



Curriculum On College & Careers



Unlocking a door to the future

“Military Careers”



Military Careers Agenda

- B1. Careers in the Military
- B2. Joining the Military
- B3. Applying to US Military Academies
- B4. ROTC
- B5. National Guard and Reserves



CAREERS IN THE MILITARY

- B1. Discuss the career opportunities offered by the military and know where to find career information.



["Military Careers" \(1:00\)](#)



["Exploring Careers in the Military"](#)
[\(24:57\)](#)

Double Click on the picture or the link for video



24 Career Fields

Accounting, Budget & Finance	Arts, Communications, Media & Design	Aviation
Business Administration & Operations	Combat Operations	Communications Equipment Technicians
Construction, Building & Extraction	Counseling, Social Work & Human Services	Cyber
Education & Training	Engineering & Scientific Research	Environmental Health & Safety
Health Care Practitioners	Human Resources Management & Services	Information Technology, Computer Science & Mathematics
Intelligence	International Relations, Linguistics & Other Social Sciences	Law Enforcement, Security, & Protective Services
Legal Professions & Support Services	Mechanic & Repair Technicians	Medical & Clinical Technicians
Naval & Maritime Operations	Personal & Culinary Services	Transportation, Supply & Logistics



Career Types

- Officer 18%
- Warrant Officer (Army only)
- Enlisted 82%



Career Types

- Many civilian jobs represented
- Military jobs give you skills:
 - Leadership
 - Dependability
 - Reliability
 - Good work ethic
- Employers consider these very important



Military Career Sites

EXPLORE YOUR MILITARY CAREER OPTIONS:

- **ARMY:** <https://www.goarmy.com/careers-and-jobs/help-choosing-a-career-job/army-career-explorer.html>
- **NAVY:** <https://www.navy.com/careers.html>
- **AIR FORCE:** <https://www.airforce.com/careers>
- **MARINE CORPS:** <http://www.militaryspot.com/marines/marine-corps-jobs>
- **COAST GUARD:** <https://www.gocoastguard.com/Careers>



Bigger Services = More Job Choices

- 37% of active duty service members are in the Army
- 23% each are in the Air Force and Navy
- 14% are Marines
- 3% are in the Coast Guard
- Larger services have many more job choices
- Statistically likely to end up in the Army if you enlist
- Look around, talk to people, take aptitude tests, figure out WHAT kind of job you want
- Where is the job you want? Is it available? Is it in one branch, or all?



Check on Learning

1. Name three career fields available in the military.
2. T/F – There are more career fields in the larger branches of the military.
3. T/F – Employers value the skills gained from military service.
4. Where can you find more information about career fields available in the military?



JOINING THE MILITARY

B2. Discuss how to join the military and list the major requirements an enlistee will have to meet.

Understand the realities of dealing with a military recruiter.



How do I join the Military?



1. Do research - Set goals and priorities
2. Know what you want
3. Find a recruiter you trust
4. Qualify: Paperwork, ASVAB, Physical Exam
5. Swear in!



Research

- The most important step in your journey to Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine, or Coastie
- **Have an idea of what they offer before seeing a recruiter**
- Ask yourself:
 - What are your life goals
 - How will you get there
 - Is the military a stepping stone or a destination
 - Join the Reserves or go active duty
- Find your dream job – clarify your priorities and determine what you want to do



Meeting the Requirements

- Citizenship Status
- Medical Fitness, including weight
- Take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)
- Background Check or Security Clearance
- Tattoos
- Parental Status
- Educational Status



A recruiter will walk you through these step by step. Do you meet the requirements to be in the military? If not, can you change something or are you disqualified?



