

1 SB33
2 164460-2
3 By Senator Dial
4 RFD: Veterans and Military Affairs
5 First Read: 03-MAR-15
6 PFD: 02/13/2015

1 SB33

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4 ENROLLED, An Act,

5 To amend Section 31-10-2, as amended by Act
6 2014-179, 2014 Regular Session (Acts 2014), and Section
7 31-10-3, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the National Guard
8 Educational Assistance Act; to revise the definition of
9 tuition for purposes of the act; and to require applicants for
10 a tuition grant to complete a Free Application for Student
11 Financial Aid (FAFSA).

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

13 Section 1. Section 31-10-2, as amended by Act
14 2014-179, 2014 Regular Session (Acts 2014), and Section
15 31-10-3 of the Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as
16 follows:

17 "§31-10-2.

18 "The following words used in this article shall have
19 the meanings as set forth by this section:

20 "(1) ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD. Federally recognized
21 units of the Alabama National Guard.

22 "(2) ACTIVE MEMBER. A member of a federally
23 recognized unit of the Alabama National Guard meeting the
24 minimum requirements for satisfactory membership as defined in

1 the Department of the Army and Department of the Air Force regulations.

2 "(3) TUITION. The cost of instruction and fees to
3 the student as stated in the institution's catalog, plus the
4 average cost of books and supplies, to a minimum of one
5 hundred dollars (\$100) per semester, and not to exceed 50
6 ~~percent of the remaining balance~~ one thousand dollars (\$1,000)
7 per semester after all federal benefits have been applied to
8 the account of the student, for a total amount not exceeding
9 two thousand dollars (\$2,000) annually.

10 ~~"(4) VETERAN. Any person with more than 180 days~~
11 ~~active duty under Title 10, United States Code, annotated, and~~
12 ~~entitled to federal educational benefits will be considered a~~
13 ~~veteran and not eligible for benefits under this article.~~

14 ~~"(5) WORDS IMPORTING THE MASCULINE GENDER ONLY.~~
15 ~~Apply to female as well as male.~~

16 "§31-10-3.

17 "The Alabama Commission on Higher Education is
18 hereby authorized to pay or reimburse the tuition for any
19 active member of the Alabama National Guard who is enrolled in
20 a program leading to the associate, baccalaureate, masters, or
21 doctorate degree in an accredited institution of higher
22 learning, technical college, or junior college within the
23 State of Alabama. To be eligible for such benefits, the
24 individual, at the time of his or her enrollment must be a
25 member of the Alabama National Guard in good standing and a

1 member of a federally recognized unit of the Alabama National
2 Guard. The member must be at least 17 years of age and must be
3 a resident of the State of Alabama. The tuition grant
4 authorized under this article may be used for undergraduate or
5 graduate studies. In no event will any individual be eligible
6 to receive more than 100 percent of covered expenses when
7 combined with similar federal veterans' educational benefits
8 available to members of the National Guard. All applicants for
9 a tuition grant shall complete a Free Application for Student
10 Financial Aid (FAFSA). No person shall be eligible for a
11 tuition grant for more than 12 years after the date of the
12 first tuition payment to him or her under this article. For
13 degrees above the baccalaureate, only 10 percent of the total
14 funds of the benefit program are to be utilized. The Alabama
15 Commission on Higher Education shall set up minimum standards
16 for performance that must be met in order to maintain
17 eligibility for the continuation of the receipt of tuition
18 grants under this article."

19 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
20 first day of the third month following its passage and
21 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB33
Senate 16-APR-15
I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Passed: 02-JUN-15

By: Senator Dial