

# Army, Air Force, and Navy Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Programs

## Army ROTC Program

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The Department of Military Science offers the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps program. Military science is a program available to all undergraduate and graduate students, regardless of their college or major. The goal of the program is to develop leadership potential in men and women and to prepare them for an officer's commission in the Active Army, Army Reserve, or Army National Guard. The curriculum teaches principles of leadership and personnel management and seeks to develop leadership traits such as teamwork, responsibility, initiative, self-confidence, and discipline.

The Army ROTC program is conducted at Northeastern University. Army ROTC cadets at Northeastern participate in co-op as any other undergraduate Northeastern student.

Completion of the Army ROTC program will lead to a commission as a second lieutenant in the Army, Army Reserve, or the Army National Guard. The program consists of the basic course (freshman and sophomore years) and advanced course (junior and senior years). The program does not conflict with co-op schedules.

Enrollment in the basic course is voluntary and is open to all full-time students. However, only cadets formally enrolled in ROTC may participate in leadership labs, physical training, and practical field exercises. Students in the basic course do not incur a military obligation. Check with your academic department to ensure credits are accepted.

The advanced course is open to all qualified students who have basic course credit or equivalent military experience, as well as meet the Army's physical, medical, and age requirements. Contracted students (advanced course and/or scholarship) receive a monthly cash stipend while in school. Scholarship students also receive full tuition and fees as well as \$1,200 per year for books. Scholarships are merit based and are awarded as four-year, three-year, or two-year benefit packages.

### Classroom Instruction

Classes introduce cadets to military customs, courtesies, and traditions as well as military history and Army organization. Military science classes are held once a week.

### Leadership Labs

Leadership labs provide a performance-oriented learning environment in which cadets receive practical hands-on training opportunities to apply subjects from the classroom to the field. Labs are designed and supervised by ROTC instructors and administered by senior Army ROTC cadets.

### Field Training Exercises

Field training exercises build on classroom and lab experience by offering cadets the opportunity to refine their leadership skills while leading small groups in a variety of situations and exercises. Cadets participate in one weekend field training exercise each semester. The activities vary each semester and are held at several locations throughout Massachusetts. Field training exercises provide cadets with opportunities to train in teams, build their confidence, and test their skills in activities such as rappelling, land navigation, Situational Training Exercises, and on the Field Leadership Reaction Course. Contracted cadets are required to attend field-training exercises and noncontracted cadets are encouraged to attend.

### Physical Fitness Training

Physical training and health is an integral component of cadet development. It provides juniors and seniors with an opportunity to further develop their leadership and organizational skills by planning and administering a cadet fitness program that contributes to the overall well-being of each cadet. Physical conditioning is assessed with a diagnostic physical fitness test. An Army Master Fitness Trainer provides individual mentoring. As an individual responsibility, cadets are expected to exercise at times convenient to their individual schedules.

### ARMY NURSE CORPS ROTC PROGRAM

ROTC provides an opportunity for college nursing students to receive practical, hands-on leadership experience. The courses provide a chance for students to develop management, communication, and decision-making skills. ROTC also provides nursing cadets an opportunity to participate in the Nurse Summer Training Program. NSTP is a paid, three- to four-week, hands-on clinical elective for Army ROTC nurse cadets. This elective is conducted at more than 20 U.S. Army hospitals in the continental United States, Hawaii, and Germany. During the NSTP clinical elective, the cadet

receives experience under the direct supervision of a preceptor—an Army Nurse Corps officer who works with the cadet one-on-one. Scholarship nurse cadets receive a monthly cash stipend while in school as well as full tuition and fees and \$1,200 per year for books.

## **Navy ROTC Program**

The Navy ROTC unit is a six-school consortium that includes students from Boston University, Boston College, Northeastern University, Tufts, Harvard, and MIT. All Navy ROTC scholarships assigned to Northeastern are open to students in any major. The scholarship covers full tuition, mandatory fees, a \$375-per-semester book stipend, and a living stipend valued at \$250 per month that increases by \$50 each year up to \$400. Room and board are not included in the scholarship. Students on Northeastern's five-year program may apply for extended entitlements from the Navy for their fifth year, which may incur an additional service obligation. Upon graduation, students receive a commission as an officer in the Navy or Marine Corps and must fulfill a five- or four-year minimum active-duty commitment, respectively.

