

Commissioning Programs

OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL (OCS)

State Officer Candidate School

If you already have at least two years of college credit, no prior service, and you meet the eligibility requirements, you can join the Army National Guard under the state Officer Candidate School (OCS) enlistment option. Current members who meet the eligibility criteria may also apply for state OCS. The state OCS program is 15 to 18 month course of instruction conducted from March to August the following year.

Upon successful completion of OCS, you will become a commissioned officer in the Army National Guard. To qualify for state OCS, you must meet the following eligibility requirements: have 60 college credit hours to enter the OCS program; complete 90 college credit hours to be commissioned; be less than 42 years at time of commissioning; meet citizenship requirements; sign a six-year enlistment contract; have a minimum score of 110 in the General Technical section of the ASVAB; be accepted in the program; and complete basic training. While enrolled in OCS, you are eligible for Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA), which pays 100 percent of your college tuition costs up to \$250 per semester hour. The total amount of FTA cannot exceed \$4,500 per member, per fiscal year for tuition and fees.

State Officer Candidate School Enlistment Option

- Have 60 semester hours to enter the program**
- Have a minimum 90 semester hours to be commissioned**
- Be less than 42 years old at time of commissioning**
- Enlist for six years and complete basic training**
- Be promoted to Staff Sergeant (E-6) while an officer candidate**
- Get up to \$4,500 of Federal Tuition Assistance per fiscal year**

**Become an Officer in the
Army National Guard**

Accelerated Officer Candidate School

The Army National Guard also conducts an eight-week accelerated OCS program for qualified personnel. To qualify, you must meet the requirement for the state OCS program and you must be a U.S. Citizen and have at least 90 college credit hours upon acceptance. There are four accelerated sessions each year. Candidates report for training and preparation during weekend drills in their home state prior to each session. There is a winter and summer session conducted at Fort McClellan, Alabama beginning in late January and mid-June; a summer session at Camp Meade, South Dakota beginning in late May; and a summer/fall session that begins the last week of July and ends the last week of September. The summer/fall session begins at Camp Fretterd, Maryland and concludes at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. Candidates are eligible for commissioning upon course completion pending federal recognition.

Federal Officer Candidate School

The Federal OCS program is an active army course at Fort Benning, Georgia. The program is conducted over a 12 week period. In order to qualify, you must meet all the requirements for the accelerated OCS program and in addition, those applicants without a bachelor's or higher degree must have an SAT score of 850 or higher (based on a possible score of 1,600 for the math and reading sections only) or ACT test score of 19 or higher.

For more information about any of the Officer Candidate Programs, contact your local Army National Guard recruiter or State Education Services Officer.

RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)

Army ROTC is a college elective that teaches you the skills needed for a successful career. You will combine classroom time with hands-on experience and learn leadership and management skills. Since ROTC is an elective, you can try it out for up to two years with no obligation. Whatever you decide, the experience you will gain in Army ROTC will give you the confidence you need to be successful in college and beyond. Whether you choose to pursue a career in the Army or in the corporate world, Army ROTC prepares you unlike any other college course you can take.

The Army ROTC scholarship program provides financial assistance for the education and training of highly qualified and motivated young men and women who desire to be commissioned as officers in the Army after graduation from college. Army ROTC scholarships pay 100 percent of tuition and fees or room and board. The room and board option pays up to \$10,000 per school year for those residing on-campus. Off-campus students who choose the room and board option receive an amount equal to the average room and board cost for an on-campus student at their college or university. Scholarship recipients also receive

a \$1,200 per year book allowance. Scholarships are awarded on merit and take into account such factors as academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and personal interviews. Scholarship recipients receive an allowance each academic month—for up to 10 months of each school year.

Amount of Monthly ROTC Allowance

Freshman	\$300.00 per month
Sophomore	\$350.00 per month
Junior	\$450.00 per month
Senior	\$500.00 per month

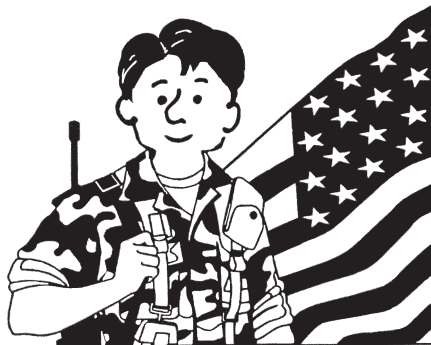
If not a scholarship recipient, cadets may participate in the ROTC program for up to two years before contracting—that is making a commitment to serve in the Army. All cadets, including those not on Army ROTC scholarships, are eligible to start receiving the monthly allowance beginning when they sign an ROTC contract. Let's look at some of the options available in the Army ROTC Program.

ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program

The Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) is a program that offers ROTC students hands-on experience in an Army National Guard unit. When you choose the SMP option, you are both a Soldier in the Army National Guard and student in the Army ROTC Program. Normally during the summer between your junior and senior years in college, you will attend the Army ROTC Leader Development and Assessment Course—also known as Operation WARRIOR FORGE—as well as participate in your Army National Guard unit's two-week annual training.

Once you have received your degree and have completed the ROTC program, you will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army National Guard. You will also receive credit for the time you have already served in the Army National Guard while in college.

Army leadership training equates to proven managerial experience in the civilian job market. As a cadet in the Simultaneous Membership Program, you will be assigned to train with a local Army National Guard unit. Most units train one weekend a month, leaving the rest of the month open for classes and study. While a member of a unit, you will learn valuable leadership skills that will benefit you for the rest of your life.



In addition, you will be paid at the grade of Sergeant (E-5) for your Army National Guard training. This means that you will earn more than \$265 per month during the school year, as well as active duty pay for annual training and pay for attending Operation WARRIOR FORGE. In addition, you will earn a monthly allowance as an ROTC Cadet during the academic year. The tax-free allowance is \$450 per academic month during your junior year and \$500 per academic month in your senior year.

Recent high school graduates can enlist in the Army National Guard and may elect to attend the ROTC Basic Course during their first two years of college, and then enter the SMP in their junior year. The ROTC Basic Course provides an opportunity to learn the same skills taught to freshmen and sophomores while attending Army ROTC classes on campus. Army National Guard Soldiers attending colleges that sponsor Army ROTC units, and who are at least academic sophomores, are eligible to apply for the SMP option. College students who are at least sophomores and qualify academically and physically may also be eligible. They must complete the Military Science course of instruction during their freshman and sophomore years or the compressed course during their sophomore year. They may also attend basic training or the five week Army ROTC Leaders Training Course during the summer before their junior year.

Eligibility Criteria For SMP:

- Be a U.S. citizen**
- Be contracted in the Army ROTC Advanced Course or contracted as a cadet (sophomore level)**
- Be eligible for enlistment or already a member of the Army National Guard**
- Attain sophomore class standing and be enrolled as a full-time student**
- Maintain at least a 2.0 GPA (2.5 GPA if recipient of a Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty or Dedicated Army National Guard Scholarship)**
- Be of good moral character**
- Meet height and weight standards**
- Be physically fit**
- Prior to enrollment, have completed basic training or an equivalent course of instruction.**

An Illustration: Army ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program

Jim has been serving in the Army National Guard and going to college full-time. He has already been promoted to E-4 in his National Guard Unit. Jim is aware that his college has an Army ROTC program. At the beginning of his junior year, he talks to the Professor of Military Science and decides that he would like to earn a commission in the Army National Guard.

The Army ROTC office coordinates with Jim's Army National Guard unit and Jim is enrolled in the SMP Program. He is now a cadet in his Army National Guard unit and is receiving pay as an E-5. He is also given additional leadership responsibilities in his unit. Back at school, Jim is attending classes in Military Science. These classes teach him leadership and military tactic skills that he will use initially at the end of his junior year during Operation WARRIOR FORGE and skills that he will continue to use for the rest of his life. The Army ROTC program pays Jim \$450 per month during his junior academic year to help with expenses (increases to \$500 per academic month during his senior year). In addition, if Jim is eligible for basic Montgomery GI Bill benefits, he would also receive the MGIB Kicker incentive since he is in an officer procurement program. The incentive is worth an extra \$350 per month during the academic year.

After attending Operation WARRIOR FORGE, Jim returns to college for his senior year where he will continue to attend Military Science classes that will help him when he graduates and becomes a second lieutenant in the Army National Guard.

Simultaneous Membership Program

- **Receive Pay for Monthly Drills and Annual Training**
- **Receive the ROTC Monthly Stipend**
- **Obtain Advanced Rank as an Officer Candidate**
- **Qualify for Possible Eligibility for an ROTC Scholarship**

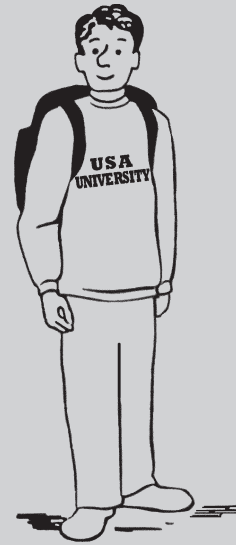
**Earn A Degree and
Become an Officer in the
Army National Guard**

Let's look at how much Jim can earn for college in the Simultaneous Membership Program:

Jim will earn a monthly paycheck from the Army National Guard for drill and pay for his two-week annual training. In four years he will earn about \$17,000.

The Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve pays Jim \$333 per academic month for up to 36 months. Under this program, Jim will earn \$11,988.