Citizenship Status & Age

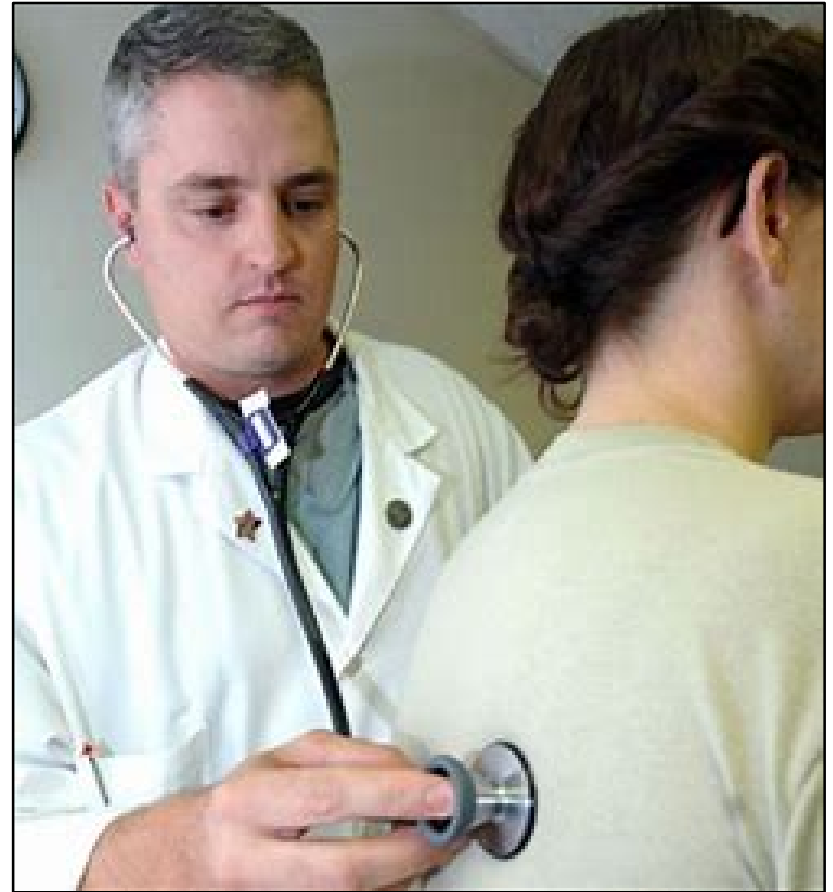
- US Citizen, green card, or permanent residence
- 17-34 years old
- If 17, parental consent required





Medical Fitness

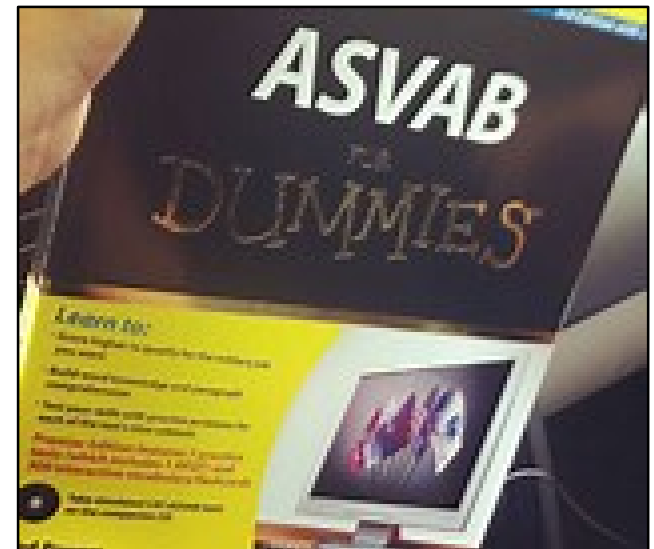
- Pass a physical exam at the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS)
- Some conditions will disqualify you, but can be changed (e.g., overweight or high blood pressure)
- Weight standards for all branches of the military are published in Army Regulation 40-501, Chapter 2





ASVAB

- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery
- Tests your ability to do certain job functions, NOT your knowledge
- Get help on line or from your recruiter
- ASVAB results determine what jobs you qualify for
- Take a sample ASVAB
<https://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab>





Your Background

Some things may disqualify you for military service:

- Felony convictions
- Domestic abuse
- DUI (depends on timing)
- Bankruptcy
- Drug use



You may be able to get a waiver to join. You may qualify for a job that does not require a security clearance. Be honest and forthcoming about the situation with your recruiter.



Tattoos

- May look great, but could cause problems with the military
- Rules change depending how desperately the services need recruits
- No tattoos visible above the T-Shirt neckline or on hands or wrists
- Nothing racist, hate-related, sexist, or gang-related
- May be limited to a certain number of tattoos
- No body mutilation (scarification, forked tongue, ear gauging > 1.6 mm)





Parental & Educational Status



- Single parents with custody rights may have a problem enlisting
- Depends on the service
- The rules change
- Have a formal plan - who takes care of your kids if called to duty

- Anything less than a high school diploma (even a GED) puts you in a lesser status
- Few recruits are accepted at this level
- GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL!





