
By: **Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee**
(Departmental - Military)

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2002
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland National Guard - Tuition Assistance**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Military Department to provide tuition
4 assistance to members of the Maryland National Guard for postsecondary
5 vocational-technical or trade course work under certain circumstances; and
6 generally relating to tuition assistance for members of the Maryland National
7 Guard.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article 65 - Militia
10 Section 12A
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1998 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article 65 - Militia**

16 12A.

17 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

18 (2) "Institution" means:

19 (i) Any campus of the University System of Maryland, any
20 community college established pursuant to Title 16 of the Education Article, Morgan
21 State University, or St. Mary's College;[or]

22 (ii) Any private institution of higher education that grants a
23 member a tuition waiver of at least 50 percent;

24 (III) ANY PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL OR
25 TRADE SCHOOL; OR

1 (IV) ANY PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL OR
2 TRADE SCHOOL THAT GRANTS A MEMBER A TUITION WAIVER OF AT LEAST 50
3 PERCENT.

4 (3) "Member" means any Guard person who:

5 (i) Is regularly enlisted in the Maryland National Guard; or

6 (ii) Holds a commission in the Maryland National Guard as:

7 1. An officer in the grade of major or below; or

8 2. A warrant officer.

9 (4) (i) "Tuition" means the basic instructional charge for
10 undergraduate credit courses and related fees at an institution.

11 (ii) "Tuition" does not include charges for self-supporting programs.

12 (b) To the extent that funds are provided in the budget, the Military
13 Department may provide assistance equal to 50 percent of the cost of in-State tuition
14 for any regularly scheduled undergraduate credit course, VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL
15 COURSE, OR TRADE COURSE for any active member ATTENDING AN INSTITUTION who
16 is certified as eligible by the Maryland Adjutant General.

17 (c) (1) The Maryland Adjutant General may not certify a member as eligible
18 unless the member:

19 (i) If enlisted, has at least 24 months remaining to serve on the
20 member's current enlistment; or

21 (ii) If an officer or warrant officer, agrees in writing to serve for a
22 minimum of 24 months.

23 (2) The 24-month requirement runs from the first day of classes for the
24 semester.

25 (d) If a recipient of tuition assistance under this section is discharged from the
26 Maryland National Guard for a reason designated by the Maryland Adjutant General,
27 the assistance terminates and the member owes the Military Department within 30
28 days of discharge the amount of tuition assistance that was received for that
29 semester.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 July 1, 2002.