The Army National Guard also offers the Montgomery GI Bill Kicker. This incentive is worth an additional \$200 for 12 months while Jim is a freshman and sophomore. This equals \$2,400. When Jim becomes a member in the SMP, he is eligible for the increased kicker incentive for being in an officer procurement program. The incentive is \$350 for his remaining 24 months, which equals \$8,400. His total Montgomery GI Bill Kicker incentive is worth \$10,800.



Jim also receives an allowance from the Army ROTC program. The allowance is \$450 per academic month while Jim is a junior, and \$500 per academic month while Jim is a senior in the ROTC program. Total benefit is \$9,500.

Add in the Federal Tuition Assistance of up to \$18,000 that Jim may be eligible for and a \$5,000 to \$20,000 bonus for enlisting in the Army National Guard and the grand total is up to \$87,288.

Dedicated Army National Guard Scholarships

There is also a scholarship program available for students wishing to serve exclusively in the Army National Guard. The Dedicated Army National Guard Scholarship Program offers ROTC scholarships of up to three years. Upon graduation and commissioning as a second lieutenant in the Army National Guard, scholarship recipients incur an eight-year military service obligation. This scholarship program pays 100 percent of tuition and fees or room and board. In addition, scholarship recipients receive a \$1,200 book allowance. Cadets are required to participate in the Simultaneous Membership Program (discussed previously). The Montgomery GI Bill (Selected Reserve) may not be used with this program.

Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty Program

The Army ROTC program offers the Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty (GRFD) Program for cadets who want to serve in the Army National Guard. The Program is designed to attract cadets who are interested in obtaining a commission in one of the Reserve Components of the Army like the Army National Guard. Cadets electing the GRFD Program can compete for a GRFD Scholarship of up to two years that pays 100 percent of tuition and fees or room and board. In addition, scholarship recipients receive a \$1,200 annual allowance for books. Cadets are required to participate in the Simultaneous Membership Program (discussed previously), and may receive Montgomery GI Bill benefits if otherwise eligible. Upon graduation, cadets are commissioned and incur a military service obligation of eight years in a Reserve Component of the Army, such as the Army National Guard.

How Do Cadets Apply For GRFD and Dedicated ARNG Scholarships?

- **Cadets can apply through the Professor of Military Science (PMS) at their college or university**
- **Cadet Command will verify eligibility and notify the PMS of offers**
- **The PMS will award the scholarships**

Army ROTC Nursing Program

If nursing is your professional goal, there is no better place to begin your career than Army ROTC. Army ROTC offers you a unique opportunity to gain practical experience while you receive financial assistance for college. Nursing majors may compete for two, three or four-year scholarships. As an ROTC nurse cadet, you will combine college electives in military science and invaluable training experiences with your college nursing program. The Nurse Summer Training Program (NSTP) is a paid three week clinical elective for Army ROTC nurse cadets. An affiliated nursing school may award academic credit for this program. This elective is in addition to the required attendance at Operation WARRIOR FORGE and is conducted at Army hospitals in the United States and Germany. You get paid while attending NSTP, which is conducted during the same summer as Operation WARRIOR FORGE, usually between your junior and senior year of college.

List Of Schools That Offer Army ROTC

ALABAMA

Alabama A&M University
Auburn University
Auburn University - Montgomery
Jacksonville State University
Marion Military Institute
Tuskegee University
University of Alabama
University of Alabama - Birmingham
University of North Alabama
University of South Alabama

ALASKA

University of Alaska - Fairbanks

ARIZONA

Arizona State University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University -
Prescott
Northern Arizona University
University of Arizona

ARKANSAS

Arkansas State University
University of Arkansas
University of Arkansas - Pine Bluff
University of Central Arkansas

CALIFORNIA

California Polytechnic State University -
San Luis Obispo
California State University - Fresno
California State University - Fullerton
Claremont McKenna College
San Diego State University
Santa Clara University
University of California - Berkeley
University of California - Davis
University of California - Los Angeles
University of California - Santa Barbara
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California

COLORADO

Colorado State University
University of Colorado - Boulder
University of Colorado -
Colorado Springs

CONNECTICUT

University of Connecticut

DELAWARE

University of Delaware

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Georgetown University
Howard University
Marymount University

FLORIDA

Embry - Riddle Aeronautical University
Florida A&M University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida International University
Florida Southern College
Florida State University
University of Central Florida
University of Florida
University of South Florida
University of Tampa
University of West Florida

GEORGIA

Atlanta Metropolitan College
Augusta State University
Columbus State University
Fort Valley State University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia Military College
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Morris Brown College
North Georgia College and State
University
University of Georgia

HAWAII

University of Hawaii at Manoa

IDAHO

Boise State University
University of Idaho

ILLINOIS

Eastern Illinois University
Illinois State University
Northern Illinois University
Rush University

Southern Illinois University - Carbondale
Southern Illinois University -
 Edwardsville
University of Illinois - Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana -
 Champaign
Western Illinois University
Wheaton College

