



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
AIR FORCE RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (AFROTC)**

8 July 2026

**Dear Class of 2030,**

Congratulations on your admission to Virginia Military Institute, Mary Baldwin University, Southern Virginia University, or Washington and Lee University! Your decision to attend one of these outstanding institutions marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter filled with opportunities for personal growth, academic achievement, and leadership development. By choosing to enroll in Air Force ROTC, you will join a world-class organization built upon the Air Force's core values: *Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do.*

AFROTC enjoys a strong partnership with VMI and our crosstown universities, and we are excited to welcome students who are eager to challenge themselves and grow as leaders. Throughout your time in the program, you will develop as a scholar, athlete, follower, and leader while preparing for the responsibilities of military service. Think of your four years in AFROTC as an opportunity to demonstrate your character, commitment, and leadership potential. In many ways, it is a four-year interview with the opportunity to earn an officer's commission in the Air Force or Space Force.

You may have noticed this letter is addressed to the "Class of 2030." However, if you are already a college student and transferring to one of the above schools, or you possess enough college credit to graduate in 2029, it is **IMPERATIVE** that you identify yourself as an early graduate upon your arrival at Detachment 880. If you wait until **AFTER** the fall semester add/drop period closes, you will be locked into AFROTC's four-year program.

To begin your application, we require you to provide the documents listed in the attachment that pertain to you upon your arrival at the Detachment. You will be expected to participate in all AFROTC-sponsored events as well as meet all requirements (e.g., academics, physical fitness, and maintaining a good moral character). Many exciting job opportunities exist for you in the Air and Space Forces, and our cadre are eager to discuss them with you. Additionally, if you qualify, AFROTC offers scholarships that help pay for tuition and books.

Congratulations again on taking this important first step toward an exciting future. The journey ahead will be challenging, but it will also be rewarding. We look forward to welcoming you to AFROTC and Detachment 880. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please don't hesitate to contact us at (540) 464-7354 or [afrotc@vmi.edu](mailto:afrotc@vmi.edu).

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Eric D. Steele".

ERIC D. STEELE, Colonel, USAF  
Commander, AFROTC Detachment 880

**4 Attachments:**

1. VMI Cadets required in-processing documents
2. MBU Cadets required in-processing documents
3. SVU\_W&L Cadets required in-processing documents
4. AFROTC In-depth booklet