

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 35

5 By: Senator J. English  
6 By: Representative M. Berry  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING TUITION BENEFITS  
10 FOR SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN OF THE ARKANSAS NATIONAL  
11 GUARD; TO ALLOW A TEMPORARY WAIVER OF THE COMPLETION  
12 OF THE INITIAL ACTIVE DUTY TRAINING REQUIREMENT; AND  
13 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

15  
16 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING TUITION  
17 BENEFITS FOR SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN OF THE  
18 ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD; AND TO ALLOW A  
19 TEMPORARY WAIVER OF THE COMPLETION OF THE  
20 INITIAL ACTIVE DUTY TRAINING REQUIREMENT.  
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-60-214(a), concerning tuition benefits  
27 for soldiers and airmen of the Arkansas National Guard, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (a) A soldier or airman of the Arkansas National Guard may attend a  
30 state-supported institution of higher education tuition-free if the soldier  
31 or airman:

32 (1) Is an Arkansas resident;

33 (2) ~~Has~~ Except as provided in subdivision (f)(3) of this  
34 section, has completed initial active duty training; ~~and, except~~

35 (3) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, is in  
36 good standing as an active soldier or airman of the Arkansas National Guard;



1           ~~(3)~~(4) Has been accepted to and is enrolled in a state-supported  
2 institution of higher education as a student in good standing;

3           ~~(4)~~(5) Completed and submitted to the United States Department  
4 of Education a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA);

5           ~~(5)~~(6) Submitted applications for:

6                   (A) Federal and state grants and scholarships for which  
7 the soldier or airman is eligible; and

8                   (B) Grants and scholarships awarded by the state-supported  
9 institution of higher education in which the soldier or airman is enrolled;

10           ~~(6)~~(7) Is enrolled in a program of study leading to an  
11 undergraduate degree; and

12           ~~(7)~~(8) Has not received a bachelor's degree.

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14           SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-60-214(f), concerning tuition benefits  
15 for soldiers and airmen of the Arkansas National Guard, is amended to add an  
16 additional subdivision to read as follows:

17           (3) In the event of an exigent circumstance that warrants a  
18 temporary waiver of the initial active duty training requirement in  
19 accordance with the rules promulgated under subdivision (h)(1) of this  
20 section, the soldier or airman is eligible to receive the tuition benefit  
21 under this section.

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24                                   **APPROVED: 2/9/21**