

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 37-07.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

National guard member grants - Eligibility for use for out-of-state postsecondary education institutions - Terms.

1. Subject to legislative appropriation and regulations adopted by the adjutant general, a qualifying member of the national guard who enrolls in an accredited postsecondary education institution which is located outside of the state, may receive a grant in an amount not to exceed one hundred percent of the cost of tuition and fees for similar courses and credit hours for a qualifying member of the national guard who is enrolled in the North Dakota university system with the highest tuition and fee rate.

2. The adjutant general shall adopt regulations for distributing grants under this section and establishing qualification requirements for grant recipients.

3. A member of the national guard may receive a grant under this section if the member maintains satisfactory performance with the national guard, meets the qualification requirements of the regulations adopted under this section, and pursues a course of study satisfying the normal requirements of the postsecondary institution in which the member is enrolled.

4. For purposes of this section, "out - of - state" ~~does not~~ includes any online or remote course of study offered by an accredited postsecondary education institution located outside the state of North Dakota

5. Before January 1, 2025, the national guard shall present a report to the legislative management regarding an update on tuition grant usage, including the number of grants awarded for out-of-state institutions and grants awarded for online or remote coursework.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY. This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.