

U.S. Air Force ROTC
Detachment 880
Virginia Military Institute



**SOUTHERN
VIRGINIA
UNIVERSITY**



Air Force ROTC Enrollment

What is the basic enrollment criteria?

- Be a full-time student
- Be of good moral character
- Be in good physical condition
- Be able to obtain U.S. citizenship prior to contracting and commissioning
- Meet height/weight/body fat requirements
- Maintain a 2.0 Cumulative GPA
- Seek a commission in the U.S. Air Force or U.S. Space Force

How do I apply for AFROTC at VMI?

AFROTC reps will be at Matriculation Day. You will check in with us to confirm your intention to join AFROTC, and we will make sure you have registered in the correct class and lab. AFROTC in-processing will take place at the end of Matriculation Week.

How do I apply for AFROTC if I am not a VMI cadet?

Ask Det 880 cadre for a ROTC application form, which will allow you to sign up for VMI's AFROTC courses once Fall registration opens. Complete and return the form to the Detachment.

What documentation will I need to provide to complete my application?

Original birth certificate, social security card, transcripts from other colleges, SAT/ACT scores, documents certifying previous youth experience (e.g. JROTC, Eagle Scout), documents certifying previous military experience, and any documents detailing any Civil Involvements (e.g. speeding tickets, parking tickets, etc.).



Air Force ROTC Scholarships

What are the AFROTC scholarship rates for VMI?

Approximately 28% of VMI AFROTC cadets are on scholarship.

If I accept a scholarship and then decide I wish to change my major, can I do that and still keep the scholarship? If the change is from a critical to a non-critical major, then the answer is likely no. If the change is from a critical to a different critical major, then maybe. All change of majors require approval for cadets who are on a contract.

I'm enrolled in a 5-year major, but my scholarship length is 4 years. Can my scholarship be extended to cover the 5th year?

Yes, if you are enrolled in a SECAF-approved 5-year major.

I've earned a scholarship, now what?

Don't lose it! In order to keep your scholarship you must maintain a term GPA of at least 2.5, maintain a passing AF Physical Fitness Assessment, and complete any other requirements needed to earn your degree and commission on time.

If I am awarded a scholarship, will it be retroactive?

No, scholarships are not retroactive. Your scholarship will take effect the semester you become contracted and will remain in effect until you commission.



Air Force ROTC Scholarships Continued

Do you need to be awarded a scholarship to commission?

No. Only about 28% of our AFROTC cadets have a scholarship. You can definitely complete the program and earn a commission without ever being awarded a scholarship.

Is room/board covered?

No. AFROTC scholarships do not cover room and board. However, AFROTC scholarships can be converted to only cover room and board up to \$10,000 a year, instead of covering the standard tuition and fees.

Are VMI quartermaster fees covered? No, however, AFROTC cadets attending VMI may be authorized to receive an annual Military Uniform Commutation payment in order to assist with the unique non-DoD uniform costs associated with Senior Military Colleges.

What scholarship opportunities exist? If you are still in high school, you can apply via the High School Scholarship Program on the www.afrotc.com website. The application window is open from July through January.

What types of scholarships are available through the High School Scholarship Program?

Type 1 – Full tuition and fees

Type 2 – Covers \$18K per year/\$9K per semester in tuition & fees

Type 4 – Covers \$36K per year/Can convert to housing capped at \$10K/Only majors in Nursing, Electrical Engineering, Chinese (language, not cultural studies), Russian (language, not cultural studies), and Meteorology/Atmospheric Sciences

What is the eligibility criteria for the High School Scholarship Program?

- 3.0 Cumulative GPA for grades 9-11

- 1240 SAT or 26 ACT scores



Air Force ROTC Scholarships – High School Students

What makes me competitive for the High School Scholarship Program?

In addition to good grades and test scores, strong leadership potential. This can be demonstrated in a multitude of ways to include, but not limited to active participation in extracurricular activities, athletics, community service, employment, and so on.

If I am offered and I accept a High School scholarship, what is required to activate it?

