

# U.S. MILITARY

## SIX BRANCHES OF MILITARY SERVICE

### ► U.S. Space Force ▼

Mission: "Organizing, training, and equipping Guardians to conduct global space operations that enhance the way our joint and coalition forces fight..."

Created in December 2019, this is the newest branch of the U.S. military.

### ► U.S. Air Force ▼

Mission: "To Fly, fight and win in air, space, and cyberspace."

Created in 1920 as the Army Air Force, this service became its own military branch in 1947.

### ► U.S. Army ▼

Mission: "To deploy, fight, and win our nation's wars by providing ready, prompt and sustained land dominance..."

Founded in 1775, this is the largest and oldest service. The Army conducts major ground combat operations using the most powerful, high-tech weapons, tanks, and fighting vehicles available.

### ► U.S. Coast Guard ▼

Mission: "To ensure our nation's maritime safety, security, and stewardship."

This is the smallest service in the U.S. military. It's roles include search and rescue, drug interdiction, marine environmental protection, and defense readiness.

### ► U.S. Marine Corps ▼

Mission: "As America's expeditionary force...the Marines are forward deployed to win our nation's battles swiftly and aggressively in times of crisis..."

Marines fight on land, sea, and air. They provide forces and detachments to naval ships and ground operations.

### ► U.S. Navy ▼

Mission: "To recruit, train, equip, and organize...combat ready Naval forces to win conflicts and wars while maintaining security and deterrence..."

The largest navy in the world, the U.S. Navy makes the seas safe for travel and trade. Aircraft carriers typically have 5,000 crew members.

## HOW CAN WE HELP?

Rockwood Summit's College & Career Center can help you decide if joining the military is the right path for you.

- Personal counseling with Ms. Hartman.
- Meet with a military recruiter from the branch(es) you're interested in.
- ASVAB testing is available through the Testing Coordinator Office at RSHS.

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## ACTIVE DUTY vs. RESERVE DUTY

The biggest difference between these options with the military is time dedication.

### *Active Duty* -

Think of this option as working at a full-time job. Active duty is a better option for individuals looking for a secure full-time job with numerous benefits. Active duty is a better option for those looking for a complete change.

### *Reserve Duty* -

Being in the reserves is more like having a part-time job. This option enables you to keep your civilian career while you continue to train near home. Reserve duty is a better option for those wishing to add adventure, learn new skills, and make extra money, without disrupting their current lives.

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## WHAT IS THE NATIONAL GUARD?

The National Guard is a unique element of the U.S. military reserves that responds to domestic emergencies, overseas combat missions, counterdrug efforts, reconstruction missions and more. Guard Soldiers hold civilian jobs or attend college while maintaining their military training part time. They may be called to duty at a moment's notice by the U.S. President or any state governor. Guard Soldiers' primary area of operation is their home state.

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## RESOURCES

[www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov)




[www.defense.gov/KnowYourMilitary/Our-Forces](http://www.defense.gov/KnowYourMilitary/Our-Forces)

[www.nationalguard.mil/](http://www.nationalguard.mil/)

[www.asvabprogram.com/](http://www.asvabprogram.com/)



# Are You Considering Enlisting in the Military?

-  If you're thinking of enlisting in the military, start with some research.
-  It's a big decision, and you'll have important choices to make when you sign up.
-  As an active duty enlisted member, you'll learn a job specialty and do hands-on work. You'll sign a contract, usually for four years active and four years inactive service.

The military has five branches: the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy. Each has its own focus, job specialties, base locations, and more.

## Requirements to Enlist

### Citizenship



U.S. citizen






or



Lawful permanent resident with a valid "Green Card" (You may have fewer job choices.)

### Age Limits

Enlist at 17 with parental consent, or 18 or older without. Each service has a different enlistment age limit:

				
Marines <b>28</b>	Coast Guard <b>31</b>	Army <b>34</b>	Air Force <b>39</b>	Navy <b>39</b>

### Education and Testing



High school diploma

or



GED (Your options may be more limited in some branches.)

Everyone must take the **Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)** test. It determines which branches and jobs you can pursue.

### Health and Fitness



Pass a physical exam and meet weight limits. Each service has different fitness standards.

## Steps for Enlisting

### 1 Contact a Recruiter

Get in touch with a recruiter for each branch you're interested in. They'll answer your questions.



### 2 Report to MEPS

If you decide to enlist, you'll spend a day at a military entrance processing station (MEPS). You'll take the ASVAB, have your physical exam, and meet with a career counselor. If you're accepted, you'll take the oath of enlistment.




### 3 Await Orders for Basic Training

You'll receive orders for basic training within a few weeks. If you enrolled in the delayed entry program, you'll get orders within a year.



To learn more and to find a recruiter, go to [usa.gov/join-military](https://usa.gov/join-military).

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## RECRUITER CONTACTS FOR RSHS STUDENTS

Our military reps may change assignments during the school year. For the most current list, please visit the Military page on our [website](#).

