

Military Lending Act

Overview

The Military Lending Act is a federal law that provides special protections to members of the military community against certain lending practices. Under the MLA, creditors may not charge more than a 36% Military Annual Percentage Rate on a wide range of credit products. In addition to interest, the MAPR also includes other costs, like fees, charges for debt cancellation and suspension, and costs of additional credit products, such as credit insurance.

Who Is Protected?

- Active-duty service members
- Reserve and National Guard members on active duty for 30 days or longer
- Spouses and covered dependents

What Is Covered?

COVERED

- Credit cards
- Payday loans
- Vehicle title loans
- Refund anticipation loans
- Certain installment loans
- Certain student loans

NOT COVERED

- Residential mortgages and refinances
- Home equity loans
- Auto loans secured by the vehicle
- Personal property loans secured by the property

Do You Know Your Rights?

Lenders must disclose to you, both orally and in writing, the MAPR that is applicable to the credit product you are seeking. In addition, lenders cannot make you agree to arbitration, require that you waive your right to legal action or charge prepayment penalties.

To confirm active-duty status, lenders can use the [Military Lending Act website](#) to obtain documentation.

If you feel your creditor is violating the MLA, [submit a complaint](#) online with the [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau](#) or call 855-411-2372.

To learn more about your rights and lending restrictions under the Military Lending Act, visit your installation's [legal assistance office](#). For additional support navigating your unique financial challenges and changes, contact your installation's Military and Family Support Center to schedule a no-cost appointment with an accredited [personal financial manager](#) or [counselor](#).

It's important to approach credit and loan debt carefully. As you navigate your options, visit the Office of Financial Readiness website for additional resources. There, you'll find information and tools to support your journey to financial well-being, such as:

- [Loan Calculators](#)

- [Consumer Credit video series](#)

- And more!



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