Find a Recruiter

- Go to a recruiting office
- Go on line & input your info – they will call you
- Talk to a friend or someone you trust
- Talk to more than one branch of service
- Avoid going at end of the month or in September
 - Recruiters trying to meet quota
 - May talk you into what is available, NOT what is best for you!





20 Questions to Ask a Recruiter

1. How long do I have to enlist for? What's the minimum commitment?
2. Am I eligible for any special enlistment programs or bonuses?
3. What do I have to score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test to qualify?
4. What are the major differences in pay, benefits and job opportunities between services?
5. Do you have films or literature about military life and particular jobs
6. How long is basic training? Where is it? What is it like?
7. What physical fitness requirements must I meet to enter the military and succeed in basic training?
8. What jobs are available?
9. What are the possibilities for remote or overseas duty stations?
10. What are the training and advancement opportunities for jobs that I am eligible for?



20 Questions to Ask a Recruiter

11. What would pay be like?
12. Do I get paid while in training?
13. How much money can I get for college?
14. Can I take college courses or other training programs while in the military?
15. Are there any upcoming military events in the area, such as airshows, fleet weeks, etc.?
16. Can a friend and I go to basic training together?
17. What are the haircut or other appearance standards that will apply to me?
18. What's the delayed entry program?
19. What are the next steps?
20. How can I get more information?

<https://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/military-recruiter-twenty-questions.html>



Wait if Necessary

- Be willing to wait to get exactly what you want
- This is true for military recruiters or buying a car
- If the job you want is not available, tell the recruiter to call you when it is. Then walk away!





Check on Learning

1. Name at least four requirements you have to meet before joining the military.
2. What can disqualify you from joining?
3. What does the ASVAB test: your knowledge or abilities?
4. Do recruiters have your best interest in mind?
5. What are some questions you should ask a recruiter?



APPLYING TO US MILITARY ACADEMIES

- B3. List the five US military academies and discuss the process of applying for admission.



US Military Academies

- The US Military Academy, West Point, NY (Army)
- The US Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD
- The US Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO
- The US Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT
- The US Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, NY





Benefits

- Top notch education & degree
- Essentially free – avoid student loan debt
- Full regular commission & high status in military service
- Support of classmates throughout your life
- Awesome training opportunities, especially in the summers
- Great student life in athletics, clubs, etc.
- Fully prepares you to be an officer: Lieutenant or Ensign



West Point Military Academy Graduates



Admission Requirements



Coast Guard Cadet Richard Salinas

- Medical Fitness
- Physical Fitness
- High academic standing – excellent grades in high school
- High scores on SAT/ACT
- Extracurricular activities, leadership roles
- Excellent character & positive personality traits
- Between 17 & 23 years old
- Not married, pregnant or legally obligated to support children



Admission Requirements

Requirements for high school classes:

- ✓ 4 years of English with composition, grammar, literature and speech
- ✓ 4 years of math including algebra, geometry, & trigonometry
- ✓ 2 years foreign language
- ✓ 2 years of lab science
- ✓ 1 year of US history
- ✓ Calculus or at least pre-calculus and computing also recommended



Physical Aptitude Exam

- Pull ups for men or Flexed Arm Hang for women
- Basketball throw from kneeling position
- Standing long jump
- 300 yard shuttle run
- Two minutes of push ups

- You can only take the test once
- Be prepared to pass





Nomination

- Required for all academies except Coast Guard
- From your senator, congressman, or the Vice-President
- 10 applicants vying for every nomination
- Application process is your opportunity to sell yourself
 - As a well-rounded student
 - Will succeed at an academy



Naval Academy Midshipman March



Nomination



Merchant Marines

What to do:

- Apply for every nomination for which you are eligible
 - 2 Senators
 - Your Congressman
 - Vice-President

- Begin seeking nominations in the Spring of your junior year
 - Don't delay!
 - There are deadlines – if you miss it, you missed it!



