Military Career Overview

Understanding Your Options Across All U.S. Military Branches

Agenda

- Branches of the U.S. Military
- Enlisted vs. Commissioned Officer
- Pay Overview
- Jobs & Branch Opportunities
- Pathways to Service
- Points of Contact

Branches of the U.S. Military

- Army - Land-based operations; largest branch with diverse career options
- Navy - Maritime service; operates ships, submarines, and aircraft
- Air Force/Space Force - Air and space operations; focuses on technology and aviation
- Marine Corps - Rapid-response force; specializes in amphibious and expeditionary missions
- Coast Guard - Protects U.S. waters through search and rescue, law enforcement, environmental protection, and homeland security missions

Enlisted vs Commissioned Officer

- Enlisted (Entry Level)
  - Core of the military workforce
  - Execute missions and perform technical, hands-on duties
  - Trained through Basic Training and job-specific schools
- Commissioned Officers (College degree required)
  - Lead, manage, and supervise military personnel and operations
  - Plan missions and make tactical and strategic decisions
  - Ensure unit readiness, discipline, and professional development
- Key Difference
  - Distinct training pipelines, responsibilities, and career paths

Grade	>2 Years	2	3	10	20
O-10	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$18,808.20
O-9	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$18,808.20
O-8	$13,380.00	$13,818.90	$14,109.30	$15,300.60	$17,917.20
O-7	$11,117.70	$11,634.00	$11,873.10	$13,140.00	$16,202.10
O-6	$8,430.90	$9,261.90	$9,870.00	$10,388.70	$13,247.70
O-5	$7,028.40	$7,917.30	$8,465.40	$9,564.90	$11,592.30
O-4	$6,064.20	$7,019.70	$7,488.90	$9,075.00	$10,125.00
O-3	$5,331.60	$6,044.10	$6,522.60	$8,069.10	$8,674.50
O-2	$4,606.80	$5,246.70	$6,042.90	$6,375.30	$6,375.30
O-1	$3,998.40	$4,161.90	$5,031.30	$5,031.30	$5,031.30
Grade	>2 Years	2	3	10	20
E-9	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$6,657.30	$7,808.40
E-8	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,690.70	$6,739.20
E-7	$3,788.10	$4,134.30	$4,293.00	$5,106.30	$6,017.10
E-6	$3,276.60	$3,606.00	$3,765.00	$4,585.20	$5,074.80
E-5	$3,001.50	$3,203.70	$3,358.80	$4,234.50	$4,259.70
E-4	$2,752.20	$2,892.90	$3,049.80	$3,341.40	$3,341.40
E-3	$2,484.60	$2,800.80	$2,800.80	$2,800.80	$2,800.80
E-2	$2,362.80	$2,362.80	$2,362.80	$2,362.80	$2,362.80
E-1	$2,108.10	$2,108.10	$2,108.10	$2,108.10	$2,108.10

Military Jobs

Enlisted

- Army
  - 149 Total MOS, **~30 Combat MOS**
- Navy
  - ~77 Total careers, **~8 Combat Careers**
- Air Force
  - 123 Total AFSC, **~7 Combat**
- Marines
  - ~300 Total MOS, **~30 Combat**
- Coast Guard
  - 21 Total careers, **~4 Combat/law enforcement related**
- Space Force
  - 14 Total careers, **no combat related roles**

Officer

- Army
  - 115 total MOS, **~7 Combat**
- Navy
  - ~53 Careers, **~6 Combat/Combat Related**
- Air Force
  - 58 Total AFSC**, ~6 Combat**
- Marines
  - ~27 Total MOS, **~4 Combat**
- Coast Guard
  - ~35 Total careers, **~4 Combat/law enforcement related**
- Space Force
  - 10 Total careers, **no combat related roles**

Enlistment Basic Requirements

- Age
  - Must be at least 17 years of age (with parental consent if under 18)
- Citizenship
  - U.S. Citizen or Lawful permanent resident (Green Card Holder)
- Education
  - Must have a high school diploma or GED
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)
  - Must take the ASVAB in order to qualify for specific MOS/Jobs
- Medical
  - Must be able to pass a medical examination

Commissioning Routes

- ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps)
  - Earn a college degree while training for a commission in your respective branch
  - Scholarships may cover tuition, housing, and books
- Service Academies
  - Attend a federal military academy (West Point, Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, Coast Guard Academy, Merchant Marine Academy)
  - Full Scholarship with 5-year service commitment after graduation
- OCS/OTS (Officer Candidate School)
  - For college graduates (prior service and non-prior)
  - Short, intensive leadership and military training program
- Direct Commission
  - For graduates in fields like medicine, law, or chaplaincy
  - Join as an officer based on your education and experience

Contacts (Enlistment)

- US Army and Army Reserves
  - SSG Jesse Yaw, (585) 353-7862
- NY Army National Guard
  - SSG Taylor Rouse, (585) 284-5995, taylor.j.rouse.mil@army.mil
- US Navy
  - NC1 Matthew Ciereck , (585) 640-1254 (cell), (585) 663-1749 (office), matthew.d.ciereck.mil@us.navy.mil
- US Marine Corps
  - SGT Justus Williams, (315) 427-7005, justus.williams@marines.usmc.mil
- US Coast Guard
  - HSC Lacy McMahon, (216) 327-8090, CGROBuffalo@uscg.mil
- US Air Force
  - SSgt Dylan C. Wisuri, (607) 368-5371
- US Space Force
  - SSgt Dylan C. Wisuri, (607) 368-5371

Contacts (Service Academies)

- **United States Military Academy**

Email: admissionsne@westpoint.edu
Website: https://www.westpoint.edu/admissions
Service Academy Representative: Mr. Zac Harrison, zachary.b.harrison@gmail.com

- **United States Naval Academy**

Email: inquire@usna.edu
Website: https://www.usna.edu/Admissions/index.php
Service Academy Representative: Commander Mike Higgins, higginsmd31@gmail.com

- **United States Air Force Academy**

Email: usafa.admissions.programs@usafa.edu
Website: https://www.academyadmissions.com/
Service Academy Representative: 2nd Lt. Naomie House, Naomie.House@afacademy.af.edu

- **United States Coast Guard Academy**

Email: Valentina.Giraldo-Torres@uscga.edu
Website: https://uscga.edu/admissions/
Service Academy Representative: Commander Jon Allen, JAllen63@rochester.rr.com

- **United States Merchant Marines Academy**

Email: admissions@usmma.edu
Website: https://www.usmma.edu/admissions
Service Academy Representative: Mr. Michael Bond, michaelabond@yahoo.com and Dean Erck, smerck54@yahoo.com

Additional Resources

- National Scholarship Boards:
  - Army- ROTC Scholarships | U.S. Army
  - Navy- Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps - NROTC Apply Now
  - Air Force- Apply Now | U.S. Air Force ROTC
  - Coast Guard-College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative (CSPI) Scholarship Program | United States Coast Guard