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Jerome Carter: Johnny.Jerome.Carter@us.army.mil or 703-607-9749

Education and Incentives Operations Message (EIOM 08-14)

Date: January 18, 2008

TO: All ARNG Education and Incentives Personnel of ALL States, Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands, Guam and the District of Columbia and Other Support Agencies

SUBJECT: EIOM 08-14: Accurate and timely Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) entries into AFCOS.

1. The purpose of this message is to clarify understanding of the importance that accurate and timely FTA entries into Automated Fund Control Order System (AFCOS) have on our ability to achieve future funding.
2. ARNG FTA program is funded by Visibility Army Tuition Assistance (VATA) Management Decision Package (MDEP). Unfortunately, current FY08 FTA funding is not expected to meet demand (as has been the case for the past several years). Therefore, additional funding requests must be "won" in the budget reviews here several times throughout the FY. In order to "win" these needed funds we must show need and diligent accounting practices. We must show that we have "used" or, obligated the funding we already have in the official accounting system (AFCOS as reflected in GKO Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW)).
3. NGB-ARM-EI has been successful in achieving additional funding in the previous FYs due to the outstanding support by NGB leadership. We fully plan to achieve the same results this year but, as always, will need your help to succeed.
4. States and Territories can help us win additional funding by:
 - a.) Making accurate and timely iMARC entries.
 - b.) Making accurate and timely AFCOS entries.
 - c.) Liquidating FTA Obligations in accordance with NGB FTA Policy goals.
5. If your Obligations recorded in AFCOS do not reflect your actual Obligations (approved FTA requests) your account will not be accurate and will lead to the belief that you still have funds available and are not in need of additional funding. Therefore, we won't be able to support requests for additional funding.
6. Point of contact is 1LT Ellieth Larios at 703-607-9718 or Ellieth.larios@us.army.mil or Erich.hohensee@us.army.mil

ROBERT L. PORTER
Colonel, MS
Chief, Personnel Programs, Manpower
and Resources Division