Acceptance Rates

- Getting into an academy is difficult.
- All your competitors are well qualified, just like you
- Acceptance rates:
 - West Point – 9%
 - Annapolis – 9%
 - Air Force – 15%
 - Coast Guard – 20%
 - Merchant Marine – 20%



Air Force Academy Cadets



Assistance

- Liaison officers at the military academies
- Staffers at congressional offices
- Academy savvy folks are happy to assist
 - Parent groups of current cadets
 - Academy grad





Prep Schools

- If grades or scores do not meet standards
- Some academies run their own prep school
- Others have programs in military schools
 - New Mexico Military Institute
 - Marion Military Institute





Prep Schools

- Provide the needed classes and training
- Their military program promotes success at the academy
- Will still need to go through nomination & appointment process
- Will have more of an “in” from the Prep Schools





Check on Learning

1. List the five U.S. Military Academies
2. What are some of the required high school classes?
3. Who do you write to for a nomination?
4. When should you write to them?
5. T/F – It's easy to get a nomination into an academy



ROTC

- B4. Discuss ROTC as a commissioning option for an active or reserve military career and how the ROTC programs work in the timing of your college degree. Know where to find ROTC information.



Reserve Officer Training Corps ROTC

- Commission at colleges and universities throughout the nation
- Cross-enrollment agreements with thousands more schools
- 2-4 year program, one class, one lab each semester
- Stipend for contracted cadets



Air Force ROTC Logo



Army ROTC Logo



ROTC

- Access to Simultaneous Membership Program with National Guard
 - Be in both, get paid, get training & experience
- ROTC Scholarships available
- 'Normal' college experience
- Summer training requirement
- No obligation the first two years
- Last two years focus on commissioning and signing a military contract
- Army, Air Force, Navy/Marine Corps



Navy / Marine Corps ROTC Unit



ROTC

- Go on-line to find ROTC programs in your area.
- Check the branch of service websites and local colleges and universities.
- Same general requirements apply for ROTC as other commissions:
 - Pass a physical exam
 - Be of high moral character
 - Meet the age requirements
 - Meet weight standards
 - Be enrolled in college while in the ROTC





Check on Learning

1. ROTC graduates receive what type of commission?
2. What rank can you earn while in the ROTC?
3. What is the main difference between your first two years of ROTC at college and the last two years?
4. Where to you find information about joining the ROTC?



NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES

B5. Discuss the option of a reserve component military career.

List the benefits and drawbacks of the reserves.

B6. Discuss how to enlist or attain a commission in the reserves.



Reserve Components

- Army National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Air Force National Guard
- Air Force Reserve
- Navy Reserve
- Marine Corps Reserve





Reserve Components

- Reserve is a **federal** program under each branch of services
- The National Guard is a **state** program falling under the Governor.
 - Federally recognized members of the US military
 - Works for the Governor in peacetime
 - Works for the President in times of war
 - Federal government pays about 95% of costs



Reserve Service

- After joining, assigned to a unit
- Active duty training to complete initial entry training
- Once trained, return to your unit
- Unit meets one weekend a month



- 2-week training event once a year
 - May be at a local training area
 - May be in support of an exercise somewhere
 - May be further individual training at a military base
- Initial 8-year commitment, 2 years of which may be inactive
- Great way to be in the military but still have a 'normal' life



Reserve Training

- Initial reservist training is exactly the same as active duty training
- Officer or enlisted, you are just as qualified as every other soldier/ airman / sailor / marine coming out of initial entry training
- Train up to 24 days on weekends and 15 days annually
- Attend only weeks of higher level training
- Active officers and NCOs attend months of higher level training



Reserve Training

- If mobilized for a real world mission, your unit is given more time to prepare for combat
- Reserve units may have different equipment from active units, but will receive everything needed if sent to combat





How to Join



- See a Reserve or National Guard Recruiter
- Requirements are the same as active duty recruits
- Options are less, depending where you are willing to go for your monthly training
 - Most people join units near their residence
 - Positions and skills are limited to what type of unit is near you
 - If you live in the desert and want to join the Navy Reserve, there may be a unit, but not a ship
 - Air units generally are on active or reserve bases
 - Army and Marine units are dispersed in communities
- Remember – You attend an initial entry training that takes you away from family, job and school for months.



Reserve Commissions

To be an officer in the Reserves/National Guard:

- Requirements are similar to active officer commissioning
- Age range is generally more lenient (you can be older)
- ROTC can commission reserve officers
 - There are guaranteed reserve assignments – get it in writing!
 - Not always available
- National Guard OCS requires a BA/BS or currently enlisted



National Guard OCS Candidates Receive their Commission



Check on Learning

1. Is the National Guard or Reserves a good option if you want a “normal” life?
2. How often do Guardsman and Reservists train?
3. T/F – National Guard or Reserve training is not as good as active duty training.
4. How do you join the National Guard or Reserves?
5. T/F – Officer Candidate School is not an option for Guardsman or Reservists.