

MONEY FOR COLLEGE. EXPERIENCE FOR LIFE.

Your education has a dramatic impact on the direction of your future. Studies show that people with college degrees are likely to earn substantially more during their lifetime than those without degrees. The difference could mean hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Education is a critical part of daily life in the U.S. Air Force because everyone must work at his or her top performance level. From on-the-job training to money for the finest colleges and universities, the Air Force offers a wide range of education assistance that can give you every opportunity to reach your full potential. And there may be no more inspiring way to continue your education than while serving your country.



COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE AIR FORCE (CCAF)

Every enlisted Airman is automatically enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force. And each year, approximately 18,000 Airmen earn their Associate of Applied Science degree through CCAF. It's the largest community college in the world and the only one in the Department of Defense.

CCAF documents your Air Force technical training and professional military education and allows you to earn a job-related associate's degree from a regionally accredited institution. It offers 67 degree programs serving more than 140 Air Force specialties.

For additional information on CCAF, visit www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf.

TUITION ASSISTANCE

Tuition assistance helps active-duty members pursue their educational opportunities at accredited colleges and universities. Classes may be taken on- or off-base or by distance learning. The Air Force will pay up to 100 percent of your tuition and fees.

MONTGOMERY G.I. BILL

Participants in the Montgomery G.I. Bill program have more than \$38,000 for educational expenses after completing three years of honorable active-duty service. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, flight training, apprenticeship/on-the-job training and correspondence courses. Generally, benefits are payable for 10 years following your release from active duty.

DISTANCE LEARNING

Air Force distance learning programs offer continuing education through career development courses, specialized courses and other approved materials for upgrade training. They also provide support to Air Force members for professional military education correspondence courses.

COLLEGE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (CLRP)

The College Loan Repayment Program is for non-prior service individuals who have federally insured college loans. Participants must sign up for this program when signing their Air Force enlistment contract. CLRP pays a maximum of \$10,000 per recruit and is subject to federal and state income taxes.

CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

Some Air Force jobs, such as electricians and emergency medical technicians, require certification or licenses. Individuals may be eligible for financial reimbursement. These credentials give Air Force members increased credibility and job opportunities when transitioning out of the Air Force.

DEGREE/OFFICER OPTIONS

As an enlisted member of the Air Force, there are several ways you can earn a bachelor's degree and become an Air Force officer.

- AIRMAN EDUCATION AND COMMISSIONING PROGRAM (AECP)

The AECP allows an active-duty enlisted member to receive regular pay while completing a bachelor's degree through Air Force ROTC and be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. AECP is only open to specific majors.

- AIRMAN SCHOLARSHIP AND COMMISSIONING PROGRAM (ASCP)

Airmen are released from active duty to complete a bachelor's degree through Air Force ROTC. They receive a scholarship and textbook allowances. Graduates are commissioned as Second Lieutenants and return to active duty.

 LEADERS ENCOURAGING AIRMAN DEVELOPMENT (LEAD) PROGRAM

Commanders nominate outstanding Airmen for appointment to the Air Force Academy Preparatory



School. Airmen attending this 10-month school have a greater chance for an appointment to the Air Force Academy.

 PROFESSIONAL OFFICER COURSE-EARLY RELEASE PROGRAM (POC-ERP)

Airmen who can complete a bachelor's degree and commissioning requirements within two years are released from active duty to enter Air Force ROTC. Individuals do not collect military pay or benefits during this period. Upon graduation they return to active duty as Second Lieutenants.



 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUTSTANDING AIRMEN TO ROTC (SOAR)

Commanders nominate outstanding Airmen for Air Force ROTC scholarships. Individuals receive two- to four-year scholarships depending on how many years remain in their bachelor's degree program. Graduates are commissioned as Second Lieutenants.

COLLEGE CREDITS TEST

Earning college credits can be as easy as taking a test. Many Air Force members successfully acquire credit hours simply by taking College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests, Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) tests and Excelsior College Examinations. Each base education service center maintains a current list of college tests available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

You owe it to yourself and your future to take advantage of the best educational opportunities available. When you join the Air Force, you'll truly discover the sky's the limit. For more information, talk to your Air Force recruiter.

Visit our website at AIRFORCE.COM or call 1-800-423-USAF

Information may have changed since publication. Please check with your recruiter for undates.