

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO ARMY TUITION ASSISTANCE POLICIES IN GOARMYED

EFFECTIVE 2014

Soldiers need to be aware of several recent changes to GoArmyEd. These changes may affect their ability to obtain Tuition Assistance (TA) through GoArmyEd and will require extra time in order to process.

FOR CLASSES STARTING ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2014 OR LATER:

- If you earn a "D" or below in an undergraduate course, you must pay back the TA.
- If you earn a "C" or below in a graduate-level course, you must pay back the TA.

FOR CLASSES STARTING ON 1 OCTOBER 2014 OR LATER:

- All TA requests for classes must be submitted and approved before the class start date. Late TA requests will be rejected. Soldiers are HIGHLY encouraged to complete TA requests within the 60-day window **before** their classes begin to ensure TA availability. If you request TA during the school's add/drop period, it will no longer be covered.
- TA will only cover tuition. Fees will no longer be covered.

DEGREE PLAN CHANGES: As TA dollars increasingly become more limited, Soldiers may see additional restrictions in the future especially as relates to planning for their desired degree or certification. The days of often changing a Degree Plan or Home School may soon be over. Thus, Soldiers need to be especially careful in making their Degree Plan choices or when deciding to change schools as future changes may be limited -- making an informed decision is extremely important. Soldiers desiring to change their Degree Plan or Home School in GoArmyEd should, and may be required to meet with an Army Counselor at the Education Center (Bldg 1117) to review their options and ensure good long-term planning.

This is especially true for first-time GoArmyEd users who are making their initial selections. To help ensure these Soldiers are fully informed, all first-time college attendees assigned to the Fort Carson Education Center are required to attend a one-hour "College 101" course and personally meet with an Army Education Counselor before their ability to obtain TA can be activated. In addition, first-time GoArmyEd users and Soldiers changing their Degree Plans and / or Home School must meet individually with an Army Education Counselor prior to receiving TA approval. Counselors will reach out to downrange / deployed Soldiers requesting TA account activation via e-mail or phone. The 1-hour "College 101" briefing is available Tue or Thu at 0900 – 1000 at the Education Center; please register 15 minutes early in room 150. Classes fill quickly on a first-come basis. Counselors are available Mon, Tue, Thu, and Fri 0900-1600 (CLOSED Wed). In addition, assistance with the GoArmyEd activation process is available in room 216 Mon-Fri from 0800-1700 hours.

COURSE PLANNER: The GoArmyEd Course Planner is a tool that enables Soldiers to identify the courses they plan to take to complete their degree. Soldiers are required to complete the Course Planner for degrees that do not have automated checks in GoArmyEd by the time they complete six semester hours with a home school, or nine semester hours at any school while using TA. Soldiers in this category are automatically prompted to complete the Course Planner prior to enrolling in more classes when the semester hour criteria is reached. In order to enroll in classes, their Course Planner must be approved before requesting TA. An approved Course Planner will speed the approval of all their future TA requests and provide them with a clear path to their degree. A detailed step-by-step instruction guide is available through a link on the Course Planner Page. Soldiers needing additional assistance can visit our computer lab, room 216 from 0800-1700, Mon-Fri.

TUITION ASSISTANCE STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING (TA SOU): A new streamlined process is now effective in GoArmyEd. When an SOU is due, an alert message will appear on the Soldier's GoArmyEd homepage. Soldiers will click the link 'Launch TA SOU' and electronically sign the form. All Soldiers can certify their own electronic TA SOU; a commander's approval is no longer required.

HOLDS –WITHDRAWAL FOR MILITARY (WM) REASONS LIMIT: The GoArmyEd hold for WM reasons threshold has been lowered from four to two per year and will no longer be automatically removed every fiscal year.