

# COMMISSIONED OFFICER/CONDUCTOR – UNITED STATES ARMY

**Application Deadline: Friday, January 18, 2013**

Army Band Officers are Active Duty Soldiers that rotate through a variety of positions throughout their careers. They serve at the Army's Special Bands and Large Army Bands.

Special Bands:

- The U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" (Ft. Myer, VA)
- The U.S. Army Field Band (Ft. Meade, MD)
- The United States Military Academy Band (West Point, NY).

Large Army Bands:

- The U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Band (Ft. Eustis, VA)
- The Army Ground Forces Command Band (Ft. Bragg, NC)
- The United States Army Europe Band and Chorus (Heidelberg, Germany)

Band Officers also hold administrative positions related to the Army Bands program, which may include a position at the Army School of Music (Virginia Beach, VA) or a Staff Bands Office (Ft. Bragg, NC).

Helpful attributes include:

- Bachelors degree in music (Masters preferred, but not required)
- Superior skills as a conductor
- Professional conducting or teaching experience
- Strong musical and military leadership skills
- Management skills

Army Band Officers are also known as Bandmasters, indicating their broad responsibilities as band "CEOs." Beyond programming, preparing, and performing music, they fulfill many administrative and logistical functions, performing the dual role of artistic director and manager. Whether marching in support of a military parade, providing chamber music for community events and educational institutions, or performing in concert halls, Army Bands offer an exciting and fulfilling opportunity to work with outstanding musicians in service to our country.

Officers in the Army exhibit self-discipline, initiative, confidence, and intelligence. They are physically fit and can perform under physical and mental pressure. Leaders make decisions quickly, always focus on successful mission accomplishment, and show respect for their subordinates and other military officers. They lead from the front and adjust to environments that are always changing. They are judged by their ability to make decisions on their own and bear ultimate moral and legal responsibility for those decisions.

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## Salary and Benefits

Starting salary is that of a Second Lieutenant. Military benefits include free medical and dental care for you and your family; housing allowance based on location; and 30 days paid vacation each year.

## Eligibility

All applicants must meet requirements to become a commissioned officer in the United States Army. Candidates without prior military service will attend Basic Training, Officer Candidate School (OCS), and the Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC). Candidates with prior Army service will attend OCS and BOLC only. After completing OCS requirements, candidates are commissioned and earn the gold bars of a Second Lieutenant.

## Requirements

To attend OCS, you must be:

- At least 18 years old but not older than 29. A waiver is available up to age 35 (ask a local recruiter). Prior-service applicants may have no more than 10 years Time-in Service.
- A U.S. citizen
- A college graduate
- Physically fit

Acceptance of a position requires a minimum three-year service in the United States Army. Anyone offered a position will be expected to pass the Army Physical Fitness Test and meet other standards required to become a commissioned officer.

## Auditions

Auditions will be by INVITATION ONLY at The United States Army Band “Pershing’s Own” located at Fort Myer, Virginia or The United States Army Field Band located at Fort Meade, Maryland. Send a résumé, a full-length photo, and a DVD of yourself conducting to:

MAJ Domingos Robinson  
Army School of Music  
ATTN: Officer auditions  
1420 Gator Boulevard  
Virginia Beach, VA 23459-2617  
(757) 462-7508  
[domingos.s.robinson.mil@mail.mil](mailto:domingos.s.robinson.mil@mail.mil)

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Your DVD should be the best representation of your conducting and rehearsal abilities. If your DVD is accepted you will be invited for a live audition in April or May 2013, and asked to contact a local recruiter to begin the OCS application process.

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The live audition is a two-day process. On day one, candidates will perform an audition on their main instrument or voice; candidates should choose one to two works that best represent their performance skills. The purpose of the applied audition is to get a sense of the candidate's overall musicianship. Candidates will also take a series of theory and aural skills tests; in addition, they will receive a piece of music to conduct the following day with the Concert Band. During the second day, candidates will conduct one piece each from Groups A and B; the three choral selections from Group C or D, depending on audition location (we provide), a piece with soloist and band (we provide), a standard march of your choice, and the National Anthem (we provide). Applicants may conduct the same music on the live audition as on the DVD, but it is not required. Orchestral, choral, or other repertoire may be used on the DVD if it is the best representation of their skills as a conductor.