Consider the military

Serve your country, learn a skill and earn money for college with a career in the military.

The U.S. Armed Forces are made up of the five service branches:

- **U.S. Air Force**
- **U.S. Army**
- **U.S. Coast Guard**
- **U.S. Marine Corps**
- **U.S. Navy**

Also, consider enrolling in Reserve Officers' Training Corps, or ROTC. The obligation-free program allows cadets to receive leadership training their freshman and sophomore years, with time to decide if it's the right choice. If you decide the military is right for you, the program will support you with scholarships for tuition, books and other college expenses. Then, upon graduation, you'll be commissioned as an officer and have immediate job opportunities.

And don't forget other financial benefits, too. Through the GI Bill, (ROTC), scholarships and more, the military can help you pay for college and other training. Interested in ROTC but not sure it's for you? You can enroll in your freshman and sophomore years to receive leadership training without incurring obligation for military service. Once you accept a scholarship or enroll in advanced ROTC courses, you make a service commitment.

No matter which branch of the military you choose — Army, Navy or Air Force — ROTC classes include officership, leadership, military history, organization and tactics. You will receive college credit for your ROTC classes. You'll also have to pass regular physical training exams and train for the tests with your peers in "PT" sessions.

After commissioning is when you'll decide on a career field and begin training for a specific job. Remember, the military offers many career options from becoming a solider to working as a doctor, pilot, engineer and more! After commissioning, you'll be known as a second lieutenant or "2nd Lt." in the Air Force, Army or Marine Corps. If you go into the Navy or Coast Guard, your rank will be "ensign."

Wondering what the differences are? Talk to a local recruiting office in your neighborhood or a recruiter in your area.

NOTES:

Read more!
Get more tips on what it takes to join the military at **NextStepU.com/Military**