

TN STRONG ACT

The Tennessee STRONG (Support, Training, and Renewing Opportunity for National Guardsmen) Act establishes a pilot program to provide eligible members of the Tennessee National Guard tuition funding toward a first time bachelor degree for the next four years through a tuition reimbursement program. The STRONG Act provides educational opportunities for those who protect and serve our state and country and supports the Drive to 55 goal of equipping 55 percent of Tennesseans with a degree or certificate by 2025.

Why Tennessee STRONG?

The STRONG Act provides consistency for recruiting, increases competitiveness with surrounding states and expands opportunities for those who protect and serve our state and country.

- **Recruitment:** Enables recruiters to relay consistent information to new recruits regarding guaranteed tuition reimbursement in specific amounts for eligible members. In past years, under the existing Tennessee National Guard Tuition Assistance Act of 2004, the amount of funding for tuition has fluctuated with whatever amount has been appropriated.
- **Competitiveness:** Makes the Tennessee National Guard more competitive with surrounding states. All but four states nationwide, and all states adjacent to Tennessee, already offer 100 percent state tuition assistance.
- **Opportunity:** Offers a funding mechanism to increase the educated population in Tennessee for those who currently serve in the Tennessee National Guard by filling the gap between the availability of federal tuition assistance and the amount needed to pay for tuition.

The STRONG Act applies to individuals in good standing with the Tennessee National Guard and currently serving

For more details please concerning eligibility and benefits regarding the STRONG Act visit: <http://www.tn.gov/nexttennessee/topic/nt-one-pager-tennessee-strong-act#sthash.M8L4E0Pe.dpuf>

NOTE: TDVS and our county partners do not administer or assist with obtaining benefits related to the Strong Act. Please refer all inquiries to their National Guard education services officer:

FTA/GoArmyEd Team: 615-313-0592 Ext. 0529