ALARACT 066/2018

DTG: R 082334Z AUG 18

UNCLAS/FOUO

SUBJ/ALARACT 066/2018 - TUITION ASSISTANCE GUIDANCE

THIS ALARACT MESSAGE HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED BY JSP ON BEHALF OF HQDA DCS G-1//DAPE-PRC//

1. REFERENCES:

1.A. AR 621–5, ARMY CONTINUING EDUCATION SYSTEM, RAPID ACTION REVISION, 6 SEP 09

1.B. ARMY DIRECTIVE 2018–09 (ARMY TUITION ASSISTANCE POLICY), 6 JUNE 2018

1.C. MEMORANDUM, AHRC-PDZ-A, 20 JUNE 2018, SUBJECT: ARMY TUITION ASSISTANCE (TA) POLICY REVISION IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE

1.D. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, INSTRUCTION 1322.25 VOLUNTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS, 15 MAR 11, INCORPORATING CHANGE 3, 7 JUL 14

2. PURPOSE: TO ANNOUNCE CHANGES TO TUITION ASSISTANCE (TA) GUIDANCE.

3. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED:

3.A. THIS MESSAGE IS APPLICABLE TO ALL SOLDIERS, REGARDLESS OF COMPONENT, WHO APPLY FOR TA ON OR AFTER 5 AUGUST 2018.

3.B. THIS MESSAGE REINSTATES AND UPDATES TA GUIDANCE AND WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL 5 JULY 2019 (ALARACT 049/2016 IS NO LONGER ACTIVE).

3.C. SOLDIERS MAY QUALIFY FOR TIER 1 OR TIER 2 OF TA, AS FOLLOWS:

3.D. TIER 1: SOLDIERS WHO HAVE NOT ATTAINED A BACHELOR’S DEGREE AND WISH TO PURSUE AN ASSOCIATE OR BACHELOR’S DEGREE; OR WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY ATTAINED A BACHELOR’S DEGREE WITHOUT THE USE OF TA AND WHO WISH TO PURSUE A MASTER’S DEGREE. SOLDIERS WILL ESTABLISH TIER 1 TA ELIGIBILITY UPON GRADUATION FROM INITIAL MILITARY TRAINING (IMT). IMT IS DEFINED AS ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL TRAINING (AIT) FOR ENLISTED SOLDIERS, BASIC OFFICER LEADERSHIP COURSE (BOLC) FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND WARRANT OFFICER BASIC COURSE (WOBC) FOR WARRANT OFFICERS.

3.E. TIER 2: SOLDIERS WHO PREVIOUSLY USED TA FOR ANY PORTION OF THEIR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE, HAVE ATTAINED A BACHELOR’S DEGREE, AND WISH TO PURSUE A MASTER’S DEGREE. SOLDIERS WILL ESTABLISH TIER 2 TA ELIGIBILITY UPON GRADUATION FROM ADVANCED LEADERSHIP TRAINING. ADVANCED LEADERSHIP TRAINING IS DEFINED AS THE ADVANCED LEADERSHIP COURSE (ALC) FOR ENLISTED SOLDIERS, CAPTAIN CAREER COURSE (CCC) FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND
WARRANT OFFICER ADVANCED COURSE (WOAC) FOR WARRANT OFFICERS. THERE IS NO ADVANCED LEVEL/TIER 2 TRAINING REQUIREMENT IF TA DID NOT FUND ANY PORTION OF UNDERGRADUATE WORK.

3.F. ALL SOLDIERS WHO MEET TIER 1 OR TIER 2 QUALIFICATION STANDARDS, REGARDLESS OF CURRENT CIVILIAN EDUCATION LEVEL, MAY USE UP TO 21 SEMESTER HOURS (SH) OF TA TO PURSUE AN UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE LEVEL CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA PROVIDED THE SOLDIER HAS NOT EARNED A CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA IN THE PREVIOUS 5 YEARS.

3.G. ONCE A SOLDIER COMPLETES THE REQUISITE LEVEL OF TRAINING TO ESTABLISH TIER 1 OR TIER 2 TA ELIGIBILITY, THE SOLDIER WILL RETAIN CREDIT FOR THAT TA TIER LEVEL TRAINING REGARDLESS OF CHANGE IN PAYGRADE/CAREER STATUS. FOR EXAMPLE, AN ENLISTED SOLDIER WHO COMPLETES AIT AND ALC (OR EQUIVALENT IN ANOTHER MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH) AND THEN ATTENDS WARRANT OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL RETAINS CREDIT FOR TIER 2 TA ELIGIBILITY BASED ON COMPLETION OF TIER 1 AND TIER 2 TRAINING AS AN ENLISTED SOLDIER.

3.H. SOLDIERS MUST BE OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE FOR TA IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFERENCES 1.A. THROUGH 1.C.

3.I. SOLDIERS MUST REQUEST TA ON A CLASS-BY-CLASS BASIS AND MAY INITIATE TA REQUESTS IN GOARMYED BEGINNING 60 DAYS PRIOR TO THE CLASS START DATE. TA REQUESTS MUST BE APPROVED PRIOR TO EACH CLASS START DATE.

3.J. SOLDIERS MAY USE TA FOR UP TO 16 SH PER FISCAL YEAR AT THE RATE OF UP TO $250/SH EACH FISCAL YEAR.

3.K. SOLDIERS CAN USE TA FOR 130 SH FOR A BACHELOR'S DEGREE, 39 SH FOR A MASTER'S DEGREE, AND 21 SH FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE LEVEL ACADEMIC CERTIFICATE. THIS LEVEL OF FUNDING PERMITS SOLDIERS TO COMPLETE ONE DEGREE AT EACH LEVEL AS PART OF AN APPROVED DEGREE PLAN.

3.L. TA IS NOT AUTHORIZED FOR FIRST PROFESSIONAL OR DOCTOR'S DEGREES AS DEFINED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AS OTHER FULLY FUNDED PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE. EXAMPLES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, DOCTOR OF JURISPRUDENCE OR JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.), DOCTOR OF MEDICINE (M.D.), DOCTOR OF PHARMACY (PHARM.D.), AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.).

4. ADDITIONAL MILITARY SERVICE OBLIGATIONS FOR OFFICERS USING TA. COMMISSIONED OFFICERS (CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2/SECOND LIEUTENANT AND ABOVE) INCUR AN ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE OBLIGATION (ADSO) OR RESERVE DUTY SERVICE OBLIGATION (RDSO) OF 2 YEARS AND 4 YEARS RESPECTIVELY UPON COMPLETION OR TERMINATION OF THE CLASS FOR WHICH TA WAS PROVIDED.

5. POINT OF CONTACT: U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND, ARMY CONTINUING EDUCATION DIVISION, 1-800-817-9990 (GOARMYED HELP DESK); EMAIL: USARMY.KNOX.HRC.MBX.TAGD-ACES@MAIL.MIL.

6. THIS ALARACT MESSAGE EXPIRES ON 05 JULY 2019.