Navy ROTC students are required to take naval science classes in addition to their regular coursework. They must attend a weekly leadership laboratory on Wednesday mornings and group physical fitness sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. All classes, labs, and group workouts are conducted at Boston University or MIT. Students typically spend a total of six to eight hours per week participating in Navy ROTC-related activities. Additionally, scholarship students complete four summer training "cruises," or trainings, prior to graduation, each of which lasts approximately three to four weeks. The first cruise is conducted prior to the student's freshman year. This cruise serves as a new student indoctrination and takes place at Naval Station Great Lakes, Illinois. The other cruises are conducted during the student's subsequent summers onboard active-duty naval warships visiting numerous Navy commands in fleet concentration areas such as San Diego, California, and Norfolk, Virginia, or, for nursing students, at major naval hospitals around the country. For more information, visit the Boston University Division of Military Education (<https://www.bu.edu/rotc/navy/>) or contact the recruiting officer at 617.353.0474 or [navyrotc@bu.edu](mailto:navyrotc@bu.edu).

## **Air Force ROTC Program**

### **THREE- AND FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS**

College students join the three- or four-year Air Force ROTC program by registering for aerospace studies classes in the same manner as they do for other university classes. Students in the program attend a field training encampment during the summer between their second and third years. Students are in General Military Course during the first two years and the Professional Officer Course during the last two years.

First-year GMC academic classes focus on the functions, organizations, and heritage of the U.S. Air Force and Space Force. Second-year classes concentrate on leadership and teamwork fundamentals.

All GMC classes meet one hour per week. Complementing the academic classes, a weekly leadership laboratory introduces students to U.S. Air Force and Space Force customs, courtesies, drill and ceremonies, and team-building exercises. Guest lecturers, seminars, briefings, films, and practical experience are also included.

Students in AFROTC are expected to wear the uniform correctly and meet the grooming standards required of active-duty Air Force personnel. Students must wear the issued U.S. Air Force uniform to all aerospace classes and leadership laboratories.

Entry into the POC during the junior year of the AFROTC program is competitive. Factors considered include leadership potential, academic performance, field training evaluations, and results of a Department of Defense physical examination and the physical fitness assessment. Students must be in good academic standing with the university, have demonstrated motivation and potential for success as U.S. Air Force and Space Force officers, and meet U.S. Air Force physical standards.

POC students are expected to plan and conduct a leadership laboratory once a week. The time required varies depending on the responsibilities of the individual POC student. Aerospace studies class activities during the junior year center on management and leadership in a U.S. Air Force and Space Force setting. The senior year aerospace students' curriculum examines national defense policy and the military in American society. All POC academic classes meet three hours per week.

Completion of the POC typically incurs a four-year active-duty service commitment; 6- and 10-year commitments are required for certain "rated" (aviation) career fields. All POC students within scholarship standards are eligible to receive the Charles McGee Leadership Award, a scholarship of \$18,000 per year, capped at \$9,000 per semester. There is a \$300–\$500 per month, tax-free stipend for members of the POC, regardless of their scholarship status.

### **GRADUATE LAW PROGRAMS**

Students already attending law school wishing to serve as Air Force Judge Advocate Generals may apply for the program through the program site (<https://www.airforce.com/careers/specialty-careers/jag/>).

### **FIELD TRAINING**

For participants in the program, field training typically occurs during the summer between the second and third years and lasts approximately two weeks.

Field training is conducted at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and allows the cadet to test their leadership abilities firsthand in a structured military environment. Room, board, and travel expenses are provided.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Academic scholarships are available for those who qualify. There are two different scholarship programs, and both consist of tuition, textbooks, required fees, and a \$300–\$500 per month, tax-free stipend.

AFROTC offers numerous competitive scholarships to qualified individuals. High School Scholarship Program scholarships are awarded for three and four years. Applications are accepted starting the senior year in high school. Application forms are available online (<https://www.afrotc.com>). Scholarship applications are due by January 31st of the student's senior year in high school. More details are available on the AFROTC site (<https://www.afrotc.com>). Scholarships are also available for students already in college through the In-College Scholarship Program. In order to be eligible, students must be a member of the AFROTC program for a minimum of one semester. Students are nominated by ROTC staff and there is no application process for the in-college scholarships on the student's behalf. Students are nominated based on their GPA, AFROTC fitness score, and overall standing among peers. Nominees compete nationwide with other AFROTC cadets contingent on scholarship availability. Additional information on AFROTC scholarship opportunities can be found on the AFROTC site (<https://www.afrotc.com>).

#### **AFTER COMMISSIONING**

Upon graduation from the university and completion of AFROTC courses, cadets will commission as second lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force or Space Force. All AFROTC graduates are expected to serve on active duty.

When their active-duty service commitment is complete, officers may either continue on in career status or return to civilian life.

Military assignments are made based on the needs of the Air Force and Space Force, the officer's interests, and academic background. Effort is made to match the graduate with the job they are most interested in pursuing.

Those who want to attend graduate school may apply for an Air Force-approved educational delay from active duty. Selection for an educational delay is based primarily on the strength of the applicant's undergraduate academic record and the needs of the U.S. Air Force or Space Force.