

WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW



ARMY OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR ARMY SOLDIER



ADVANCED SKILLS

- More than 150 careers to choose from in the active Army
- More than 120 careers to choose from in the Army Reserve
- Army ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps) graduates enter into the Army as officers
- Hands-on leadership experience
- Problem-solving and strategic skills

MONEY FOR SCHOOL

Soldiers always seek self-improvement. The Army offers several options for Soldiers to pursue a college education. Discipline and dedication to academic goals will lead to future success.

- Up to \$4,500 a year in tuition assistance while in the active Army or Army Reserve
- Eligibility for the new Post 9/11 GI bill with expanded education benefits
- Up to \$66,852 for college using the Montgomery GI Bill and can elect for Post 9/11 GI Bill with no cap for tuition. For most colleges this would equate to approximately \$87,880
- Up to \$65,000 to pay back qualifying student loans
- Army ROTC merit-based scholarships

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS

Since 2009, the Army has supported religious accommodation requests requiring a waiver for uniform wear and grooming. These accommodations have largely fallen into one of three faith practices: the wear of a hijab; the wear of a beard; and the wear of a turban or under-turban/patka. As of March 2017, the Army has officially updated its wear and appearance standards to support these religious accommodations.

With so many education and career choices available for America's youth, you want to help your son or daughter to maximize his or her potential. Now more than ever, the U.S. Army helps young adults achieve their personal, career and academic goals. Becoming a Soldier will provide your son or daughter with an opportunity to pursue a college education while enjoying job stability.

The following information will help you learn more about what the Army can do for your son or daughter.

LESSONS FOR LIFE

As a Soldier, your son or daughter will learn about Army values such as loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage. To a Soldier, these are not just words; they are a way of life. These values help a Soldier think for him or herself, lead others and overcome obstacles. The Army encourages service to community and to country; promotes confidence and self-esteem; and upholds the values of discipline and hard work. That foundation helps an Army Soldier achieve success in both the military and in civilian life.

SKILLS FOR WORK

Considered one of the most highly trained and skilled workforces in the world, the Army offers a variety of career fields, including nursing, communications, mechanical maintenance and engineering. Soldiers work with the latest technology and are trained by some of the best experts in the field. The experience Soldiers gain while in the Army makes them more valuable in the civilian job market. Through dedication and hard work, Soldiers prepare for future success.

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WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW (Continued)

BENEFITS OF SERVICE

Your son or daughter will find serving in the Army isn't an easy job, but it is one of the most rewarding. Included are valuable benefits such as job training, generous monetary compensation and health coverage. The Army is committed to taking care of your son or daughter.

ACTIVE ARMY

- Medical and dental care
- 30 days of vacation with pay earned each year
- Eligibility for Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)* - similar to a 401(k)
- Up to a \$40,000 enlistment bonus
- Priority consideration for future employment with the Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) program**

ARMY RESERVE

- Travel opportunities
- An extra paycheck every month
- Eligibility for Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)* - similar to a 401(k)
- Up to a \$20,000 enlistment bonus
- Priority consideration for future employment with the PaYS program**

ARMY ROTC

- Entry into the Army as an officer
- Full tuition scholarships
- Up to a \$5,000 annual stipend
- Up to a \$20,000 enlistment bonus
- Generous textbook allowance

* The TSP is a long-term savings and retirement plan. TSP contributions are tax-deferred like a 401(k) plan. TSP savings belong to your son or daughter even if he or she does not serve the 20 years ordinarily necessary to receive uniformed services retired pay. Visit goarmy.com for more information about TSP.

** The U.S. Army Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) program is a strategic partnership with corporate, state and federal agencies that benefits the nation, the Army, industry and the Soldier. Future Soldiers are guaranteed two job interviews with their selected agency at the end of their Army Reserve training or first term of enlistment. Army ROTC cadets are also eligible to enroll in PaYS. Visit www.armypays.com for more information.

WAYS TO SERVE

Your son or daughter has plans for the future. That's why the Army offers several ways to serve - active Army, Army Reserve and Army ROTC. These options allow your son or daughter to meet his or her career goals. All paths lead to rewarding experiences.

ACTIVE ARMY requires a full-time commitment for a set amount of time. After Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training, Soldiers receive their assignments in the continental United States or overseas in locations ranging from Germany to Korea.

ARMY RESERVE allows for training close to home so Soldiers can fulfill work and family commitments and be ready to serve if called. **ARMY ROTC** is for college students who want to enter the Army as officers. Besides learning great leadership skills, your son or daughter may earn a merit-based scholarship.

THE NEXT STEP

It's a lot of information, and it's a very big decision. There's an Army recruiter in your area who can answer questions and discuss the best options for your son or daughter - straight talk about Army life from someone who's been there. Your local Army recruiter can answer questions about Army careers, pay and education benefits. With the options and opportunities found in the Army, this career choice offers a rewarding lifestyle.

Visit goarmy.com for more information about the Army.