- Obtain U.S. citizenship prior to activating a scholarship
- Obtain a qualified DODMERB (DOD Medical Examination Review Board) certifying you are medically qualified for military service
- Complete all AFROTC in-processing and contracting actions with your school's host AFROTC detachment

If I accept a High School scholarship and then later decide that I no longer wish to continue in AFROTC or I am unable to maintain the standards to maintain the scholarship, what are the consequences?

The first day of your sophomore year is when you become committed to the terms of the contract you sign. At that point, potential outcomes may include recoupment of payment, active duty service, released from contract, or scholarship inactivation/suspension/termination.

I was not awarded a High School scholarship. Are there other scholarship opportunities?

Yes. AFROTC has the In-College Scholarship Program which offers Type 1 and Type 2 scholarships. The In-College scholarships range from 2 to 3 years depending on when it is awarded and the number of years a cadet has remaining to graduate.



Air Force ROTC Scholarships

What is the eligibility criteria for the In-College Scholarship Program?

For freshmen:

- 3.0 GPA for their first semester in college
- Pass the AF Physical Fitness Assessment and meet the height/weight/BMI/body fat requirements
- Obtain a qualified DODMERB certifying you are medically qualified for military service
- Pass the AF Officer Qualifying Test (if taken)
- Complete all AFROTC in-processing actions as directed by the Cadre
- U.S. citizen

For sophomores:

- 3.0 Cumulative GPA and 2.5 Term GPA for the previous term/semester
- Pass the AF Officer Qualifying Test
- Pass the AF Physical Fitness Assessment and meet the height/weight/BMI/body fat requirements
- Obtain a qualified DODMERB certifying you are medically qualified for military service
- Complete all AFROTC in-processing actions
- Have an Enrollment Allocation (applicable to the scholarship board held in the spring)
- U.S. citizen

What are the different In-College Scholarship Program categories?

- Commander's Scholarship: Detachment Commanders can award a Type 1 (critical majors) or Type 2 (non-critical majors) to an eligible cadet.
- Type I/II: These categories are for eligible cadets who do not fall within the above categories. Type 1 and Type 2 scholarships are awarded based on how the cadets ranks among all other nominees in the category.

There are additional scholarship categories, however, the ones listed here are applicable to the AFROTC detachment at VMI.

What is the difference between a Type 1 and Type 2 scholarship?

- Type 1 scholarships cover all tuition and auxiliary fees
- Type 2 scholarships cover tuition and auxiliary fees up to \$18,000/year or \$9,000/semester.

Note: Neither of these scholarships cover Room and Board.

Air Force ROTC Scholarships – College Students

What makes me competitive for the In-College Scholarship Program?

In addition to good grades, test scores, and your physical fitness assessment scores, your class ranking will also be a significant factor. You are continuously evaluated by the Cadre. Our subjective evaluation factors in areas such as your attitude, character, participation, growth, followership, and leadership potential.

How do I apply for an In-College scholarship?

You don't. Other than meeting the eligibility requirements mentioned, the In-College scholarship nomination process is transparent to the cadets. Your AFROTC Cadre will endorse all the cadets who meet the eligibility criteria and submit their names in accordance with AFROTC guidance to compete for an In-College scholarship.

When are the In-College scholarship boards held?

In-College scholarship boards are held in the fall (Nov-Dec) and spring (Mar-Apr).

What other entitlements will I receive if I'm awarded a scholarship?

Monthly stipend of \$300, \$350, \$450, \$500 (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior) and a \$900/year stipend for textbooks.



Air Force ROTC Academics

What role does my academic major play?

Some career fields require specific majors. For example, if you want to be a Developmental Engineer, you need to have an engineering degree. Additionally, there are some scholarship opportunities that are tied to specific majors such as electrical engineering, foreign language, and other STEM majors. However, you are encouraged to major in a field that you are passionate about and can succeed in. How well you perform in academics (i.e. GPA) carries significant weight in how you rank among your peers in AFROTC which factors into your competitiveness for a scholarship, opportunities to attend summer AFROTC programs, choice of career field, etc.

What is the biggest hurdle for freshman AFROTC cadets academically?

Good study habits. As a college student, you will be very busy and very tired. Learn how to manage your time so that you do not fall behind in your classes, practice good study habits, and do not wait until the end of the semester to ask for help from your professors or your school's learning resources.

What if I am not a VMI "Rat" but a crosstown cadet? Will I be treated like a VMI Rat?

