

2014-2015 Air Force ROTC Counselor's Guidebook



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“Accept the challenges so that you can feel the exhilaration of victory.”

– Gen. George S. Patton Jr.

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Basic Scholarship Eligibility:

- Be a U.S. Citizen or be able to obtain citizenship prior to scholarship activation
- Graduate from a high school or have an equivalent certificate
- Be 17 years of age prior to scholarship activation
- Be under 31 years of age as of December 31 of commissioning year
- Cannot be enrolled full time at a university or college (except for joint high school/college programs)
- Meet minimum academic standards:
 - SAT (Math/Critical Reading portions only): 1180
 - ACT Composite: 26
 - Cumulative GPA: 3.0 (on 4.0 un-weighted scale)
- Complete the Air Force Physical Fitness Assessment (Crunches, Push-Ups, and a 1.5 Mile Run) and submit Letter of Certification
- Meet medical requirements for service in the armed forces

Note: Students who do not meet academic/physical fitness assessment standards can still participate in Air Force ROTC while in college and may be able to compete for an in-college scholarship during their freshman and/or sophomore year.

*Information subject to change without notice.

This booklet is intended to inform you of all the options available to your students who are interested in Air Force ROTC or any other Air Force commissioning source and. For students who are planning on attending college, I can be their point of contact as they work on the Air Force ROTC scholarship application or if they have any other questions pertaining to Air Force ROTC in general. For any students who are interested in applying to the Air Force Academy or any other service academy I can put them in touch with an Air Force Academy Liaison Officer. Additionally, for those students who are interested in enlisting right out of high school instead of college I can put them in touch with an Air Force Recruiter to discuss their options.

First off, let me give you a general understanding of what Air Force ROTC is all about. Students who are enrolled in the AFROTC program attend one of 1,100 college and universities across the continental United States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico that offer AFROTC – in pursuit of a bachelor degree. In addition to their regular classes, these students attend a weekly Aerospace Studies class, Leadership Laboratory, and physical training each semester. In their Aerospace Studies class students learn about everything from a basic introductory to the Air Force/military life and history of the Air Force (freshman and sophomore years) to a more focused look at leadership and preparation for active duty (junior and senior years). While in the Leadership Laboratory students get taught the skills of becoming a good follower/leader and essential teamwork skills. The minimum time commitment is approximately 5 hours for freshman and sophomores and 6 for juniors and seniors; however, there are much more opportunities for additional events if the student has time. Ultimately, AFROTC is an officer training program, and while students who sign up for the program (not on scholarship) are **not** signing a contract with the military until after they go to training typically between their sophomore and junior year, the end result of successful completion is a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. They will then start an exciting and elite career in the Air Force as one of many career fields – which can be found at www.afrotc.com.

To apply for a scholarship, students simply need to visit www.afrotc.com and go to the “Scholarships” tab at the top and select “Application Process Overview.” From there click on the hyperlink in the first bullet that says “Submit your online application,” from there it will take you to the home page for starting an online application. For interested students, **this must be completed by December 1st of their senior year**. There is some additional information that they will need to send us – including an official copy of their transcript, SAT/ACT scores, and a few additional items that are listed on the “Application Process and Overview” section of our website. After they have completed all required items, the scholarship board will look at their course load (specifically for AP classes), class rank, standardized test scores, and GPA. Please note that all information and requirements are subject to change without notice based on Air Force needs.

Feel free to call me at (336) 285-4871, or by email at goldbar605@afrotcadmissions.com at any time if I can assist you or one of your students.

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AFROTC Admissions Officer

Air Force ROTC Program Overview

The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) provides qualified candidates the opportunity to become an officer in the United States Air Force while completing their undergraduate degree. The program combines traditional undergraduate education with military instruction and will prepare those students to tackle the leadership challenges awaiting in the Air Force and the United States in the 21st century. With over 1,100 college and universities nationwide, we are confident that that every student can find a program tailored to their individual abilities and goals.



Photo Credit: USAF ROTC Facebook Page

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

High School Seniors: Air Force ROTC offers an excellent scholarship program for highly qualified and motivated high school seniors. Many of these pay full tuition and all scholarships include a book and tax-free monthly stipend during the academic year. The scholarship application period runs from approximately June of their junior year to December 1st of their senior year. Competition is highly competitive and based on the whole-person concept (i.e., GPA, SAT/ACT scores, demonstrated leadership, athletics & volunteer/community service work). Engineering scholarships are

awarded in the aeronautical, aerospace, architectural, astronautically, civil, computer, electrical, environmental, and nuclear engineering fields. Other science majors can receive scholarships in fields such as chemistry, computer science, mathematics, meteorology, nuclear physics, or physics are available. Approximately 80% of scholarships are awarded to technical degrees. Students can also compete for scholarships in any of the following languages: Arabic, Baluchi, Chinese/Amoy, Chinese/Cantonese, Chinese/Mandarin, Chinese/Wu, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Javanese, Korean, Pashto-Afghan, Persian-Afghan, Persian-Iranian, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Turkish, Turkmen, or Urdu. If these majors aren't a right fit for you, there are also a small number of scholarships reserved for non-technical/non-foreign language majors. To find out more information on the High School Scholarship Program (HSSP) please visit: www.afrotc.com.

