

ANNEX K to School Plan

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

1. **INTRODUCTION:** There are several special programs available to encourage enlistments in the Army and Army Reserve and help soldiers obtain a college education. These programs are the Concurrent Admission Program (ConAP), Student Loan Repayment, Army Tuition Assistance, and Testing and eArmyU. These programs will be presented individually below.

2. **CONCURRENT ADMISSIONS PROGRAM (ConAP) SEE ANNEX I**

3. **STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM**

a. Active Army eligibles with outstanding qualifying student loan may enlist in the Loan Repayment Program (LRP). Under this program, the Army will repay \$1,500 or 33 1/3 percent of the eligible student loan, whichever is greater, up to a \$65,000 maximum. These enlistees will earn the first loan repayment after completing a full year of active duty and for each full year thereafter, up to three years.

b. Army Reserve LRP benefits are available for enlistees who have or plan to obtain a qualifying federally-insured student loan and who have enlisted in an eligible unit or MOS. For each year of service in the Reserve, up to 15 percent of the debt or a maximum of \$1,500 per year will be paid off. The maximum amount is \$10,000 (or \$20,000 for selected specialties).

4. **ARMY TUITION ASSISTANCE (TA) PROGRAM**

a. The Department of Defense (DoD) has uniform tuition assistance (TA) policy across the military services. Effective 1 Oct 2002, soldiers will receive a maximum total yearly amount up to \$4,500 to a maximum of \$250.00 semester hour.

(a) When an institution's charges are \$250 or less per semester-hour of credit, or equivalent, the responsible Service shall pay the entire amount charged by the institution

(b) When an institution's charges exceed \$250 per semester-hour of credit, or equivalent, the responsible Service shall pay \$250 per semester-hour of credit.

(c) Each service member participating in off-duty, voluntary education shall have available \$4,500, in the aggregate, for each fiscal year.

(d) Covered charges include those submitted to the Service by the educational institution for tuition, instructional fees, laboratory fees, computer fees and course materials directly related to the enrollment of that member in a course of study offered by that educational institution.

(e) When approved in advance and consistent with (a), (b), (c) and (d) above, service members may be reimbursed for charges of an educational institution for certain non-traditional courses for which, as a matter of policy, payment is not authorized until proof of completion is provided.

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b. The TA program provides financial assistance for voluntary off-duty education programs in support of a soldier's professional and personal self-development goals. All soldiers (officers, warrant officers, enlisted) on active duty, and Army National Guard and Army Reserve on active duty pursuant to Title 10 or Title 32 U.S. Code, are authorized to participate in the TA program. Active duty members of other Services who are supported by the Army under provisions of an Interservice Support Agreement, and members of the Selected Reserve based on availability of Reserve Component funds, also are eligible for the TA program. Before obtaining TA, soldiers must visit an education counselor to declare an educational goal and educational plan.

c. Procedures

(1) Recruiters planning to enroll in college should request tuition assistance from the education center servicing the specific geographical area. See Appendix ____ for a listing of Active Duty Education Centers.

(2) Call the Education Center well in advance of registration date for tuition assistance counseling and instructions.

(3) Obtain DA Form 2171 (Request for Tuition Assistance). Complete the form, get the company commander's signature and mail the form to the servicing Education Center.

(4) Upon receipt of approved 2171 from the Education Center, register at the college and give the 2171 to the college to cover the Army's portion of the fees.

(5) **Do not** register prior to requesting Tuition Assistance. TA can not be paid after the fact.

(6) Tuition assistance must be repaid if you withdraw from the course for reasons within your control or if you fail the course due to non-attendance.

5. DEFENSE ACTIVITY FOR NONTRADITIONAL EDUCATION SUPPORT (DANTES) EXAMINATION PROGRAMS

a. The Defense Activity for Nontraditional Education Support (DANTES) sponsors a wide range of examination programs to assist soldiers in meeting their educational goals. These include examinations in college subjects that are comparable to the final examinations in undergraduate college courses. Soldiers passing these examinations may receive college credit. Examples include the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) and the DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs). Also, various college admissions tests are also offered.

b. Some CLEP exams are given by local Army Reserve Centers, Army National Guard units and Air National Guard units. Visit the DANTES website @ www.voled.doded.mil to find the nearest education center that provides testing (See Directory of Education Centers on the website).

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6. E ARMY U

a. The US Army has created one of the most innovative programs of higher education in the world – Army University Access Online (known as eArmyU)(Website: www.eArmyU.com). eArmyU provides access to quality education for enlisted soldiers across the globe, helping them to further their professional and personal goals and providing the Army with top preparation for its forces. eArmyU supports the goal of transforming the military into an Objective Force capable of responding to the diverse and complex demands of the 21st century.

b. eArmyU provides soldiers with the tools they need to succeed in the online environment. Once enrolled, soldiers receive up to 100% funding for tuition, books and course fees, as well as a personal laptop, printer, email account and an Internet Service Provider (ISP) account. Soldier-students are responsible for obtaining and paying for their own local telephone service which includes any per-minute charges that apply in some overseas locations. In addition to 24-hour technical support, eArmyU provides soldiers with assistance in determining a program of study, registering for courses and transferring credits.

c. If you currently assigned to a participating Army installation (**Fort Lewis**) or located in a surrounding ACES geographic area officially designated to offer eArmyU, contact the Army Education Counselor at the servicing active duty education center. Prior to your enrollment, the Army Education Counselor will first assist you in determining program eligibility and then assess your potential for success.

c. The point of contact at Fort Lewis is Mark Summerlin at (253) 967-2203.