

# Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program Application and Management Website

# NEW

Its as easy as **1, 2, 3...**

**1** Request and Activate New Account. Go to [ongsp.ohio.gov](http://ongsp.ohio.gov) on a computer or mobile device using CHROME and [Request New Account](#). When your request is granted, you will receive an email with an activation PIN. [Activate Account](#) and establish a new password.

**2** Submit Scholarship Application. Before your school's last drop/add date, log into your account and [Start New Application](#). READ Statement of Understanding, self-validate eligibility, answer questions about FTA (Army only), enter school information, and [Submit](#).



## Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program

User Name \*

[Forgot User Name?](#)

Password \*

[Forgot Password?](#)

[Request New Account](#) [Activate Account](#)

Login



**3** Follow Up. Monitor your dashboard for approval status. Questions about approval status should be directed to your Unit Reviewer. Your school billing office may require you to possess an approved application sooner than the drop/add date, it is your responsibility to manage this timeline.



Understand and Decide. Read and Understand policy (AGOR 621-1(Army/35-1(Air)) and your responsibilities. If using Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) and/or other benefits or scholarships you may not need to use the ONGSP this term (see FAQ for details).

**CAN I SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR MULTIPLE TERMS?** Yes, you will be able to submit multiple applications for current and future terms as far out as your school has entered term dates in the system. However, while the application(s) may have been submitted, your Unit Reviewer will not be able to approve your application until 30 days before the start of term. 60 days before the start of the term, you will be required to "Confirm" your intent to attend. When you confirm, the application will drop into the Unit Reviewer's inbox for approval/disapproval. You must be considered a member in good standing prior to each application(s) review by the Unit Reviewer at that time.

**WHO DO I CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS / CONCERNS?** You should contact your Unit Reviewer with any questions or concerns about member in good standing status, applications, or your ONGSP account. You should contact your school with any questions about billing. You must utilize your chain of command if you have questions or concerns about the timeliness of application approval, disputes over application disapproval and member in good standing status, or other concerns.

**WHAT DOES FEDERAL TUITION ASSISTANCE (FTA) FIRST MEAN?** First, it is important to understand that FTA is NOT the same thing as Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Although you should always apply for FAFSA, FTA refers to funds made available to Army National Guard members by the Department of the Army to pay for tuition only costs at institutions of higher education. You are required if eligible, you apply for and use FTA before your ONGSP benefit will be applied. You apply for FTA at <https://goarmyed.com>. If you were eligible and fail to exhaust your annual FTA benefit, your ONGSP scholarship award will be reduced. Currently, FTA is not available to Air National Guard members unless you are AGR or T10. If it does become available, this policy will apply to Air National Guard members as well.

**WHAT DOES MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING MEAN?** Member in good standing is determined by your unit commander (or his or her designee- Unit Reviewer) and includes, but is not limited to, meeting attendance requirements, physical fitness standards, weight standards, no adverse actions., etc.



**WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS?** You may submit applications up to your school's last drop/add date. However, your school will only have visibility of "approved" applications. Therefore, if your school requires confirmation of an approved application sooner, you must manage this timeline yourself and back plan accordingly. You will need to give your Unit Reviewer time to action your application request. Because the website works "real time" your school will have visibility in their portal as soon as the Unit Reviewer approves.

#### **WHO IS NOT REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR FTA?**

The following are NOT eligible, and should not apply, for FTA –

- \* Non-AGR members of the Air National Guard (AGR must apply)
- \* 09R / ROTC Cadets
- \* Using the Montgomery Chapter 1606 Reserve GI Bill
- \* Have not completed Advanced Individual Training (AIT) prior to term start date
- \* Discharged and attending school on qualifying mobilization time

You will also be ineligible to use FTA if any of the following apply –

- \* Your GPA is below 2.5
- \* You are retaking a course that FTA paid for the first time
- \* The class(es) that you are taking are not part of your degree plan
- \* You exhausted your FTA benefit for the Federal Fiscal Year

**WHAT ARE SOME TIPS ON THE BEST WAY TO APPLY?** The ONGSP site works best on Google Chrome. You may use smart phones, tablets, laptops, etc., anywhere that you have internet connectivity. You are not required to use your military (.mil) email address if it is not one you access regularly. It is best to apply as far out for your ONGSP benefits as possible.

**AM I REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR FTA IF I AM ATTENDING A PRIVATE SCHOOL?** If the school is recognized by the Department of Defense (DoD) as an FTA participating school, you are also required to apply for FTA. It is in your interest to do so if your private school tuition rate exceeds the average of public school rate-- you may use both the ONGSP and FTA simultaneously.

**I JOINED THE OHIO NATIONAL GUARD BECAUSE OF THE ONGSP BENEFIT SO WHY AM I BEING DENIED MY BENEFIT BECAUSE OF FTA?** Your ONGSP scholarship award will NOT be reduced if you comply with policy. FTA is a program that has been in existence many years and was highly under-utilized in Ohio. By requiring the use of FTA first, ONGSP dollars will stretch further and allows the ONGSP to remain at 100% for ALL eligible members of Ohio National Guard. If you comply with policy, you will maximize your education benefits whether you are attending a public or private institution.