

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

**SENATE BILL 725
RATIFIED BILL**

AN ACT TO MODIFY THE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS
OF THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 127A-193 reads as rewritten:

"§ 127A-193. Benefit.

The benefit provided under this Article shall consist of a monetary educational assistance grant not to exceed ~~two thousand dollars (\$2,000) per academic year~~ the highest amount charged by a State educational institution per academic year or a lesser amount, as prescribed by the Secretary, to remain within the funds appropriated, to qualifying members of the North Carolina national guard. Benefits shall be payable for a period of one academic year at a time, renewable at the option of the Secretary for a maximum of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000).Secretary."

SECTION 2. G.S. 127A-195(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) All tuition benefit disbursements shall be made to the business or trade school or State or private educational institution concerned, for credit to the tuition account of each recipient."

SECTION 3. G.S. 127A-195 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(f) Any balance of the monetary educational assistance grant up to the maximum for the academic year remaining after tuition is paid pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may be disbursed to the recipient as reimbursement for required course books and materials. The manner of obtaining the reimbursement payment for these required books and materials shall be as prescribed by the Secretary."

SECTION 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 24th day of August, 2005.

Beverly E. Perdue
President of the Senate

James B. Black
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Michael F. Easley
Governor

Approved _____m. this _____ day of _____, 2005