

# CAREERS IN THE MILITARY

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Below is a brief overview of the branches of the Armed Forces. Additional information can be found in *Military Careers: A Guide to Military Occupations*, a reference book to learn more about careers in the Military.

## The U.S. Army:



The Army stands constantly ready to defend American interests and the interests of our allies through land-based operations anywhere in the world. Today's "Expeditionary Army" is a modern and powerful military force redesigning to a goal of 68,500 officers, 12,000 warrant officers, and over 400,000 enlisted soldiers. Army men and women work in many types of jobs, ranging from general administration to the operation and maintenance of the Army's many thousands of weapons, vehicles, aircraft, and highly technical electronic systems.

## The U.S. Navy:



The Navy is made up of over 370,000 officers and enlisted sailors. They may be in a variety of assignments on ship, submarine, and shore facilities or in the air as pilots or flight officers. They serve as nuclear power instructors, and special warfare officers. Others perform specialized duties in intelligence, engineering, law, medicine, and scientific careers. Navy members operate and repair nearly 300 ships and over 4,000 aircraft; they serve in such diverse fields as radio operators, network systems administrators, dental specialists, seamen, computer programmers, photographers, ship electricians, and gas turbine systems technicians and work in many other exciting careers.

## The U.S. Air Force:



The mission of the Air Force is to defend the United States through control and exploitation of air and space. Almost 350,000 highly trained officers and airmen make up today's Air Force. Some pilot aircraft, everything from helicopters to the Space Shuttle. Many others do the jobs that support the Air Force's flying mission; they may work as firefighters, aircraft mechanics, security police, or air traffic controllers, or in many other Air Force career fields.

## The U.S. Marine Corps:



To perform the many duties of the Marine Corps, approximately 178,000 Marines excel at everything they do. The self-discipline and abilities gained in Recruit Training seeps into 300 different individual specialties in which they may become an expert. Whether operating a 60-ton tank, setting up a communications outpost or maintaining an F/A-18 fighter jet, every role on the team is essential to the Marine Corps' mission.

## The U.S. Coast Guard:



The Coast Guard constantly performs its mission of protecting America's coastlines and inland waterways by enforcing customs and fishing laws, combating drug smuggling, conducting search and rescue missions, maintaining lighthouses, and promoting boating safety. With a work force of about 5,580 commissioned officers, 1,490 warrant officers, and 27,130 enlisted members, Coast Guard personnel perform in many different occupations to support the missions of the Coast Guard. Each year, the Coast Guard has openings for more than 4,000 men and women in a wide range of challenging careers.

For more information, visit:

[www.careersinthemilitary.com](http://www.careersinthemilitary.com)

## MILITARY OPTIONS

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Enlisting in the military is just one option for your future. Below is contact information for each of the branches in the U.S. military. Use the toll free numbers listed to find a recruitment office nearest you or read additional information about careers in the military on each branch's website.



### **ARMY**

Phone: 1.800.USA.ARMY

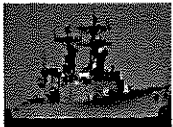
Website: [www.goarmy.com](http://www.goarmy.com)



### **ARMY NATIONAL GUARD**

Phone: 1.800.GO.GUARD

Website: [www.nationalguard.com](http://www.nationalguard.com)



### **NAVY**

Phone: 1.800.USA.NAVY

Website: [www.navy.com](http://www.navy.com)



### **AIR FORCE**

Phone: 1.800.423.USAF

Website: [www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com)



### **AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

Phone: 1.800.TO.GO.ANG

Website: [www.goang.com](http://www.goang.com)



### **MARINE CORPS**

Phone: 1.800.MARINES

Website: [www.marines.com](http://www.marines.com)



### **COAST GUARD**

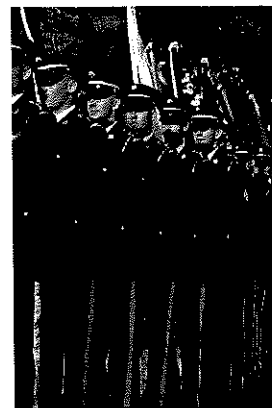
Phone: 1.800.424.8883

Website: [www.gocoastguard.com](http://www.gocoastguard.com)

## WORKSHEET #21: MILITARY RECRUITMENT

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Below, you'll find some sample questions to ask a military recruiter. Use them as a guide, or make up questions that you or your parents might have.



1. What is the length of time would I stay in service?
2. What is the starting pay?
3. What and where is basic training?
4. How long is basic training?
5. What specific jobs do you have available at this time? What type of training will I get for these jobs?
6. How do you determine if I am qualified for a specific job?
7. How can I be assured I will get the job I request?
8. What civilian jobs will my military training be useful for?
9. Can I be married and be in the military?
10. What benefits (education and other) are available to me after I finish my service term?
11. What other options do I have if I decide to stay in the military as a career?
12. If I really cannot adjust, is it possible to leave?
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.

Adapted from  
**Career Choices in North Carolina, 2003 Career Development and User's Guide, Youth edition**  
[State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee]