



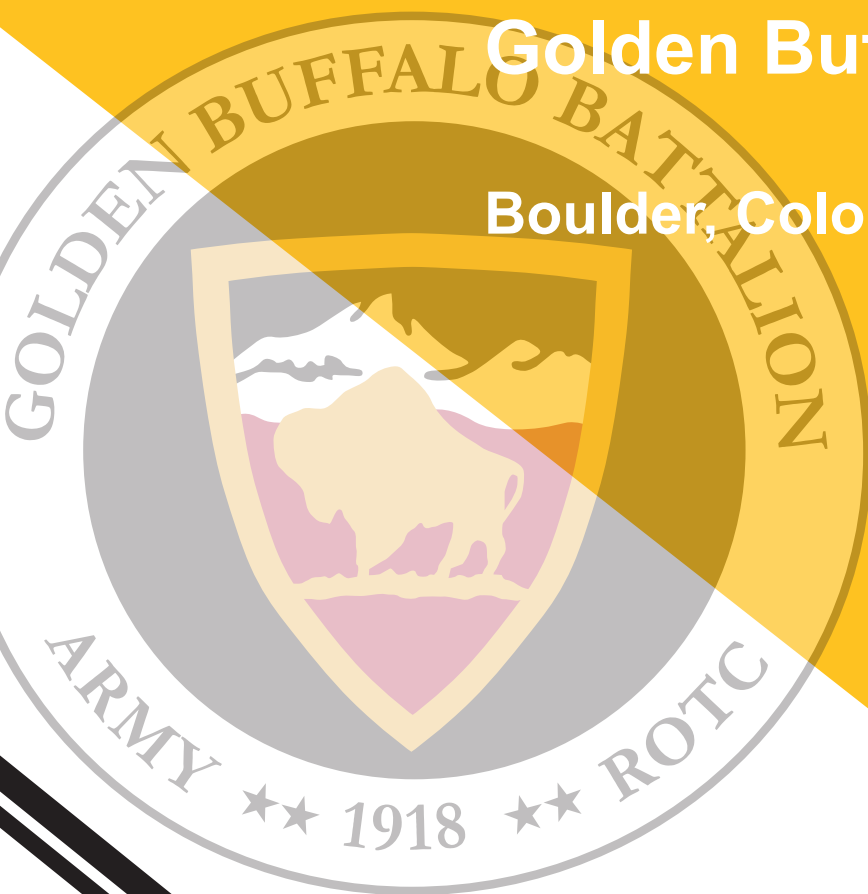
U.S. ARMY

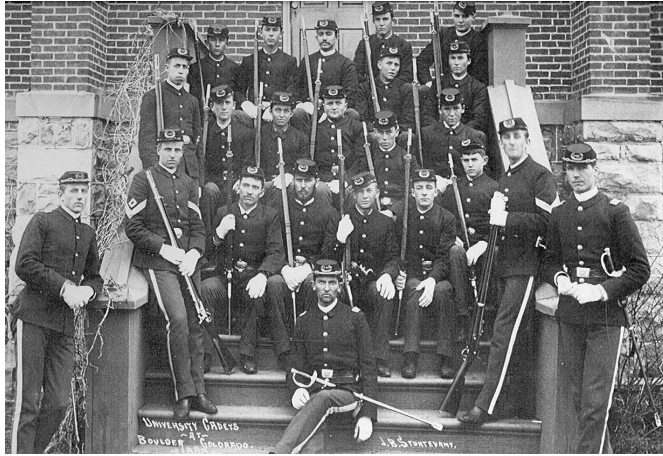
ARMY ROTC

PROGRAM GUIDE '23

Golden Buffalo Battalion

Boulder, Colorado





Students of the Voluntary Cadet Corps in 1888, in front of Old Main. Photo courtesy of the University of Colorado Boulder Library Archives, University Collection.



“ROTC provides many opportunities for personal and professional growth. The ROTC community is supportive yet challenges me to push beyond my comfort zone.”

—Cadet R. Jung, CSM

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What is Army ROTC?

Army ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps) is a program that will enhance an individual's education by providing unique leadership training and management experience. It will help to develop the qualities necessary for success in either a military or civilian career. Students are given an opportunity to earn a college degree and an Army officer's commission at the same time.

Army ROTC (AROTC) cadets are taught to be leaders and are provided hands-on experience in managing physical, financial, and human resources. They possess a higher level of self-confidence and superior decision-making skills and abilities. Employers value these leadership qualities. That's why ROTC students frequently begin their civilian careers at a higher level of responsibility than other college graduates.

Once cadets have completed requirements for a bachelor's or graduate degree and the ROTC program, they receive a commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Army. ROTC is the number one source of commissioned officers in the nation.

Introduction to Army ROTC

The Golden Buffalo Battalion is organized around a cadet battalion commander and an operations staff. While Active Duty Army instructors provide military science instruction and supervise all cadet training, the cadets themselves are responsible for the planning and actual completion of each training activity. Senior cadets are the officers of the battalion. Junior and sophomore cadets are the non-commissioned officers, while freshman form the core of the platoons.

The ROTC program is taken in conjunction with regular classes in your selected major. The main focus in AROTC is on management and leadership development, with increasing responsibilities as you progress through the program. A typical cadet takes 2-3 credits of ROTC class per semester.

Since 1948, the Golden Buffalo Battalion Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program has been commissioning officers to serve in the United States Army and is one of the most highly respected, prestigious units in the nation.

Our officers have gone on to serve with distinction in every theatre of war since the unit's inception, and the Golden Buffalo Battalion's reputation remains unparalleled as we move forward into the 21st century.

Army ROTC Activities/Adventure Training

Highlights of the program include:

- Ranger Challenge—competition between various ROTC programs and considered the varsity sport for Army ROTC.
- Bataan Memorial Death March—a desert marathon conducted in White Sands, New Mexico every spring.
- Tri-Military Competition—an event in early October where the three military branches compete against each other on Farrand Field, CU-Boulder campus.
- Rappelling, Field Training Exercises (FTX), Land Navigation Course, M-4 Range, and High Ropes Course.
- Competitive intramural teams such as hockey and basketball with frequent championships.
- Annual Dining In and Military Ball.
- Numerous community events, such as color guard, parades, and football games (with Stadium clean-ups).
- Summer Training opportunities like Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT – act in a lieutenant-level position within an active-duty unit), Cadet Advanced Individual Training (CAIT – attend special skills courses, such as Airborne, Air Assault, Sapper, etc.) or a variety of Army Internship possibilities (additional training in specialized areas).

To request more information contact:

Scholarship and Enrollment Officer

Department of Military Science
University of Colorado Boulder
370 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309
303-492-3549
Kim.Hageman@colorado.edu

www.colorado.edu/AROTC

www.facebook.com/BufaloBattalion

www.instagram.com/golden_buffalo_battalion/?hl=en

Main email: armyrotc@colorado.edu

Main phone: 303-492-6495



Host, Partnership, and Affiliate Schools

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) has agreements with the schools listed below. You can choose to attend any accredited college in the Denver/Metro area and still take the Army ROTC military science classes at any of our three locations: CU-Boulder, Colorado School of Mines (CSM) in Golden, or the Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSUD) on the Auraria Campus. Below are admissions phone numbers and main web addresses for each school (both are subject to change at any time).

The Golden Buffalo Battalion participating schools:

Four-year colleges

HOST

University of Colorado Boulder (UCB)
www.colorado.edu
Admissions: 303-492-6301

PARTNER

Colorado School of Mines (CSM)
www.mines.edu
Admissions: 303-273-3220

Metro State University of Denver (MSUD)

www.msudenver.edu
Admissions: 303-556-3058

AFFILIATES

Regis University (RU)

www.regis.edu
Admissions: 303-458-4900

University of Colorado Denver (UCD)

www.ucdenver.edu
Admissions: 303-315-2601

University of Denver (DU)

www.du.edu
Admissions: 303-871-7711

Colorado Christian University (CCU)

www.ccu.edu
Admissions: 303-963-3200

Two-year colleges

Red Rocks Community College (RRCC)

www.rrcc.edu
Admissions: 303-914-6348

Front Range Community College (FRCC)

www.frontrange.edu
Admissions: 303-404-5000 (Westminster)

Arapahoe Community College (ACC)

www.arapahoe.edu
Admissions: 303-797-5637

Colorado Technical University (CTU)

www.coloradotech.edu
Admissions: 303-362-2900

Community College of Denver (CCD)

www.ccd.edu
Admissions: 303-556-2600



Army Career Benefits

New lieutenants will enter the workforce as leaders and supervise as many as 45 people, while being accountable for hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of assets. Civilian employers will also want your leadership experience and the technical knowledge you gain.