In-College: If a student is not awarded a scholarship through the HSSP, they can still join the AFROTC program and compete for one of the in-college scholarship opportunities. The In-College Scholarship Program (ICSP) is where Air Force ROTC cadets compete for a 3 year scholarship and is based on merit; students must be a U.S. citizen, be at least 17 years of age when the scholarship starts and be able to commission before December 31st of their 31st birthday, have a passing Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (like the SAT/ACT), have a passing Air Force Physical Fitness Assessment, and be medically qualified for active duty service (accomplished once you are in the AFROTC program). To find out more information please visit www.afrotc.com or contact your local AFROTC Detachment.

Curriculum

As an AFROTC cadet, students may pursue any of the academic opportunities available at the college or university. Along with the required university courses, each cadet must enroll in one AFROTC class per semester (or quarter) through the Department of Aerospace Studies. There are over 145 host schools that have AFROTC Detachments and over 1,100 additional schools that have “cross-town” agreements that allow their students to complete the AFROTC program through a nearby “host” school. This course, along with a weekly leadership laboratory and (2) one-hour physical training sessions, provide the framework for your officer training.

Leadership Laboratory: In AFROTC, we do not simply teach cadets about leadership, we give them the chance to put that learning and knowledge into action and practice. The weekly leadership laboratory is a cadet-run activity, planned and carried out by the upper-class cadets (junior and senior cadets) with activities ranging from drill and ceremony instruction, physical fitness training, sports competition, guest speakers, and much more. Besides conducting leadership laboratories, cadets will help lead and manage the cadet wing to prepare them for their future responsibilities as a second lieutenant.

General Military Course: The first two years of the program (or one for cadets who join in their sophomore year of college) is the General Military Course (GMC). It requires one hour of classroom work, the two-hour leadership laboratory, and two physical training sessions each week. This one-credit class introduces cadets how the Air Force is structured, what it means to be an officer, Air Force history, and military customs and courtesies. It presents a solid

overview of military life without taking an excessive amount of time from the cadet’s other scholastic activities. Cadets are also taught many skills that will help them succeed in college and beyond (whether or not they decide to stay in the Air Force or get out and go into the civilian sector) such as time management skills, team work, leadership and communication skills (to name a few). Additionally, **unless** cadets are on an Air Force scholarship, they **do not** incur any military commitment while in this course.

And while the GMC is an outstanding opportunity to try out the Air Force at no obligation, it is also the time for cadets to prove that they have what it takes to become a leader in the Air Force. Everything that cadets achieve during this time – GPA, physical fitness, and cadet performance – will be evaluated. Everything cadets demonstrate - their leadership, dedication, and commitment - will be assessed by the active duty cadre at their respective detachment. By the end of their sophomore year, cadets will be ready to compete for entry into the next phase of the program – Field Training.

Field Training: Field Training is an approximately three week summer course at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama that evaluates each cadet’s leadership potential. Cadets attend this program between their sophomore and junior year and gives them a first-hand look at the active duty air Force and develops their military leadership and discipline. Cadets are given numerous orientation briefings, junior officer education, survival skills, marksmanship, and physical fitness training. When they finish, cadets will be ready to return to their schools and assume a position of leadership within the cadet wing.

Professional Officer Course: The Professional Officer Course (POC) is a three credit academic course that requires three hours of classroom work each week in addition to the leadership laboratory and physical training. During their last two years in the program, cadets focus on leadership and management training, communication skills, and study national defense policy. All students who enroll in the POC receive a monthly, non-taxable stipend whether on scholarship or not.



Photo credit: USAF ROTC Facebook Page

Optional Summer Programs: Cadets also have the opportunity to compete for exciting optional summer training programs that AFROTC offers. Cadets can return to Field Training as a Cadet Training Assistant where they go back to help train and have an impact on the future officers of the Air Force. There are also opportunities for cadets who are interested in becoming a Special Tactics Officer or Combat Rescue Officer.

Other Activities: Throughout the course of the school year other activities take place to help cadets get a better understanding of what the Air Force has to offer and have fun. These activities may include base visits, static displays of aircraft, Dining Outs/In (a formal ball that is rich in Air Force and military history), and many more. The best way to find out what activities each

detachment does is to go in and shadow a cadet for a day and figure out what the life of a cadet is really like.