No. If you are not a student enrolled at VMI you will not be subject to VMI's policies.

What is a crosstown cadet?

A crosstown cadet is a cadet that is enrolled in the detachment, but is not a student of the host university. Within Detachment 880, we have crosstown agreements with Mary Baldwin University, Southern Virginia University, and Washington and Lee University.

Are crosstown cadets treated differently, or do they have different requirements?

All AFROTC cadets within Detachment 880 will be treated the same, regardless of their primary school of attendance. All AFROTC cadets have the same training requirements they have to meet, regardless of which university they go to.



Air Force ROTC Academics Continued

How many hours per week will be dedicated to AFROTC?

Freshmen and sophomores will enroll in a 1-hour Aerospace Studies course, 2-hour Leadership Lab course, and be required to attend two 1-hour Physical Training sessions for a total of 5 hours per week.

Juniors and seniors will enroll in a 3-hour Aerospace Studies course, 2-hour Leadership Lab course, and be required to attend two 1-hour Physical Training sessions for a total of 7 hours per week.

What are the Aerospace Studies courses?

The freshman course (AS100) focuses on the Air Force core values and heritage. The goal is to encourage students to pursue a U.S Air Force or U.S. Space Force career or at least seek additional information to be better informed about the role of the Air and Space Forces.

As you progress through the program, the curriculum will cover team dynamics, leadership models, effective communication, national security topics, and preparation for active duty.



Air Force ROTC Academics

What are the Leadership Lab courses?

The freshman leadership lab course focuses on learning basic military skills such as drill and ceremonies, customs and courtesies, teamwork, and followership. As a sophomore, more of the focus will be on building your leadership skills and preparing you for Field Training. Then, as a junior and senior, you will actually be the ones planning and executing/teaching the Leadership Lab course.

What is Field Training?

Field Training is a 2-week event at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery, Alabama and occurs typically during the summer between your sophomore and junior year. Essentially, you will be evaluated on your leadership potential and on how well you can perform what you have learned and practiced during your first two years of AFROTC, but in a new environment, new location, with new people. Successfully passing Field Training is required to earn a commission.





Air Force ROTC Lifecyle:

What will this Air Force ROTC journey look like?

AS100 – Basic Cadets

The AS100 class (freshmen) are commonly referred to as basic cadets.

Academics: The AS100 (1 hr) course focuses on the Air Force core values and heritage. The goal is to encourage students to pursue a U.S Air Force or U.S. Space Force career or at least seek additional information to be better informed about the role of the Air and Space Forces.

Leadership Lab (LLAB): The co-requisite to AS100 is LLAB (3 hrs). The purpose of the BC LLAB is threefold. First, LLAB provides new cadets with basic skills and knowledge needed to be a functional member of the cadet corps. Second, LLAB provides the BC cadet with information they can use to determine whether or not they wish to continue with the AFROTC program and subsequently pursue an Air Force or Space Force commission. Third, LLAB provides BC cadets with activities designed to build camaraderie and esprit de corps, as well as help them develop leadership, followership, and teamwork skills.

Physical Training: One-hour physical training (PT) sessions are held twice per week. PT is a vital part of the military lifestyle. The goal is to instill a culture of fitness and a healthy lifestyle among our Airmen so that they are prepared to deploy and fight.

AS100 - Basic Cadetary ning

Officer Development Training (ODT): AFROTC has opportunities to attend ODT events over the summer and during the school year. ODTs for freshmen and sophomores allow cadets to learn more about the Air Force and be exposed to various career fields and operations. ODTs during the school year may include incentive flights and base visits.

Key Milestones: During your AS100 year, there are key milestones that you should expect to have completed or at least initiated.

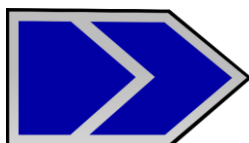
- **In-Processing:** Failure to complete all in-processing actions may result in being dropped from AFROTC.

- **Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA):** You will attempt the AF PFA every semester. This is a requirement to pass LLAB.

- **DODMERB:** The Cadre will initiate the DODMERB process and you are expected to comply with our directions in to complete the process.

