



Air Force

Cross Into the Blue

www.airforce.com

Despite what some may think, the Air Force is not all about planes and pilots. Though they have that too, the Air Force features careers for almost every interest and skill, ranging from construction trades and warehouse management to medical technicians and law enforcement.

When you enter the Air Force, you're automatically enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force, where you can work toward your associate degree in five career areas: aircraft and missile maintenance, electronics and telecommunications, allied health, logistics and resources, and public and support services. The classes,

which are a combination of on-duty and voluntary off-duty courses, are free to all enlisted members of the Air Force.

Air Force Tuition Assistance (TA) program is designed to help active-duty personnel pursue voluntary, off-duty educational opportunities. The program pays 100 percent (up to \$250 per semester hour or equivalent) of the cost of college courses with a limit of \$4,500 a year. Courses and degree programs may be academic or technical and can be taken from two- or four-year institutions, on or off base, or by correspondence.

And, these opportunities are on top of a salary, housing and food allowance, health care benefits and 30 days of paid vacation.

Marines

The Few, The Proud

www.marines.com

The Marines are a challenging and demanding branch of the armed services known for mentally and physically rigorous requirements. Not everyone is cut out to be a Marine, but those who do make it are considered part of an elite group.

As a Marine, you'll work in one of more than 30 career fields, with jobs ranging from computer programming and network engineering to aviation technology, communications, and crime prevention and investigation. Your salary will include housing and paid vacation as well as medical insurance.

After completing a contract of at least 36 months, you are eligible for the Montgomery GI Bill, which allows you to receive up to \$35,460 for your education. It can be used for vocational or technical training as well as college. After an active duty contract of at least 48 months, you may become eligible for the Marine Corps College Fund. In combination with the Montgomery GI Bill, it provides almost all of the funding necessary for your college education.

Tuition assistance is also available during active duty, providing up to 100 percent of the cost of any off-duty or voluntary education at accredited colleges and universities. And, participating in the program often means you earn bonus points toward a promotion.