Newly commissioned second lieutenants on active duty earn approximately \$46,400 base pay/per year, not including non-taxable allowances such as food and housing. Soldiers earn 30 days of annual paid leave (vacation) while on active duty plus have full medical and dental coverage.

Part-time opportunities exist in the U.S. Army Reserve and the Army National Guard where officers are paid for one weekend of battle assemblies per month and two weeks of annual training. Upon graduation, Army National Guard and Army Reserve officers attend the same branch specific school as their Active Duty counterparts.



Branches

There are 16 basic career fields, called branches, including several specialized fields.

Basic Branches:

Adjutant General Corps
Air Defense Artillery
Armor
Aviation
Chaplain Corps
Chemical Corps
Corps of Engineers
Cyber
Infantry

Medical Service Corps
Military Intelligence
Military Police
Ordnance
Signal Corps
Quartermaster
Special Forces
Transportation

Specialized Branches:

Dental Corps
Judge Advocate General
Medical Corps
Army Nurse Corps
Veterinary Corps

Army ROTC Program



The first two years of AROTC are considered the *Basic Course*, and the last two years are considered the *Advanced Course*. Participants can start AROTC as freshmen, sophomores, juniors, or graduate students.

Basic Course

Military Science I Year

This is the cadets' first introduction to the Army. Topics include military courtesy, military history, basic first aid, land navigation, fundamentals of leadership, field training, and drill & ceremony. Cadets typically take both the 2-credit Military Science freshmen level class, which meets for 75 minutes twice per week, and the weekly Leadership Lab. During each semester, cadets also have the opportunity to attend a three-day field training exercise, involving events such as day and night land navigation, squad tactics, obstacle course, weapons training, and a Leadership Reaction Course (LRC). There is no military obligation for participating in these courses, unless the cadet is a scholarship recipient.



Military Science II Year

The MS II year is an expansion of the topics taught in the first year. Cadets are introduced to tactics, troop leading procedures, basics of operations orders, and ethics. MS II cadets take both the 3-credit Military Science sophomore level class, which meets for one hour twice per week, and the weekly Leadership Lab. MS II cadets may also attend the three-day field training exercise each semester. There is no military obligation for taking this course, unless the cadet is a scholarship recipient or is a contracted cadet.



Army ROTC Program (continued)

Summer Basic Camp

Cadets attend Basic Camp if they have four semesters remaining before graduation, have no prior military experience, or missed any portion of the *Basic Course* and want to enter the advanced ROTC program. Those choosing this option attend Basic Camp the summer before they begin the MS III year. Basic Camp is a four-week course conducted at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Cadets receive training pay while in attendance. Travel, housing, food, and uniforms are also paid for by the U.S. Army. Cadets learn the same skills and fundamentals of military science, leadership, values, and ethics taught in the *Basic Course*.

Advanced Course

Military Science III Year

MS III marks the beginning of the *Advanced Course*. While non-scholarship cadets may take the first two years with no military obligation, MS III cadets must sign a contract incurring a military obligation to serve part- or full-time once commissioned as a second lieutenant.

Cadets take both the 3-credit Military Science junior level class for 75 minutes twice per week and the weekly Leadership Lab. This course is focused on the application of leadership and small-unit tactics. Cadets are assigned rotating leadership positions within the Golden Buffalo Battalion and are evaluated on their performance and leadership abilities. MS III cadets practice briefing operations orders, executing battle drills, leading, participating in physical training, and preparing for successful performance at the Advance Camp. Attendance at Advance Camp is mandatory for *Advanced Course* cadets.

Advance Camp

The Advance Camp is a paid five-week leadership course conducted at Fort Knox, Kentucky during the summer. At Advance Camp, cadets take on various leadership roles and are evaluated on their performance and leadership abilities. Cadets also participate in adventure training to include confidence and obstacle courses, rappelling, water safety, weapons firing, and patrolling. Cadets must attend and successfully complete this course to earn an Army commission.

Military Science IV Year

This is the final year of the ROTC program, and the main focus is toward preparing cadets to become successful lieutenants in the Army upon graduation and commissioning.

Cadets are assigned cadet battalion staff positions and are responsible for evaluating MS III cadets and executing training operations and missions. Cadets take both the 3-credit Military Science (MS) senior level class and the weekly Leadership Lab.

