Why ROTC at VMI?

4 branches + 4 years = Prepared Leaders

Virginia Military Institute is a top-ranked public liberal arts college that boasts one of the leading Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs in the United States.

The ROTC experience is an integral part of life at VMI. Cadets are required to participate in one of four ROTC leadership programs — Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force, throughout their entire cadetship.

These ROTC programs provide cadets with necessary skills for service in the armed forces or private industry.

The ROTC program at VMI challenges cadets to focus on strengthening both mind and body while pursuing ideals of discipline, honor, and respect.

Successful completion of the ROTC program may lead to a commission as a second lieutenant in the Army, Marine Corps, or Air Force, or as an ensign in the Navy.

The VMI experience is a proven formula promoting early success for VMI graduates in whatever career they choose.

VMI teaches responsibility by requiring it. Whether supervising other cadets, rappelling down cliffs, planning field training exercises, or studying military history, cadets learn the same fundamentals of leadership that guided many of the greatest figures in American history.
Military life is a full-time experience at VMI. All cadets operate under the same master schedule. They all live together on post in barracks and govern themselves within the cadet regimental system.

In addition, because VMI is a senior military college, VMI’s ROTC program can provide military training at a higher level than programs at civilian colleges and universities. Cadets have access to active duty bases, field-training exercises, and high-ranking military officials on post, a rich and valuable training ground for tomorrow’s officers.

VMI cadets are free to choose military or civilian career paths. The combination of academic and practical course work enables students to sharpen both mind and body while pursuing such timeless ideals as discipline, honor, and respect.

Alumni Network
VMI graduates benefit from the support of a legendary network of alumni who recognize and appreciate the value of a degree from Virginia Military Institute.

Significant financial support is available through VMI’s ROTC program. Incoming scholarship cadets who maintain satisfactory academic and disciplinary standing may receive an annual stipend. Only those cadets who accept ROTC scholarships or contract as non-scholarship cadets are required to enter military service.

Two or three years of ROTC scholarship assistance is available after the first or second year of enrollment at VMI. A two-year program is also available to students who transfer to VMI after their sophomore year.
YOUR FUTURE — YOUR CHOICE

VMI is not easy. When it gets really hard, remember that this is just a few pages in your amazing book of life — probably one significant chapter, but if you take the road less travelled, then it can pay-off in ways and dividends that you can never imagine.

Dan Caine ‘90
Lieutenant Colonel, Air National Guard
Special Operations Officer
President and CEO, Patriot Technologies
The U.S. Army, a key component of the U.S. armed forces, is made up of the best-trained, most dedicated, most respected soldiers in the world — protecting America’s freedoms at home and abroad, securing our homeland, and defending democracy worldwide.

Cadets have the opportunity to attend training programs including Cadet Troop Leadership Training, where they serve in lieutenant-level positions with an active duty unit; the Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency program, which provides cadets with the language and cultural skills to perform in global operations; and others, such as Airborne, Air Assault, Combat Diver, Mountain Warfare, or Northern Warfare.

Training opportunities occur during the summer months between academic years. Additionally, most cadets will attend Basic Camp between their sophomore and junior years at Fort Knox, Ky. All cadets will attend the Advanced Camp between their junior and senior years at Fort Knox.

“There is no greater call in life than to serve and give back to our country. I believe you get more of an opportunity to make a difference as an Army officer than in any other service.”

Maj. Robert Lackey ’97

goarmy.com/rotc.html
vmi.edu/Army
Commission Rank
Second Lieutenant

Obligation
Four to 10 years of commissioned service, depending on occupation

Careers
Options include more than 20 military occupational specialties that make up the four elements of the Marine Air Ground Task Force:
• Command Element
  intelligence/communications
• Ground Combat Element
  infantry/artillery
• Air Combat Element
  pilot/air traffic controller
• Combat Service Support Element
  logistician/military police

Summer Training Requirements
CORTRAMID
MAGTF Cruise
Officer Candidates School

Academic Core
Introduction to Naval Science
Seapower and Maritime Affairs
Leadership and Management
Amphibious Warfare
Evolution of Warfare
Leadership and Ethics

Scholarship Options
Four-, three-, and two-year national scholarships that pay full tuition.
Scholarships also include an allowance for books, uniforms, and a monthly living stipend.

Since 1775 the U.S. Marine Corps has been doing two things – making Marines and winning battles.

The Marine Corps is known worldwide as the toughest fighting force. The Naval ROTC prepares Marine option midshipmen for Officer Candidates School and for future service as Marine Officers.

The NROTC program’s broad curriculum ranges from history and traditions of the Marine Corps to leadership and ethical training.

“VMI showed me the importance of daily leadership by example, and I’ve been able to directly transfer those lessons into action as a Marine officer.”

Lt. Col. George Hasseltine ’97
The mission of the Navy ROTC program is to develop midshipmen mentally, morally, and physically and imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, loyalty, and the core values of honor, courage, and commitment. Navy ROTC thus commissions as naval officers college graduates who possess a basic professional background, are motivated toward careers in the naval service, and have a potential for future development in mind and character so as to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship, and government.

Midshipmen interested in the Surface Warfare Community have the opportunity to request to specialize in Intelligence, Engineering, Oceanography, Nuclear Propulsion, or Information Warfare.

Regardless of specialty, cadets commissioned as officers help lead the most highly trained, best outfitted, and most powerful navy on earth.

“Four years at VMI prepared me for the military through strong academics, camaraderie, and a vision of what I wanted to become as a leader and an officer in the U.S. Navy.”

Lt. Ryan Beatley ’04
The U.S. Air Force is renowned for its precision-targeting air power. That strength is based on technical training, pursuit of higher education, and professional military education.

Air Force cadets have the opportunity to engage in a wide variety of activities designed to enhance leadership skills. Programs include flight orientation with the Virginia Civil Air Patrol, base visits, physical training time, and a robust guest speaker program.

"VMI’s Air Force ROTC program is challenging and rewarding. It provided me with a great foundation to begin my Air Force career.”

Gen. John Jumper ’66, USAF (Ret.)
Former Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force
The Virginia Military Institute is committed to providing an environment that emphasizes the dignity and worth of every member of its community and that is free from harassment and discrimination based on race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, pregnancy, genetic information, against otherwise qualified persons with disabilities, or based on any other status protected by law. In pursuit of this goal, any question of impermissible discrimination on these bases will be addressed with efficiency and energy and in accordance with VMI General Order 16. General Order 16 also addresses complaints or reports of retaliation against those who have opposed prohibited practices, those who have filed complaints or reports of prohibited practices, and those who have testified or otherwise participated in enforcement of General Order 16. Questions regarding discrimination prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, or other federal law, may be referred to the VMI Inspector General and Title IX Coordinator, 212 Carroll Hall, VMI, Lexington, VA 24450, (540) 464-7072. Any cadet or prospective cadet having questions about disability services for students should contact the Director of the Center for Cadet Counseling and Disability Services, 448 Institute Hill, 2nd floor, Post Infirmary, Lexington, Va. 24450, (540) 464-7667. For employment-related disability services, contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator in the VMI Human Resources Office, Lexington, VA 24450, (540) 464-7667.

“There are few events in life that prepare you as well as the VMI experience for the uncertainty and adversity that lie ahead. The lessons learned serve you well in any profession.”

Col. Paul Dunahoe ‘83
U.S. Marine Corps