

MILITARY OPTIONS

1. SERVICE ACADEMIES

The United States maintains five service academies: the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York; the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland; the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado; the United States Coast Guard Academy at New London, Connecticut; and the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York. The mission of the service academies is to provide the instruction and experience necessary to produce graduates with knowledge, character, and leadership abilities to become career military officers.

Websites:

www.usafa.edu - U.S. Air Force Academy

www.cga.edu - U.S. Coast Guard

www.usmma.edu - U. S. Merchant Marine Academy

www.usma.edu - U.S. Military Academy

www.usna.edu - U.S. Naval Academy

2. RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)

The ROTC program provides you the opportunity to attend a civilian college while studying military leadership as part of a total undergraduate program. ROTC is a college elective, which requires about four hours a week. It is offered at hundreds of campuses. Applications are available upon request from college ROTC units or on the websites.

www.goarmy.com/rotc/ - Army ROTC

www.afrotc.com - Air Force ROTC

www.navy.com/benefits/education/nrotc/ - Navy ROTC

3. MILITARY ENLISTMENT

Opportunities for enlistment in the military are plentiful. The five services offer over hundreds of schools and thousands of courses of instruction. This training and the experience that follows give the military veteran a real advantage in the civilian world.

Enlisting in military service right after high school is an option. The U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard provide job training in many fields, as well as opportunities for enlistees to take some college-level courses. The services can also help you build a college fund.

The U.S. National Guard consists of two components: the Army National Guard (ARNG) and the Air National Guard (ANG). Its mission is to serve the state in times of natural disaster or civil disturbance, and the nation in time of war. Flexible scheduling makes it possible for you to

combine service in the National Guard with work or school. The Guard meets one weekend per month and two weeks in the summer. U.S. National Guard also offers educational benefits.

Each service sets its own enlistment qualifications. Contact your local recruiters for information or visit their websites regarding qualifications and program opportunities.

Websites:

www.army.mil - Army

www.navy.mil - Navy

www.af.mil - Air Force

www.marines.com - Marine Corps

www.uscg.mil - Coast Guard

www.1800goguard.com - National Guard

For additional information see the Military Career Guide at www.todaysmilitary.com/careers