

Military Opportunities

There are many advantages of military service. **Immediate benefits** include educational and/or career training through graduate degrees, opportunity to become a commissioned officer through ROTC or military academies, travel, specific guaranteed training upon entry, a community with a variety of attractions, free medical and dental care, lower cost commissary and post exchange service, guaranteed pay, promotion opportunities, access to a cadre of trained consultants and counselors, and free legal assistance.

Long-term benefits may include the new G.I. Bill awards, scholarships and fellowships, pay bonuses, 30-day paid vacations every year, development of leisure-time skills, certain housing, medical, and educational services for families, low-cost life insurance, FHA loans, lifetime retirement benefits after 20 years of service, and job retention rights over all non-veteran federal workers.

Terms of Enlistments: There is a mandatory eight-year service obligation for all branches of the military, which is split between active duty and inactive reserve duty. The required proportion of time spent on the active duty and reserve duty varies with each branch of the military. Check with the military recruiters for details.

Qualifications All prospective recruits take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB). Test results on the ASVAB determine your qualifications for enlistment and for job training opportunities. The ASVAB is given at high schools or testing arrangements can be made with the military recruiters.