center - 8150 Marne Road, Fort Benning Georgia 31905**  
**Phone: 706-545-7397**
2. Register for your classes with Columbus State University after admittance.
3. Submit an Education Goal in ArmyIgnitED. You will need to submit an education goal through ArmyIgnitED even if you are close to completing your degree. The goal will be sent to your Education Center, and an Army Education Counselor will review and either approve, disapprove, or request additional information about the goal. You must have an approved education goal to apply for tuition assistance.
4. Upload your Evaluated Degree Plan. Your degree plan can be found in your MYCSU portal>Academic Progress block>Access Degree Works. We will provide an Evaluated Degree Plan to you upon request. Please email the request to [military@columbusstate.edu](mailto:military@columbusstate.edu).
5. Request Tuition Assistance
  - a. You must complete your submission no earlier than 60 days prior and no later than 7 days prior to the class start date.
  - b. All Tuition Assistance requests must be approved prior to the start date of the course.
  - c. If the TA is not approved before the start date, the Army will not pay, and you will be responsible for the cost of your classes, no exceptions!
  - d. You must select the correct term dates and cost of the class, or the TA request will not be invoiced. If you are having issues or the information is not in ArmyIgnitED, please email [military@columbusstate.edu](mailto:military@columbusstate.edu).
6. Submit your approved Tuition Assistance funding document to the Military Connected Student Services Office email account: [military@columbusstate.edu](mailto:military@columbusstate.edu)
7. The Office of Student Accounts will process your approved Tuition Assistance request and post the credit to your student account, upon receipt of payment.

## For Members of All Other Branches

### Air Force Tuition Assistance

Currently, the Air Force will pay 100 percent of tuition, up to \$250 per semester hour and a maximum of \$4,500 paid per fiscal year. Accordingly, this benefit is for off-duty courses with accredited, and approved, schools in pursuit of approved degree programs.

### Navy Tuition Assistance

Sailors can receive Tuition Assistance (TA) for higher education. This benefit is for off-duty courses with accredited, and approved, schools in pursuit of approved degree programs. For instance, the Navy will pay 100 percent of tuition, up to \$250 per semester hour with a maximum of \$4,500 paid per fiscal year.

#### Marines Tuition Assistance

Marines, like the other tuition assistance programs, use this benefit for off-duty courses with accredited, and approved, schools in pursuit of approved degree programs. Accordingly, the Marines will pay 100 percent of tuition, up to \$250 per semester hour, with a maximum of \$4,500 paid per fiscal year.

#### Coast Guard Tuition Assistance

Coast Guardsman can receive Tuition Assistance of up to 100% of tuition with an annual cap of \$4,500. Specifically, each semester hour cost cannot exceed \$250. This tuition assistance must be used at accredited and approved schools. Tuition assistance is for off duty courses in pursuit of approved degree programs.

#### Georgia National Guard Service Cancellable Loan

Georgia National Guard members may be eligible for a Service Cancellable Loan. This loan is like a regular student loan, however, is repayable with an agreement to serve in the Georgia National Guard. Nevertheless, for more information on the Georgia National Guard Service Cancellable Loan (GNGSCL), review the Service Cancellable Loan documentation <https://gsfc.georgia.gov/document/document/2025-gng-scl/download>