- **In-College Scholarship Board:** Your first opportunity to compete for an in-college scholarship will be in the spring semester.

- **Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT):** Your first opportunity to take the AFOQT will be in the spring semester.





Air Force ROTC Lifecycle Continued:

AS200 – Basic Cadet Leader

The AS200 class (sophomores) are commonly referred to as basic cadet leaders.

Academics: The AS200 (1 hr) course focuses providing a fundamental understanding of both leadership and team building. Students will apply leadership perspectives when completing team building activities and discussing things like conflict management.

Leadership Lab (LLAB): The co-requisite to AS200 is LLAB (2 hrs). The BCL program provides training to ensure every cadet is mentally and physically prepared for the rigorous Field Training (FT) environment.

Physical Training: One-hour physical training (PT) sessions are held twice per week. PT is a vital part of the military lifestyle. The goal is to instill a culture of fitness and a healthy lifestyle among our Airmen so that they are prepared to deploy and fight.

Officer Development Training (ODT): AFROTC has opportunities to attend ODT events over the summer and during the school year. ODTs for freshmen and sophomores allow cadets to learn more about the Air Force and be exposed to various career fields and operations. ODTs during the school year may include incentive flights and base visits. Attending FT will take priority over summer ODT programs.

AS200 - Basic Cadet Leader

Key Milestones: During your AS200 year, there are key milestones that you should expect to have completed or at least initiated.

- **Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA):** You will attempt the AF PFA every semester. This is a requirement to pass LLAB. You must have a passing PFA on your most recent attempt to be eligible to attend FT. You must also be within the height/weight/body fat limits to be eligible to attend FT.

- **DODMERB:** A qualified DODMERB is required to attend FT.

- **Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT):** You must have a passing AFOQT in order to contract upon successful completion of FT.

- **POC Selection Process (PSP) Board:** The PSP board convenes in February and you will be competing for an Enrollment Allocation (EA). Earning an EA means that you have been selected to attend FT and the Air and Space Forces has a spot for you as a second lieutenant upon successful completion of your graduation and commissioning requirements. EAs are tied to fiscal years. Therefore, if your graduation or commissioning date changes to a different fiscal year, you may lose your EA and risk not being able to commission.

- **In-College Scholarship Board:** There will be an in-college scholarship board held in the fall and spring semesters.

- **Field Training:** FT is two weeks at Maxwell AFB, AL during the summer between your sophomore and junior years. Successful completion of FT is required enter the POC and earn a commission in the U.S. Air Force or U.S. Space Force.





Air Force ROTC Lifecycle Continued:

What will this Air Force ROTC journey look like?

AS300 - Intermediate Cadet Leaders

The AS300 class (juniors) may be referred to as Intermediate Cadet Leaders (ICL) or POC cadets.

Academics: The AS300 (3 hrs) course goal is for cadets to have a more in-depth understanding of how to effectively lead people, and provide them with the tools to use throughout their detachment leadership roles. Secondly, cadets will hone their writing and briefing skills. The second semester of AS300 is centered on leadership and ethics. The goal is to get cadets thinking about leadership through their own lens, and give them some tools to work on their leadership skills.

Leadership Lab (LLAB): The co-requisite to AS300 is LLAB (2 hrs). LLAB provides intermediate cadet leaders the opportunity to further develop the leadership and followership skills. AS300 cadets will be assigned positions throughout the cadet wing and be responsible for leading the training of AS100/200 cadets and the completion of LLAB objectives. This provides AS300s the opportunity to sharpen their planning, organizational, and communication skills, as well as their ability to effectively use resources to accomplish a mission in a constructive learning environment.

AS300 - Intermediate Cadet Leaders

Physical Training: One-hour physical training (PT) sessions are held twice per week. PT is a vital part of the military lifestyle. The goal is to instill a culture of fitness and a healthy lifestyle among our Airmen so that they are prepared to deploy and fight. PT sessions are led by AS300 and AS400 cadets (i.e. POC cadets).

Officer Development Training (ODT): AFROTC has opportunities to attend ODT events over the summer and during the school year. ODTs for juniors and seniors allow cadets to broaden their leadership skills. ODTs may include, but are not limited to planning and executing large-scale events, attending specialized training events, and summer internships.

