

Veterans Benefits

"Army ROTC can help you make the most of the time you have already invested and the experience you have already gained in the military."

ROTC credit for military service

Your military experience could fulfill your credit requirements for the ROTC Basic Course. This means that, if credit is granted and provided you are not on a Army ROTC 3-year scholarship, you can skip the freshman and sophomore years of ROTC and enroll directly in the Advanced Course.

Financial help during college

You may be eligible to compete for an ROTC scholarship while you're in college. The scholarship pays for most tuition and on-campus educational fees which are required of all students, and provides a fixed amount for books, supplies, and equipment. It also provides an allowance of up to \$2,000 for each year the scholarship is in effect. Even if you don't win a scholarship, you will still receive the allowance for each year of the Advanced Course, along with your uniforms and military science textbooks and materials. In addition, all cadets are paid for attending Advanced Camp. If eligible, you may also collect any VA benefits to which you would normally be entitled.

Your age at commissioning

To be awarded an ROTC scholarship, you must be under 27 years of age on June 30th of the year you expect to graduate and receive your officer's commission. However, as a veteran, you may receive up to three years extension for your past military service.

If you do not win an ROTC scholarship, you must be younger than 30 years of age at the time you are commissioned. Requests for a waiver of age may be considered on an individual basis.

Join ROTC and the Guard or Reserve while you're in college

You may be able to take advantage of a program that allows you to participate in ROTC and enlist in the Army National Guard or Army Reserve at the same time, provided a vacancy exists in either a Guard or Reserve unit. It's called the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP), and it means that while you're still in college you can be gaining valuable experience and earning extra income. Under the SMP, you will be paid at the rate of at least a Sergeant E-5 for your Guard or Reserve service, and you'll receive the ROTC Advanced Course allowance as well.

You'll serve as an officer trainee in a Guard or Reserve unit and perform duties

commensurate with the grade of second lieutenant. After you are graduated and commissioned, you may continue your military service with your unit or apply for active duty in the U.S. Army.

Military service obligation

Following graduation, ROTC cadets are required to serve in the Active Army, Army National Guard or the Army Reserve.

All scholarship students will be required to serve in the military for a period of eight years. This obligation may be fulfilled by serving two to four years on active duty, followed by four to six years' service as citizen soldiers in the Army National Guard (ARNG), or U.S. Army Reserve (USAR), or by serving eight years in the ARNG or USAR preceded by a period necessary to complete the active component resident officer basic course (OBC).

Non-scholarship graduates may serve three years on active duty and five years as citizen soldier, or they may select, or be selected, to fulfill their total military obligation as citizen soldiers. If Reserve Forces Duty is selected, graduates will serve a period of active duty necessary to complete the active component resident OBC, and spend the remainder of the eight-year obligation in the ARNG or USAR.

For more information on ROTC programs, contact the [Recruiting Operations Officer](#) at 731-881-7682/7150.