Army ROTC Program (continued)



The MS senior level class meets twice per week for 75 minutes and is taught by the Professor of Military Science (PMS). During the MS IV year, cadets also lead the Leadership Labs. MS IV cadets are introduced to the Military Decision Making Process (MDMP), battle analysis, leadership counseling, and staff operations.

Upon completion of the course program and graduation, cadets will receive a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.



Physical Training (PT)

Physical fitness and leading a healthy lifestyle are important parts of military service. Cadets participate in PT three times per week to increase muscle strength and endurance. PT consists of grass drills, push-up and sit-up improvement, and ability group runs. PT is mandatory for all contracted cadets.

Weekly Leadership Laboratories

These 90 minute periods provide cadets with practical leadership experience and performance-oriented, hands-on instruction outside the classroom. Diagnostic evaluations of cadets in leadership roles are frequently administered. Leadership Labs are mandatory for all contracted cadets.



“I joined ROTC to challenge myself to learn new skills and grow as a leader and individual while serving my country and being part of something greater than myself.”

—Cadet S. Smith, UCB

Scholarship Programs

Army ROTC Scholarships (four-year)

This scholarship type is awarded to high school seniors who will soon graduate or obtain an equivalent certificate. Competition for these scholarships is high, as over 6,000 students from across the country apply for them. Scholarships cover full tuition and fees plus a \$1,200 per year book allowance. Scholarship cadets also receive a monthly tax-free stipend (\$420).

We recommend applicants apply online before December 1 (the actual deadline changes each year at the discretion of Army Cadet Command) at www.rotc.usaac.army.mil

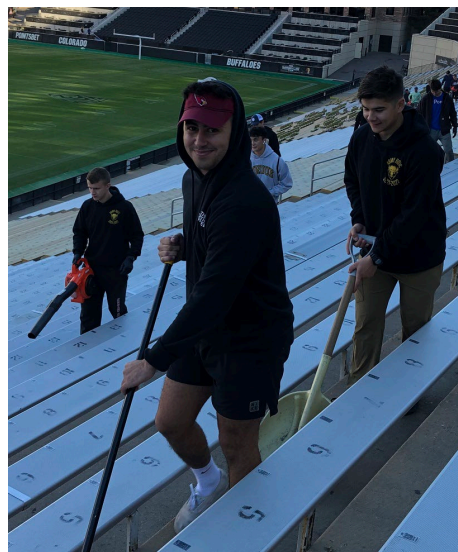
Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Must be 17 years of age by October of the semester you are entering college.
- Must not reach 31 years of age by June 30 of the year you will graduate from college.
- Be a high school graduate or possess an equivalent certificate.
- Have a minimum high school GPA of 2.5.
- Receive a waiver for an arrest and/or civil conviction (if applicable).
- Have no moral or personal conviction against bearing arms or supporting and defending the Constitution of the United States.

Applicants must meet all eligibility criteria to receive further scholarship consideration. Selected applicants will be notified to schedule a Presidential Fitness Assessment (PFA), a medical examination, and a personal interview.

Presidential Fitness Assessment (PFA)

This is administered by a coach at the high school or through a Junior ROTC program. This is only an indicator for the application. Cadets must pass an Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) within the first semester of starting ROTC in order for a scholarship to go into effect.



Scholarship Programs (continued)

Medical Examination

ROTC applicants must pass a medical examination by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB). You will be notified by Cadet Command when and where to take the physical.

Personal Interview

You will be interviewed in-person or via zoom, depending on the travel distance involved. You can also opt to interview at a university close to your home of record.

Military Obligation

If you are selected for an AROTC Scholarship, you are required to:

- Sign a contract with the Department of the Army. If you are under 18 years of age when you enroll, your parents or guardians must also sign this contract. This contract contains a requirement to repay the U.S. Government for all financial aid received if, after you begin your sophomore year, you fail to comply with the terms of the contract. This repayment may be either monetary or in the form of enlisted service. The choice rests with the Army and not with the scholarship cadet.
- Attend the five-week Advance Camp between your junior and senior years of college.
- Serve as an officer in the military for a period of eight years. This may be fulfilled by:
 1. Serving four/four: four years on Active Duty and four years in the Inactive Ready Reserve (IRR)—or Active Duty, Army National Guard, Army Reserve service. Term of obligation begins at time of commissioning.
 2. Serving six/two: six years in the Army National Guard or Army Reserve and two years in the IRR. Term of obligation begins at time of commissioning.

