TITLE 610. STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION CHAPTER 25. STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS SUBCHAPTER 39. OKLAHOMA NATIONAL GUARD EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

610:25-39-1. Purpose

The purpose of the Oklahoma National Guard Educational Assistance Program is to provide postsecondary educational benefits to eligible Oklahoma National Guard members who enroll in an institution of higher education within the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

610:25-39-2. Eligibility and Applications

(a) Initial Eligibility. To be eligible for the Oklahoma National Guard Educational Assistance Program (Program) assistance, recipients must:

(1) Be current members of the Oklahoma National Guard (Guard) in good standing as determined by the Guard;

(2) Have a high school diploma or have completed the General Educational Development (GED) requirements; and

(3) Have been admitted to and have enrolled in an institution of higher education within the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

(b) Continuing Eligibility. To retain eligibility for the Program, the Guard member shall:

(1) Maintain good academic standing and satisfactory academic progress according to the standards of the institution in which the member is enrolled;

(2) Maintain the requirements for retention and degree completion as established by the institution in which the member is enrolled;

(3) Maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale; and

(4) Maintain satisfactory participation in the Guard as determined by the Guard.

(c) Applications. An eligible Guard member seeking assistance shall submit to the Educational Service Office of the Military Department an application on a form prescribed by the Military Department prior to the semester for which the assistance is sought. The Guard member's Commander or designee shall confirm the member's standing and eligibility to the educational institution in which the member is enrolled. Applications shall be finalized by the following dates:

(1) Spring Semester – January 31st;

(2) Fall Semester – August 31st.

610:25-39-3. Assistance

(a) Assistance amount. Subject to the availability of funds, the amount of assistance shall be equivalent to the amount of resident tuition, mandatory fees and academic service fees for courses in which the eligible guard member is enrolled. The definitions of "resident tuition," "mandatory fees," and "academic service fees" shall be in accordance with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education policy 4.18.2 "Student Tuition and Fees Policy; Definitions." Provided, for purposes of the Oklahoma National Guard Educational Assistance Program, flight costs and/or flight fees for aviation degree programs will not be considered as "resident tuition," "mandatory fees," or "academic service fees."

(b) Assistance limitations

(1) Assistance may not exceed a maximum of eighteen (18) credit hours per semester;

(2) Assistance for enrollment in an undergraduate program in pursuit of an associate and/or baccalaureate degree shall not exceed a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) credit hours or the completion of the requirements for a baccalaureate degree, whichever comes first; and

(3) Assistance for enrollment in a graduate program in pursuit of a master's degree shall not exceed a maximum of forty (40) credit hours or completion of the requirements for a master's degree, whichever comes first.

(c) Funding of Assistance

(1) Assistance for an eligible Guard member shall be paid from the Oklahoma National Guard Educational Assistance Revolving Fund (Revolving Fund) by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (Regents) to the educational institution in which the Guard member is enrolled. By July 1 of each year the Regents shall notify the Adjutant General of the amount of funding in the Revolving Fund.

(2) Funding for assistance for graduate programs will be provided subject to full funding of assistance to eligible Guard members enrolled in undergraduate programs.