Qualifications

Cadets don't need to be on scholarship to join Air Force ROTC. As long as they meet the requirements below, students can still join AFROTC once they start college.

To enroll in the GMC, students must be:

- Be a full-time student at participating school
- At least 17 years old
- Be in good physical condition
- Be of high moral character

To enroll in the POC, cadets must also:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be at least 18 years old (17 with parent consent)
- Be physically/medically qualified
- Have at least three academic years remaining
- Pass the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test
- Attend and pass Field Training

Benefits of Being an Air Force Officer

The Air Force offers the opportunity to serve your country in a challenging and exciting career. Some of the many available career fields include: pilot, combat systems officer, air battle manager (responsible for controlling the skies) meteorologist,

engineer, logistics, communication, scientist, intelligence, security forces, personnel, maintenance, attorney, finance, public affairs, space and missile officers and many more. For a full list of Air Force Officer careers please visit www.afrotc.com. Essentially, if you can think of a career in the civilian world, there is most likely an equivalent in the Air Force.

Military service offers outstanding benefits including:

- Benefits package that exceeds most Fortune 500 companies
- 30 days paid vacation every year
- Free medical and dental care
- Low-cost, long-term life insurance up to \$400K
- Starting salary of around \$34K in basic pay plus additional housing/food allowances
- Opportunity to retire in 20 years with 50% of your base pay
- World travel opportunities
- Space-available world travel at nominal rates
- Up to 100% post-grad education cost covered by tuition assistance

For a full list of benefits and pay please visit www.afotc.com .



Photo credit: www.af.mil

What's the Obligation?

After graduating from college and successfully completing all Air Force ROTC requirements, cadets will receive a commission as a Second Lieutenant with an obligation of four years of active duty service in the Air Force. Pilots incur a ten-year service commitment and navigators incur a six-year commitment because of the additional training they receive.

Past Year Performance Average

Even though the basic requirements for attaining a high school scholarship are:

- SAT (Math/Critical Reading portions only): 1180
- ACT Composite: 26
- Cumulative GPA: 3.0 (on 4.0 un-weighted scale)

Those are just the minimums, the program is highly competitive and the national averages for selection this past year were as follows:

	Type 1	Type 2	Type 7
SAT	1435	1324	1278
ACT	32.7	30.1	28.6
GPA	3.91	3.79	3.77

Information from www.afrotc.com

Schools That Offer Air Force ROTC in North Carolina:

*Schools in **bold** are the host detachments where the Air Force ROTC activities take place. Schools not in bold are “cross-town” schools that have agreements to honor Air Force ROTC course work and allow students enrolled in their schools to participate in AFROTC at the host school. Students are responsible for transportation to the host school. Cross-town schools change often; check with the host school AFROTC detachment for more information.*

Duke University AFROTC Det 585

North Carolina Central University

University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill AFROTC Det 590

University of North Carolina – Charlotte ARTOC Det 592

Belmont Abby College

Catawba College

Catawba Valley Community College

Central Piedmont Community College (GMC)

Davidson College

Gaston College (GMC)

Johnson C. Smith University

Lenoir-Rhyne College

Livingston College

Mitchell Community College (GMC)

Pfeiffer University

Queens College

University of South Carolina-Lancaster

Wingate College

Winthrop College

Gardner-Webb University

York Technical College

South Piedmont Community College

Cleveland Community College

Stanly Community College

Cabarrus College of Health Sciences

Carolinas College of Health Sciences

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

North Carolina State University

AFROTC Det 595

Meredith College

Peace College (GMC)

Saint Augustine

Shaw University

East Carolina University AFROTC Det 600

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

University of Mount Olive

Central Michigan University

North Carolina A&T State University AFROTC Det 605

Bennett College

Elon University

Greensboro College

Guilford College

Guilford Technical Community College

High Point College

University of North Carolina, Greensboro

Winston-Salem State University

Wake Forest University

Salem College

Forsyth Technical Community College

Randolph Community College

Fayetteville State University AFROTC Det 607

Methodist University

UNC-Pembroke

Important Deadlines for High School Scholarship Program (HSSP)

~ **June** of student's junior year

- High school scholarship program cycle begins

December 1st of student's senior year

- Last date for high school students to apply for HSSP
- Online application must be completed before additional forms

For Students applying for a Scholarship Fall 2014 - December 6, 2014

- Last day for applicants to take SAT in time to have scores submitted

For Students applying for a Scholarship Fall 2014 - December 13, 2014

- Last day for applicants to take ACT in time to have scores submitted

January 9, 2015 of student's senior year

- Last date to get SAT/ACT scores and GPA in to be considered for HSSP board
- Last date for PFA scores and Letter of Confirmation to be submitted

May 31st of student's senior year

- Final date for HSSP winners to submit the Air Force ROTC Scholarship Statement of Intent and a copy of the letter of admissions to the academic major identified on the scholarship offer from a school offering the Air Force ROTC Program. Forms may be EITHER faxed or mailed.

