

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

1. An officer in the grade of captain or below; or

2. A warrant officer.

(4) (i) "Tuition" means the basic instructional charge for undergraduate credit courses.

(ii) "Tuition" does not include:

1. Charges for self-supporting programs; or

2. Fees, such as those for registration, application, or laboratory work.

(b) (1) To the extent that funds are provided in the budget, the Military Department may provide assistance equal to 50 percent of the tuition for any regularly scheduled undergraduate credit course for any active member who is certified as eligible by the Maryland Adjutant General.

(2) The amount of tuition assistance may not exceed [\$250] \$500 per semester for each member at institutions other than community colleges. The amount of tuition assistance at community colleges may not exceed [\$125] \$250 PER SEMESTER for each member.

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1989.