

# UNIFIED REGULATORY PLAN OF THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS for State FY 24

Prepared on 16 May 2023

1. **AGENCY SUMMARY.** The Virginia Department of Military Affairs provides professional and responsive state support functions to the Adjutant General of Virginia, the Virginia Army and Air Force National Guard, and the Virginia Defense Force to ensure their ability to support and defend the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The agency is comprised of the [Virginia Army National Guard](#), the [Virginia Air National Guard](#) and the [Virginia Defense Force](#), and DMA also manages the [Commonwealth Challenge Youth Academy](#) and [Winchester STARBASE Academy](#). The Virginia Department of Military Affairs (DMA) is a unique state agency in that it is primarily operated under Federal Army and Air Force Regulations as well as being primarily funded by the Federal Government through a series of Federal Cooperative Agreements.
2. **INDIVIDUAL REGULATORY ACTIVITIES.**

<b>Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (If Available)</b> 7250	
<b>Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document</b> Command Policy 22-023; Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program (VANG-STAP), Potential amendment to this guidance document if requested legislation during the 2024 Session is passed, to reflect those process improvements and administrative process changes for Soldiers and Airmen who use VANGSTAP.	
<b>Brief Overview</b> Pursuant to legislative changes to Virginia Code §23.1-610 effective July 2022, the VNG state tuition assistance program (STAP) changed from a direct pay to colleges/universities to a reimbursement model to NG members. STAP participants are now reimbursed for tuition payments once certain requirements are met. This creates a burden not only on our National Guard members but requires a significant and cumbersome staffing requirement to administer this program.	
<b>Regulatory Stage (check one box)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed Rule <input type="checkbox"/> Final Rule <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Rule <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track Rule
<b>Additional Description</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Rule <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Rule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
<b>Legal Authority</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
<b>Deregulatory Component</b>	Proposed STAP program changes in 2024 (Tuition Waiver for NG members at state schools) will reduce the staffing and administrative footprint and time required to

	administer the program as it is in its current configuration and will decrease the burden on our Guard members and their families to pay tuition up front and then seek reimbursement of tuition funds paid at the end of each semester.
<b>Expected Date</b>	If successful, STAP changes will be effective 1 July 2024

3. The below guidance documents were reviewed and revised in January 2023. No change is expected to VaNG Regulation No. 56-3 (National Guard License Plates), in FY24. \*Command Policy 22-023 (NG Tuition Assistance) will be reviewed and revised if legislative approval is achieved during the 2024 General Assembly Session regarding the STAP code and process.

\* Command Policy 22-023; Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program (VANGSTAP) (ID 7250) Virginia Code §23.1-610

VaNG Regulation No. 56-3 National Guard Members and Retirees Vehicle License Plates, (ID 7510) Virginia Code § 46.2-744 and 46.2-726