**THE FIVE BRANCHES OF THE US MILITARY**

Thinking of going into the military? Look at your options before signing up. The US Military has five branches, each with its own entrance requirements and benefits.

***Here are a few things they have in common***:

\* New recruits are at least 18 and are high school graduates (younger recruits may be admitted with parental consent).

\* Students may sign up for delayed entry.

\* All recruits must take the Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery test and a medical exam.

\* Recruits must be in good general health.

\* Drug tests are given and criminal backgrounds checked.

\* The G.I. Bill can help you pay for college.

All members of the U.S. Military also get steady paychecks, paid vacation, chances to rise in the ranks, excellent health care benefits and good retirement pay.

If you don’t want to sign up for full-time, active duty, consider the Reserves or the National Guard. You will generally spend one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer on active duty.

KS Army National Guard 405 S. Main Garden City, KS 67846 (620) 275-1688

U.S. Army Reserves 2601 Central Ave Dodge City, KS 67801 (620) 227-8675

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Village Square Mall (620) 227-8751

2601 Central Ave Dodge City, Ks 67801

**AIR FORCE**

Whether you want to fly planes, jump out of them or repair them, the Air Force may be just right for you. The Air Force also has plenty of other jobs for the able-bodied men and women in every field from air traffic control to fire protection. Living on an Air Force base can have its benefits. With no rent, utilities or real estate taxes to pay, your paycheck can be stretched further.

U.S. Air Force 813 Desert Flower Blvd (or)

4104 Outlook Blvd Pueblo, Colorado (719) 542-0465

**ARMY**

The army prides itself in providing real-world skills for real-world jobs. After nine weeks of basic combat training, you can choose from more than 200 careers. Soldiers can specialize in field artillery, become a field medic, or be trained as a chemical soldier. You can earn up to $70,000 for college for a four-year enlistment. The Concurrent Admissions Program lets you enroll at a participating college when you enlist. After being admitted, the college holds a spot for you until you finish your enlistment.

U.S. Army 2601 Central Ave Dodge City, KS (620) 227-8675

**COAST GUARD**

In an average day, the Coast Guard will save 14 lives, seize $9.2 million in illegal drugs and assist 328 people in distress. And that’s just the beginning. During the eight-week boot camp, recruits learn first aid, weapons handling, water survival techniques and much more. Coast Guard careers range from small-boat operators to marine science technicians. The College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative lets students in historically black colleges, member schools of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities and other approved schools compete in a national competition during their sophomore year. If you are chosen, you will receive militarytraining in the summer and go straight to Officer Candidate School after you graduate. You will also get a salary and benefits.

Coast Guard 6228 NW Barry Rd. Kansas City, MO 64154

800-438-8724 or call 877- NOW-USCG

**MARINES**

This branch of the military is known for pushing its members to their limits and asking for more. Self-confidence and teamwork go hand in hand to make the Marines the military tough guys. Boot camp lasts 11 weeks for men and 12 weeks for women. During that time you will learn basic combat skills and get in excellent physical shape. After that, you can start training to repair aircraft, drive amphibious assault vehicles, blow-up bridges, wire high-tech equipment or learn countless other skills.

U.S. Marine Corps Village Square Mall 2601 Central Ave Dodge City, Ks 67801

(620) 227-8751

**NAVY**

In the Navy you can work on land, in the water, in the air or under the sea. You can even earn college credits while you serve, get help paying off your student loans or have 100% of your college tuition paid. After eight weeks of basic training, move on to intermediate training that includes both classroom and hands-on learning. You will train for a career in fields such as electronics, seamanship, engine repair or computers. From intermediate training you’ll move to advanced training or start using what you’ve learned in a real job.

U.S. Navy 2214 E Kansas, Suite 1B Garden City, KS 67846 (620) 276-4458

**MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES**

*Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado*

http://www.usafa.edu

*Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland*

http://www.nadn.navy.mil

*Army, West Point, New York*

http://www.usma.edu

*Coast Guard, New London, Connecticut*

http://www.cga.edu

The academies offer four years of college leading to a Bachelor of Science degree. Graduates are commissioned as officers and are required to serve 5 years of active duty. The cost of attending an academy is completely covered by the United States government.

Admission to the academies is very competitive. The application process should be started during the second semester of the junior year but no later than the early part of the senior year. Applicants need to have completed a strong college preparatory program including advanced courses in math and science, have high ACT and/or SAT scores, been active in extracurricular activities, be physically fit, and have potential for leadership. Detailed information about the academies is available in the high school Career Center.

**ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY (ASVAB)**

The ASVAB is a vocational aptitude instrument. It is an excellent aptitude test which consists of several separate tests: academic ability, verbal, mathematics, mechanical and crafts, business and clerical, electronics and electrical, health, social and technology. Students may take the ASVAB to learn more about themselves and career interests without any obligation to the military. The ASVAB is required for students who plan to enter in the military. For more information please call the