

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

A Bill

SENATE BILL 200

By: Senator J. English
By: Representative M. Berry

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATED TO
TUITION BENEFITS FOR SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN OF THE
ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF LAW
RELATED TO TUITION BENEFITS FOR SOLDIERS
AND AIRMEN OF THE ARKANSAS NATIONAL
GUARD.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-60-214(a)(1), concerning qualifications needed for a soldier or an airman of the Arkansas National Guard to receive tuition benefits at a state-supported institution of higher education, is amended to read as follows:

(1) Is an Arkansas resident or is eligible for in-state tuition under § 6-60-205;

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-60-214(c)(1), concerning the maximum number of credit hours for which the tuition-free benefit is available for a soldier or an airman of the Arkansas National Guard, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1)(A) The tuition-free benefit under this section is available for a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours.

(B)(i) However, in the event that a soldier or an airman



is enrolled in a degree program that exceeds one hundred twenty (120) hours, the Adjutant General may recommend an exception to the semester credit hour cap under subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this section.

(ii) An exception granted under subdivision (c)(1)(B)(i) of this section shall be subject to the:

(a) Availability of funds; and

(b) Approval of the Division of Higher

Education.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-60-214(d)(2), concerning the number of semester credit hours a soldier or an airman of the Arkansas National Guard may drop, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(2) Shall not drop more than six (6) semester credit hours during the period in which the soldier or airman receives the tuition-free benefit under this section unless dropping the courses is necessitated by a:

(A) Mobilization that interrupts the enrollment of the soldier or airman in the state-supported institution of higher education; ~~or~~

(B) Medical reason approved by the Adjutant General; or

(C) Reason recommended for approval by the Adjutant General and approved by the division.

APPROVED: 3/13/23