WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Professional Association Membership. The Wisconsin National Guard Association (WINGA) and the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) are your professional associations. NGAUS is an association of associations representing all 54 states and territories. The success of these organizations is based on your membership, involvement and participation on association activities and volunteer support. Membership in professional organizations can enhance your personal and professional development and provide endless networking opportunities. Membership in WINGA/NGAUS displays a business initiative, engagement in the military and commitment to stay abreast of current developments in the National Guard. Benefits of association membership also includes:

- Leadership roles within the association
- Professional development and networking opportunities at conferences
- Newsletters and magazines
- Access to member-only benefits, such as college scholarships

What does WINGA/NGAUS do for me?

- **Member Benefits:**
  - Since 1975, WINGA has paid out over $12.77M in death claims to members & their families
  - WINGA sponsors no-cost Officer Professional Development at the State conference
  - Since 2013 WINGA has provided $106,000 in college scholarships to 129 members & their families
  - WINGA funded 12 officers to attend OPD at the 2025 NGAUS Conference in Milwaukee
  - Since 2016 WINGA has funded over $134,375 for NGAUS life membership incentive for 441 officers
- **WINGA Initiatives:**
  - Supported WI Legislation SB 644/AB 769 relating to requirements for college and Act 274 (SB 795/AB 943) relating to benefit parity for National Guard members serving on state active duty
  - Funded $85,000 to assist with the initiative to bring the F35 aircraft to Madison
  - Provides annual funding for Northern Lightening Exercise, Air HOF, Army HOH, and Officer/WO Summits
  - Provides annual grants of $500 to each of the MSC and Wing Commands
- **NGAUS Accomplishments:**
  - Seat for the NGB Chief on Joint Chiefs of Staff
  - Adjusted effective DOR for FedRec delays
  - Expanded Post 9/11 GI Bill for Title 32
  - Paid Leave of Absence for childbirth
  - Extended TRICARE to gray-area retirees
  - Enhanced NG Mental Health & Suicide Prevention
  - Early retirement credit under 12304b orders
  - Access by Fed Employees to TRICARE Reserve Select
- **NGAUS Priorities:**
  - Modernization of UH-60 & HMMWV
  - ANG Fighter Recapitalization
  - Increased Full Time Support/Manning
  - Ready access to mental health care
  - National Guard Counterdrug Program
  - Zero-cost TRICARE & Dental for medical readiness
  - Tax Incentives for Guardsmen and employers
  - Protecting NG Equities in Duty Status
  - Increased MILCON funding
  - Expansion of GI Benefits
  - Robust NGREA funding
  - NG Integration in Total Force Cyber Mission & Training

Why should I join WINGA/NGAUS?

- National Guard Bureau is a T10 Federal organization. It cannot be an advocate for **(y)our** "issues" (i.e., funding for equipment readiness, personnel benefits, medical coverage, education, and employment opportunities) to Congress – they are duly bound to support the President's and DOD budget.
- WINGA/NGAUS is **(y)our** professional organization that advocates our issues to Congress; they do so with a strong and unified voice. WINGA/NGAUS strength comes from the size of our membership.
- Membership, participation, and the payment of dues for WINGA/NGAUS are a voluntary decision of each service member. Service members will not be treated differently based upon those decisions.

Why is there a State Association (WINGA)?

- WINGA is the voice for NGAUS here at home and represents our specific (local) interests to the National Association. Their primary objectives:
  - Ensure the WI Department of Military Affairs officer corps and its retirees stay informed on national level issues affecting the National Guard and encourage its members to support actions to resolve them
  - Identifies specific issues affecting WI DMA and its members here at home and presents those issues to NGAUS to garner national support for Congressional action and resolution

Why should I attend the Wisconsin National Guard Annual State Conference?

- Very low cost due to association and corporate sponsorship
- This is **(y)our** Association's unified forum (Army and Air) to present/identify/discuss national and state level NG issues and vote on the priorities we supported at the national level
  - This is the only annual event for the Wisconsin National Guard where the entire officer corps (and retirees) to come together to meet professionally and socially
  - Hear directly from the senior leadership team of the Wisconsin DMA about the current state and future developments of both the Army and Air National Guard
  - Listen to and question NGAUS guest speakers who present topics and issues with national consequences
  - Meet senior leaders of other major commands in the Army and Air National Guard and learn about what they do and/or potential future opportunities for you and your career
  - Industry partners that support the military display cutting-edge technology that support the warfighter

How do I pay my NGAUS and WINGA Dues?

- Call or visit the WINGA Office (608-242-3114) Tuesday thru Thursday / 0730-1600 and provide credit/debit card information. We also accept checks or cash.
- Pay online on the WINGA website www.winga.org ; click on the Join or Renew button and follow the prompts using a credit/debit card. Please use a civilian laptop or device.
- Pay via Venmo – WINGA's Venmo QR Code is on the website or search for WINGA or WINGAAssn
- Mail your check to the WINGA Office – WINGA Inc, 2400 Wright St, Room 151, Madison, WI 53704
- Membership, participation, and the payment of dues for WINGA/NGAUS are a voluntary decision of each service member. Service members will not be treated differently based upon those decisions.

Life Membership Incentive Program

- WINGA offers an incentive program for NGAUS & WINGA life membership. WINGA will underwrite $250 for company grade officers and $125 for field grade officers, which makes the total cost for life membership for company grade officers $330 and $455 for field grade officers.

2025 NGAUS and WINGA Annual Membership Dues

- O1-O3 / WO1–CW3 $45 ($40 NGAUS + $5 WINGA)
- O4-06 / CW4–CW5 $90 ($80 NGAUS + $10 WINGA)
- O7-08 $150 ($130 NGAUS + $20 WINGA)

"Testimonials" from past Wisconsin National Guard attendees at the NGAUS Capital Summit:

- This was a great opportunity to gain a better understanding about the relationship between NGAUS, NGB and Congress. As a CGO, it is important to understand this relationship early in your career in order to play a role in impacting real change for the Guard and the benefits Guard members receive.
- Although I was a life member of NGAUS prior to attending this event, I did not grasp the scope of their efforts until witnessing and participating in some first-hand. Hearing from members of Congress and engaging with their staffers in Washington DC was incredible. This was the most unique and insightful professional development of my career.
- It was not only eye opening and educational to see how Washington works, it was a great networking opportunity to meet other CGO's, NGAUS staff, NGB staff, and Congressional legislative staff.
- The NGB-Legislative Liaisons (NGB-LLs) CANNOT ask for things to be authorized outside of the President's Budget as they fall under Title 10; however, WE as Guard members CAN - i.e. NGAUS. An important lesson in knowing what we can ask NGB to fix and what we need NGAUS to address.