INDIANA

Ball State University
Indiana University - Bloomington
Indiana University - Purdue University
 Indianapolis
Purdue University
Rose - Hulman Institute of Technology
University of Notre Dame

IOWA

Iowa State University
University of Iowa
University of Northern Iowa

KANSAS

Kansas State University
Pittsburg State University
University of Kansas

KENTUCKY

Eastern Kentucky University
Morehead State University
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
Western Kentucky University

LOUISIANA

Grambling State University
Louisiana State University
Northwestern State University
Southern University and A&M College
Tulane University

MAINE

University of Maine

MARYLAND

Bowie State University
Johns Hopkins University
Loyola College
McDaniel College
Morgan State University
University of Maryland - College Park

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Northeastern University
University of Massachusetts
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

MICHIGAN

Central Michigan University
Eastern Michigan University
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Northern Michigan University
University of Michigan
Western Michigan University

MINNESOTA

Minnesota State University - Mankato
Saint John's University
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

MISSISSIPPI

Alcorn State University
Jackson State University
Mississippi State University
University of Mississippi
University of Southern Mississippi

MISSOURI

Lincoln University
Missouri State University
Missouri University of Science and
 Technology
Missouri Western State University
Truman State University
University of Central Missouri
University of Missouri - Columbia
Washington University
Wentworth Military Academy

MONTANA

Montana State University
University of Montana

NEBRASKA

Creighton University
Metropolitan Community College
University of Nebraska - Lincoln

NEVADA

University of Nevada - Reno

NEW HAMPSHIRE

University of New Hampshire

NEW JERSEY

Princeton University

Rutgers University

Seton Hall University

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Military Institute

New Mexico State University

University of New Mexico

NEW YORK

Canisius College

Clarkson University

Cornell University

Fordham University

Hofstra University

Niagara University

Rochester Institute of Technology

Siena College

St. Bonaventure University

St. John's University New York

State Univ of NY - College at Brockport

State Univ of NY - Plattsburgh

Syracuse University

NORTH CAROLINA

Appalachian State University

Campbell University

Duke University

East Carolina University

Elizabeth City State University

North Carolina A&T State University

North Carolina State University

Saint Augustine's College

University of North Carolina -

Chapel Hill

University of North Carolina - Charlotte

Wake Forest University

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota State University

University of North Dakota

OHIO

Bowling Green State University

Capital University

Central State University

John Carroll University

Kent State University

Ohio State University

Ohio University

University of Akron

University of Cincinnati

University of Dayton

University of Toledo

Wright State University

Xavier University

OKLAHOMA

Cameron University

Northeastern State University

Oklahoma State University

University of Central Oklahoma

University of Oklahoma

OREGON

Oregon State University

University of Oregon

University of Portland

PENNSYLVANIA

Bucknell University

Dickinson College

Drexel University

Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Gannon University

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Lehigh University

Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania State University

Shippensburg University

Slippery Rock University

Temple University

University of Pittsburgh

University of Scranton

Valley Forge Military College

Widener University

PUERTO RICO

University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez

University of Puerto Rico - Rio Piedras

RHODE ISLAND

Providence College

University of Rhode Island

SOUTH CAROLINA

Clemson University

Furman University

Presbyterian College
South Carolina State University
The Citadel
University of South Carolina
Wofford College

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota School of Mines
South Dakota State University
University of South Dakota

TENNESSEE

Austin Peay State University
Carson - Newman College
East Tennessee State University
Middle Tennessee State University
Tennessee Technological University
The University of Memphis
University of Tennessee - Knoxville
University of Tennessee - Martin
Vanderbilt University

TEXAS

Prairie View A&M University
St. Mary's University
Sam Houston State University
San Jacinto College South
Stephen F. Austin State University
Tarleton State University
Texas A&M University - College Station
Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
Texas A&M University - Kingsville
Texas Christian University
Texas State University
Texas Tech University
University of Houston
University of Texas - Arlington
University of Texas - Austin
University of Texas - El Paso
University of Texas - Pan American
University of Texas - San Antonio

UTAH

Brigham Young University
University of Utah
Weber State University

VERMONT

Norwich University
Southern Vermont College
University of Vermont

VIRGINIA

College of William and Mary
George Mason University
Hampton University
James Madison University
Norfolk State University
Old Dominion University
University of Richmond
University of Virginia
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia State University
Virginia Tech

WASHINGTON

Central Washington University
Eastern Washington University
Gonzaga University
Pacific Lutheran University
Seattle University
University of Washington
Washington State University

WEST VIRGINIA

Marshall University
West Virginia State University
West Virginia University

WISCONSIN

Marquette University
University of Wisconsin - La Crosse
University of Wisconsin - Madison
University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh
University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

WYOMING

University of Wyoming