Key Milestones: During your AS300 year, there are key milestones that you should expect to have completed or at least initiated.

- **Contracting:** Upon successful completion of FT, AS300 cadets will contract (if not already contracted) at the beginning of the fall semester and officially enter the POC.

- **Security Clearance:** A secret security clearance will be initiated at the beginning of the fall semester.

- **Air Force Specialty Code:** Air Force career fields are identified by an Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC). You will identify and compete for which Air Force career fields you wish to pursue.

- **Rated Board:** Cadets who meet the eligibility requirements and wish to pursue an aviation career field, also known as a Rated career field (Pilot, Combat Systems Officer, Remotely Piloted Aircraft Pilot, and Air Battle Manager), will compete on a Rated board.

- **Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA):** You will attempt the AF PFA every semester. This is a requirement to pass LLAB. Failure of a PFA by a contracted cadet will lead to a Conditional Event (CE). Additional CEs will lead to more severe consequences, which may include disenrollment from AFROTC.





Air Force ROTC Lifecycle Continued:

What will this Air Force ROTC journey look like?

AS400 - Senior Cadet Leaders

The AS400 class (seniors) may be referred to as Senior Cadet Leaders (SCL) or POC cadets.

Academics: The AS400 (3 hrs) course is designed to prepare cadets for life as a second lieutenant. The AS400 course covers the basic elements of national security policy and process, basic Air Force domain operations as well as selected roles of the military in society and current domestic and international issues affecting the military profession. The course also covers the responsibility, authority, and functions of an Air Force commander and selected provisions of the military justice system.

Leadership Lab (LLAB): The co-requisite to AS400 is LLAB (3 hrs). LLAB for SCLs, provides pre-commissioning cadets with additional opportunities to develop leadership and supervisory capabilities and prepares them for their first active duty assignment. AS400 cadets will be assigned positions throughout the cadet wing and be responsible for leading the cadet wing.

Physical Training: One-hour physical training (PT) sessions are held twice per week. PT is a vital part of the military lifestyle. The goal is to instill a culture of fitness and a healthy lifestyle among our Airmen so that they are prepared to deploy and fight. PT sessions are led by AS300 and AS400 cadets (i.e. POC cadets).

AS400 - Senior Cadet Leaders

Officer Development Training (ODT): AFROTC has opportunities to attend ODT events over the summer and during the school year. ODTs for juniors and seniors allow cadets to broaden their leadership skills. ODTs may include, but are not limited to planning and executing large-scale events, attending specialized training events, and summer internships.

Key Milestones: During your AS400 year, there are key milestones that you should expect to have completed.

- **Security Clearance:** Once you have been assigned an AFSC (i.e. career field), the appropriate security clearance level investigation will be initiated.

- **Base of Preference:** You will identify your base location preferences for your first duty assignment.

- **Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA):** You will attempt the AF PFA every semester. This is a requirement to pass LLAB. Failure of a PFA by a contracted cadet will lead to a Conditional Event (CE). Additional CEs will lead to more severe consequences, which may include disenrollment from AFROTC.

- **Qualifying Fitness Review (QFR):** The QFR is an AF PFA administered within 30 days of commissioning. A passing score as well as meeting the BMI/Body Fat standards is required to commission.

- **Commissioning:** Once you have successfully completed all AFROTC program and graduation requirements, you will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force or U.S. Space Force.

- **Extended Active Duty:** You will receive Extended Active Duty (EAD) orders indicating the date you officially enter active duty and when and where to report to for your first duty assignment.



A JOB AFTER GRADUATION

Almost every job or career that exists in the civilian world is also found within the Air Force and Space Force.

After graduation you will have a job waiting. With a large variety of officer career choices in the Air Force and Space Force, it won't be just any job. Our goal is to place you in a job based on your unique talents, aptitude, interests, and academic major.

From day one you will get real experience in leadership and doing the job you studied and trained for. Officers are the leaders in the Air Force and Space Force.

SUCCESS FOR LIFE

If you choose to separate from the military and reenter the civilian work force after your active duty service commitment, you will have gained the knowledge, confidence, and leadership skills to put you on the fast track. Many companies offer a preferential hiring program for prior military officers.

CONTACT US

Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions or concerns you may have.

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