

# HOUSE BILL 232

F2, E4

(PRE-FILED)

6lr0284

CF SB 142

By: Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Military)

Requested: September 17, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

## Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

## 1 AN ACT concerning

Maryland Military Department – National Guard – Tuition Assistance

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the institutions and types of expenses in connection with  
4 which tuition assistance may be provided for certain eligible Maryland National  
5 Guard service members; and generally relating to tuition assistance for members of  
6 the Maryland National Guard.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

## Article – Public Safety

Section 13–405

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

## (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

## Article – Public Safety

15 13-405.

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

17 (2) "Institution" means:

(i) any campus of the University System of Maryland, any community college established under Title 16 of the Education Article, Morgan State University, or St. Mary's College;

(ii) any private institution of higher education that grants a member  
a tuition waiver of at least 50%;

**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(iii) any public postsecondary vocational-technical or trade school; or

(iv) any private postsecondary vocational-technical [or trade school]

3 that grants a member a tuition waiver of at least 50%], TRADE, OR CAREER SCHOOL  
4 RECOGNIZED BY THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION OR THE  
5 MARYLAND APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COUNCIL.

(3) "Member" means an individual who:

(i) is regularly enlisted in the National Guard; or

(ii) holds a commission in the National Guard.

(4) (I) "TRAINING ASSISTANCE" MEANS EXPENSES DIRECTLY

10 RELATED TO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR  
11 PARTICIPATION IN A COURSE OR PROGRAM AT AN INSTITUTION.

**(II) "TRAINING ASSISTANCE" INCLUDES:**

## 1. INDUSTRY-REQUIRED TOOLS, TECHNOLOGY, AND

## 14 PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT:

## 2 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT UNIFORMS

## **16 AND SPECIALIZED CLOTHING:**

### **3 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING COSTS NECESSARY**

#### **FOR EMPLOYMENT; AND**

TRADE RELATED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## 4. TRADE-RELATED P MATERIALS, SOFTWARE, AND DIGITAL RESOURCES

<sup>6</sup> “Tutti,” *Il Corriere della Sera*, 10 January 1996.

(b) (i) "Tuition" means undergraduate, graduate, professional, courses and related fees at an institution

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

25           (b) (1) To the extent that funds are provided in the State budget, the  
26 Department may provide assistance equal to 100% of the cost of in-State tuition **AND**  
27 **TRAINING ASSISTANCE** for any regularly scheduled undergraduate credit course,  
28 graduate credit course, professional credit course, vocational-technical course, or trade  
29 course for any active member attending an institution who is certified as eligible by the  
30 Adjutant General.

(2) Subject to paragraph (5) of this subsection, a member who receives assistance under paragraph (1) of this subsection for an undergraduate credit, vocational-technical, or trade **OR CAREER** course shall remain an active member for at least 2 years following the completion of the course.

(3) Subject to paragraph (5) of this subsection, a member who receives assistance under paragraph (1) of this subsection for a graduate or professional credit course shall remain an active member for at least 4 years following the completion of the course.

15                         (5) If a member who receives assistance under paragraph (1) of this  
16 subsection is offered early separation by the military following the disbanding of the  
17 member's unit due to budget cuts, Base Realignment and Closure, or any other reason, the  
18 member is excused from the requirements of paragraph (2) or paragraph (3) of this  
19 subsection.

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

(i) enlisted and has at least 24 months remaining to serve on the current enlistment of the member; or

24 (ii) an officer or warrant officer and agrees in writing to serve for a  
25 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 National Guard for a reason designated by the Adjutant General, the assistance terminates and the member shall reimburse the Department the amount of tuition assistance received for that semester within 30 days of discharge.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
33 October 1, 2026.