



TUITION ASSISTANCE & GRANTS (TAG) DIVISION

2009 CG FOUNDATION & VANDER PUTTEN GRANTS

The Coast Guard Foundation Education and Vander Putten Grants monies are exhausted for the 2009 calendar year. The Institute does not expect any additional funding until the new calendar year.

Therefore, we will not accept any more 2009 applications. Members whose applications are pending will receive an email informing them to resubmit their application after 1 January 2010.

GRANT REIMBURSEMENT FOR ROSETTA STONE LANGUAGE COURSES

Beginning 1 December 2009, the Coast Guard Foundation Education Grant and the Coast Guard Vander Putten Grant Programs will no longer approve reimbursement costs for Rosetta Stone Foreign Language courses that are free through Navy Knowledge Online. Language courses not offered through NKO will still be reimbursable through the Grants Program.

Anyone who purchased the Rosetta Stone Foreign Language Course and has a receipt prior to 1 December 2009 may be eligible for reimbursement. The receipt must be less than one year old from date of application.

The courses online are:

- Arabic
- Chinese
- Korean
- Hindi
- Pashto
- Persian
- Punjabi
- Spanish

Obviously, the most popular Rosetta Stone course on the list is the Spanish course. The cost for these courses will not be reimbursed if purchased after 1 December 2009.



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ELECTRONIC TUITION ASSISTANCE (ETA) AND NICMIS

The Institute continues to move forward with a few new initiatives. As a general rule, Electronic Tuition Assistance (eTA) applications should only be approved by properly designated ESOs with a TACCTS account. It's the only way we can ensure the right people are reviewing eligibility requirements for TA funds.

Additionally, we are moving forward with Navy College Management Information System (NCMIS) access for those full time civilian ESOs who desire it. This decentralization of TA processing will speed the turnaround time for members seeking TA. A number of the full time civilian ESOs who have been hired in recent years have come to the Coast Guard from other DoD services that use NCMIS. Getting those ESO NCMIS access will take full advantage of their knowledge and experience and speed the overall process for the whole Coast Guard.

Along those lines, as eTA and NCMIS help speed the process they also afford the Institute TA yeomen more time to manage the TA funding on the whole. FY09 was another record year for TA requests and payouts. As the demand grows and expense scrutiny increases, we have to be in a position to ensure that the TA money is being spent judiciously. In the extra time the TA yeomen are finding here at the Institute, they are scrubbing the TA applications to find applications that have not been invoiced by the schools and then investigating the reasons why.

Please pass to your members that if they receive an email with "MISSING INVOICE AUDIT" in the subject line, they need to respond to it and tell us if they did or did not take the course.

For example, if a member applies for and receives \$500 of TA, that amount is obviously taken out of the TA money available pot. Well, if the application is never invoiced and we do not know about it until six months after the new FY, we will wind up with \$500 that could have been potentially used for someone else's TA. It's that simple. The better the TA money is managed the further it is going to go in future years. So help us by reminding your members to respond to emails with "MISSING INVOICE AUDIT" in the subject line.

2010 ESO SYMPOSIUM

The ESO Symposium dates have been set for 24-26 August 2010. The symposium will be held at the Embassy Suites in Norman, OK just south of Oklahoma City. More details will be released as they become available. Mark your calendars!