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As of September 2003, 43 states have favorable policies for soldiers and family members. The policies of 19 states—Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Jersey, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and West Virginia—meet all desired outcomes.
State Progress Report on the In-state Tuition Initiative

**Kentucky:** In May 2003, the Commanding General, U.S. Army Recruiting Command sent a letter to the governor expressing appreciation for Kentucky’s already favorable tuition policies, which meet all the objectives.

**Georgia:** In May 2003, the Georgia Board of Regents approved the in-state tuition waiver to grant continuity of in-state tuition eligibility to family members after the military sponsor is reassigned outside the state.

**Virginia:** In May 2003, the Virginia Military Advisory Council (VMAC) Quality of Life Panel identified this initiative as their number-one priority issue and voted to send it forward to the governor for action. A legislative proposal may result.

**North Carolina:** In May 2003, in-state tuition policies/rates were discussed during a statewide meeting of services’ garrison commanders, education officers and university staff. The Fort Bragg garrison commander will be meeting with the state representative in the near future.

**Pennsylvania:** In May 2003, the Department of Education committee of the Pennsylvania Advisory Council for Veterans/Military Education (PACVME), met and decided the issue will be raised to the state Higher Education Commission and legislature.

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**New York:** Fort Drum and West Point have contacted local state representatives and presented the initiative to receptive audiences.

**South Carolina:** The Adjutant General of the Army responded to the state Adjutant General’s letter addressing his concerns that the initiative in South Carolina be suspended for now due to the state’s fiscal dilemmas.

**Maryland:** A state representative met with the Fort Detrick installation commander and will propose a bill for the next session to include continuity of the in-state benefit.

**New Jersey:** With assistance from the state Higher Education Commission, the Fort Monmouth Education Services Officer and the Staff Judge Advocate uncovered a section of law granting continuity of the in-state benefit. New Jersey meets all objectives.

**Alabama:** The Fort Rucker garrison commander spoke with the state Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Committee chairman and brought the issue to his attention. The chairman indicated that he would address the issue with appropriate officials.

**Colorado:** In July 2003, an installation-wide meeting to address this initiative was conducted by the garrison commander. A plan is being developed to present the issue to the appropriate state leaders.

However, continuity of the benefit, once started, is not always available and remains a major concern for Army families.

In January 2003, the Department of Defense (DoD) endorsed the Army’s initiative and sent memoranda to the other services requesting they assist the Army in this effort. In a separate memorandum, DoD appointed the Army as the lead in this endeavor. Army officials, in February 2003, presented the initiative to the Civilian Aides to the Secretary of the Army (CASAs), asking their assistance in presenting the initiative to state leaders.

Texas and Georgia have responded by changing their law and policy, respectively, to include the continuity of the benefit on the reassignment of the military sponsor. They now meet the three goals of the Army’s initiative. (Note: There is activity in many states, with military leaders communicating the Army’s message to state leaders. An important lesson learned in Texas and Georgia was the key role of the CASAs in working with state legislatures and getting the issue in front of key state leaders.)

### Status of Seven States in Question

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What is needed is for DoD to present to state governors a proposed policy for tuition for military personnel and their family members living in that state as a result of military orders. State governors should be made aware of the amount of military dollars invested in their state together with the value military families bring through their volunteer efforts and community service, as they weigh the cost of in-state tuition for military members and their families.
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State Ranking by Numbers of Military

1. California 123,948
2. Texas 115,100
3. North Carolina 94,296
4. Virginia 90,851
5. Georgia 64,392
6. Florida 55,815
7. Washington 38,521
8. South Carolina 37,943
9. Hawaii 34,608
10. Kentucky 34,081

State Ranking by Military Dollars Invested / Grants*

1. California $36.57 billion / $361.43 million
2. Texas $31.23 billion / $67.50 million
3. North Carolina $23.28 billion / $106.70 million
4. Virginia $14.73 billion / $108.65 million
5. Georgia $11.34 billion / $26.70 million
6. Florida $11.34 billion / $106.70 million
7. Arizona $8.95 billion / $73.70 million
8. Missouri $7.52 billion / $17.02 million
9. Alabama $7.43 billion / $46.10 million
10. Washington $7.22 billion / $50.50 million

* Grants: Portion of total for research and development to nonprofit organizations/schools.

Source: Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, Statistical Information Analysis Division, Work Force Publications, Fiscal Year 2002