Campus-Based Scholarships (two- or three-year)

Campus scholarships are offered to students who were not offered or did not apply for the ROTC Scholarship in high school. These scholarships range in length from two to three years. Scholarships cover full tuition and fees each year, a book allowance of \$1,200 per year, and a monthly tax-free stipend of \$420.

Eligibility Requirements

Requirements are the same as a four-year scholarship.

Military Obligation

If you are selected for a campus-based scholarship, your obligation is the same as that of a high school ROTC scholarship.



“I joined ROTC to be involved and have the opportunity to be in a community that will strengthen my leadership skills and lifestyle, while preparing as a committed officer to guide others.”

—Cadet N. Minor, CCU

Scholarship Programs (continued)

Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) Scholarships

*Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty Scholarship/
Dedicated Army National Guard Scholarship
(four- to two-year)*

The Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty (GRFD) program and the Dedicated ARNG scholarship is for cadets who are interested in a commission in the Army Reserve or the Army National Guard. These scholarships pay full tuition and fees each year. These scholarships pay full tuition and fees each year. Scholarship awardees receive a book allowance of \$1,200 per year and a monthly tax-free stipend of \$420. These cadets also receive approximately \$220 per month for weekend drill as participants in the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP).

Eligibility Requirements

In addition to the same requirements used for a four-year scholarship you must also:

- Complete the ROTC *Basic Course* requirements basic training, or the Basic Camp.
- Participate in the SMP program with a guard or reserve unit.

Military Obligation

If you are selected for a Dedicated ARNG scholarship or GRFD, you are required to:

- Sign a contract in the Army National Guard or Army Reserve upon commissioning.
- Serve six years in a unit and two years in the IRR. Term of obligation begins at time of commissioning.



Non-scholarship Students



Students can participate in ROTC without a scholarship and still receive the ROTC monthly stipend of \$420 during their sophomore, junior, and senior year once contracted. These students may elect to participate in the Simultaneous Membership Program with a U.S. Army Reserve or Army National Guard unit and receive tuition waivers or reimbursement. ROTC course requirements are the same as other two- to three-year program students, with the exception of military obligation.

Non-scholarship students are required to:

- **Serve four/four:** four years on Active Duty and have the option to serve the remaining four years in the IRR—or Active Duty, Army National Guard, Army Reserve.
- **Serving six/two:** six years in the Army National Guard or Army Reserve and two years in the IRR.



Students have a wide variety of experience and education. For this reason, the program has several options for students interested in taking ROTC classes and receiving a commission.



“I wanted to make myself a better leader and take advantage of the opportunity to have an adventurous career.”

—Cadet C. Rhodes, UCB

Quick FAQs

How do I take classes?

Army ROTC courses are listed in the school course catalogs. Look for the following course prefixes either in the catalog or online.

- CU-Boulder, UC-Denver, Regis, and Metro State Univ of Denver: **MILR**
(Note: UC-Denver students must see their dean to fill out a concurrent form to take ROTC classes at CU-Boulder.)
- Colorado School of Mines: **MSGN**
- Colorado Christian University: **MIL**
- University of Denver: **RTC**
- Community Colleges of Colorado: **ARM**

Register for the class and time that fits your schedule. You can attend classes at either of the three teaching schools: CU-Boulder, Metro State University of Denver on the Auraria Campus, or Colorado School of Mines in Golden. For contact information at your school, see “Host and Partnership Schools.” Or you can call the Army ROTC main line at 303-492-6495.

Do I have an obligation to the military?

If you take only the first two years of the ROTC program (*Basic Course*), there is no military obligation, unless you are a scholarship cadet. If you take the last two years of the program (*Advanced Course*), you must contract with ROTC, which does create an obligation.

What if I am a college senior going on to graduate school or a graduate student now?

Graduate students can enroll in the *Advanced Course*. If a student has no prior military training, then they must attend the Basic Camp during the summer prior to their first fall semester.

Who do I talk to?

Contact the Scholarship and Enrollment Officer at 303-492-3549 to see if AROTC can help you meet your goals and assist you with determining which program will work best for you.





Army ROTC Spring 2022 Second Lieutenants taking turns cutting the commissioning cake with the traditional officer's sword. Photo courtesy of Aaron Sager.

