

(U) **Educational Dollars for Duty (EDD) – Changes to EDD Program Benefits**

(U) All units, please see the following notice regarding changes to EDD Program benefits. Please ensure widest dissemination of this information to your teams.

**1. (U) Reduction of FY2026 EDD Program Benefits – effective 01 July 2025**

(U) All units, please see the following notice regarding Reductions to EDD benefits effective 01 July 2025.

(U) Reduction of EDD Benefits Effective 01 July 2025 – Year-over-year costs of EDD benefits have increased significantly over the last two fiscal years (16% in FY2024 and 19% in FY2025). Despite a well-supported DMA legislative budget request for increased EDD funding, the State of Florida legislature did not approve an increase in EDD funding. As a result, DMA is faced with the difficult task of reducing benefits to contain spending at the approved budget levels.

Effective 01 July 2025, the following changes to EDD benefits will be implemented:

- a) Elimination of License or Certification Reimbursement Coverage – EDD will no longer reimburse servicemembers for certifications or licenses paid up-front by the servicemember. Certifications and Licenses paid by EDD to the Educational Institution will still be covered by EDD benefits.
- b) Elimination of Additional Fee Coverage – EDD will no longer cover additional fees charged by educational institutions, including, but not limited to: distance learning fees, lab fees, and technology fees. Fees that will continue to be covered by EDD benefits are the matriculation fees outlined in the State University System Tuition/Fees website.
- c) Reduction of Master's Degree Coverage to 50% - EDD's maximum per credit rate coverage for Master's Degree funding requests will decrease from \$530.69 per credit to \$265.35 per credit.
- d) Funding Requests Will be Capped at \$5,000 Per Request/Term – No funding requests above \$5,000 will be approved.
- e) Reduction of The Annual \$ Limit Cap on Licenses or Certifications to \$10,000 Per Year - EDD has implemented a \$10,000 annual cap on License and Certification programs. The cap is inclusive of tuition, prep courses, exam fees, and certification/license cost.
- f) Establish Maximum # of Credits Per Degree Program – EDD has established a maximum number of credits covered per degree program (60 Associates, 128 Bachelors, 36 Masters). Maximum credit limits will be enforced on new Education Goals submitted after July 1, 2025.
- g) Reduction to Threshold for Submitting Professional/Technical Certification Copies (from 5 to 3) – EDD requires copies of Professional/Technical Certifications earned be submitted to EDD following the completion of a certification course. EDD's current threshold for Professional License/Certification Education Goals that can be completed before an actual Certification copy must be submitted will be reduced from 5 to 3. Under this revised policy, a SM may complete up to three Certification courses (EDD Certification Education Goals) before providing a copy of an actual Certification. Prior to a fourth (or any subsequent) Certification Education Goal being approved, the SM must submit a copy of a Certification earned in connection with one of the prior Certification courses taken. Certification Education Goals approved prior to 01 July 2025 will remain approved.

## 2. (U) **EDD Book Refund Requests.**

(U) All units, please see the following notice regarding EDD Book Refund Requests:

(U) This email is to advise that EDD Book Refund Requests will not be processed for Fiscal Year 2025 (or prior years). Florida State Statutes (FS 250.10) provide that, as part of the state education assistance program (EDD), the Department of Military Affairs may reimburse student textbook and instructional material costs in accordance with limits set each fiscal year based on funding availability, but only after tuition and fees for all eligible members are paid for that fiscal year. FY2025 funds have been exhausted on tuition and fees. As such, there are no FY2025 funds remaining for book refunds.

(U) Over the next week, SMs and units may notice book refund requests for FY2025 (and prior years if applicable) being disapproved/deleted in the Virtual Education Center (VEC). **This notification is limited to book refund requests. There is no impact to EDD tuition payments.** All current tuition and fees are being paid from the State of Florida's current fiscal year (2026), which began 01 July 2025. Book refund requests for any classes that started after 01 July 2025 will be evaluated after 30 June 2026.

## 3. (U) **Implementation of Past Due Fee for Outstanding EDD Recoupments.**

(U) All units, please see the following notice regarding Implementation of Past Due Fees for Outstanding EDD Recoupments:

(U) Effective 01 July 2025, EDD will implement a past due fee for long-outstanding recoupments as authorized by Florida State Statutes (FS 250.10). Servicemembers on an approved recoupment payment plan are not subject to the past due fee.

(U) Questions about the EDD messages above should be directed to the EDD Group Mailbox [ng.fl.flarng.list.edd-office@army.mil](mailto:ng.fl.flarng.list.edd-office@army.mil).

(U) POC for this information is Mr. Glenn O'Brien at [ng.fl.flarng.list.edd-office@army.mil](mailto:ng.fl.flarng.list.edd-office@army.mil).