High School Scholarship Program Majors

Technical Majors

- Aeronautical Engineering
- Aerospace Engineering
- Architectural Engineering
- Architecture
- Astronautical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electrical Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Meteorology/Atmospheric Sciences
- Nuclear Engineering
- Nuclear Physics
- Operations Research
- Physics

Nontechnical Majors

- Nursing
- All other majors

Foreign Language Majors

- Arabic
- Baluchi
- Chinese, Amoy
- Chinese, Cantonese
- Chinese, Mandarin
- Chinese, Wu
- Hindi
- Indonesian
- Japanese
- Javanese
- Korean
- Pashto-Afghan
- Persian-Afghan
- Persian-Iranian
- Punjabi
- Russian
- Somali
- Turkish
- Turkmen
- Urdu

High School Scholarship Program Applicant Checklist

- Submit online application by 1 December 2014
- Download forms/collect information from confirmation email
 - Counselor Certification/Copy of Transcript (unofficial or official – 9th-11th grades only)
 - Resume
 - Extracurricular Activity Sheet
 - Physical Fitness Test (Note that other service branches PFT to include the U.S. Air Force Academy's Fitness test do NOT count for AFROTC)
 - SAT and/or ACT scores
- Submit signed counselor certification and high school transcripts (9th-11th grades only).

Note: Must have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA to meet scholarship criteria. Must scan and upload the signed copies online, faxed copies ARE NOT accepted. Must be submitted by 9 January 2015 – NO exceptions.

- Submit SAT and/or ACT scores
 - Scores may be submitted electronically through the SAT or ACT agencies by using AFROTC Test Code 0548

Note: Must have at least 1180 SAT or 26 ACT (writing test not included) to meet scholarship criteria. Can either print them direct from agency websites (i.e., collegeboard.com or act.org) and then UPLOAD them online even though they may say/be “unofficial.” This is in addition to entering the SAT/ACT scores and GPA electronically in the fields provided on the online application. Must be submitted by 9 January 2015 – NO exceptions.

Following Step Is Contingent Upon Meeting All Qualifications

- Receive contact from Detachment and schedule interview with Air Force Officer.

If Scholarship Is Awarded And Accepted

- Complete Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) – Medical exam
- Meet AFROTC Physical Requirements
- Pass the Physical Fitness Assessment
- Pass the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT)
Note: The AFOQT is a standardized test similar to the SAT/ACT used to determine academic aptitude of becoming an officer in the Air Force and also used for determining eligibility of Pilot, Combat Systems Officers, and Air Battle Managers.

Important Note: If you do NOT receive a scholarship, you are still able to – and are encouraged to – take Air Force ROTC classes beginning your freshman year and college and apply for one of the in-college scholarships available (depending on funding and needs of the Air Force these scholarships may be extremely limited or non-existent).

Application Process Tips

1. Apply early, don't wait until December 1st at 11:59pm to submit your application
 - This allows you to have time to resolve any problems that you may have with your application after it's sent in.
 - You will be prepared to accept any scholarship major Air Force ROTC offers.
2. Contact your admissions representative early and keep in touch often. This is what they are there for; if you have questions they can answer them and ensure that you are set up for success not only on your scholarship but also the AFROTC program in general.
3. Take the SAT and/or ACT early and often. This gives you the opportunity to increase your scores and give yourself the best possible chance at a scholarship. The last dates to take the tests are 6 December 2014 for the SAT and 13 December 2014 for the ACT in time to have the scores submitted by the 9 January 2015 deadline to have the scores in.
4. Periodically check on the status of your application online; this gives you the best chance at catching problems with your application or required additional information that you may need to submit.
5. Prepare for your interview. Just like any job interview make sure that you look sharp and be confident. Practice with a friend, parent, teacher, etc. Perhaps bring a one page resume and extracurricular activity sheet.
6. Be patient, but be proactive. Understand that the process takes time, however don't sit around and wait on your next steps; know what you have to do and get it done.
7. Keep copies of everything you submit.
8. Send mail certified with a return receipt to ensure your forms make it where they need to go.
9. Do not be discouraged if you do not receive a scholarship. Many very successful students did not receive a high school scholarship and went on to be top cadets in their respective detachments.
10. Most of all, remember what you're striving for and keep working towards it! If you elect to pursue a commission in the Air Force and complete all the requirements you will have one of the most rewarding and exciting careers in the world waiting for you.