

# Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps

*Published February 11, 2015*

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## **Mission**

Develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community.

## **Goals**

Instill values of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility, and sense of accomplishment.

## **Personnel and Resources**

The Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps staff includes 31 headquarters' personnel and more than 1,910 retired Air Force officer and enlisted military instructors. There are 870 Air Force Junior ROTC units with nearly 120,000 cadets in high schools across the United States and selected Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Europe and the Pacific and public schools in Puerto Rico and Guam. The Air Force plans to continue expansion efforts to 955 units by 2020 when funds are available. With the addition of new units, AFJROTC is expected to reach more than 135,000 cadets worldwide.

## **Organization**

Air Force JROTC provides leadership training and an aerospace science program for high school students. Secondary school students who enroll in the AFJROTC program are offered a wide variety of curricular and extra-curricular activities. The program explores the historic and scientific aspects of aerospace technology and teaches high school students self-reliance, self-discipline and other characteristics found in good leaders. The AFJROTC program is open to 9th-12th grade students who are citizens of the United States. The program is not a recruiting tool for the military services and those students who participate in AFJROTC do not incur any obligation to the Air Force.

The objectives of Air Force Junior ROTC are to educate and train high school cadets in citizenship and life skills; promote community service; instill a sense responsibility; develop character and self-discipline through education and instruction in air and space fundamentals and the Air Force's core values of "integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do."

## **Curriculum**

Aerospace science comprises 40 percent of the curriculum, leadership education 40 percent, and health and wellness for life training 20 percent. All students who successfully complete AFJROTC classes are granted credit toward graduation. Classroom study includes the heritage of flight, principles of aircraft

flight and navigation, human requirements of flight, development of aerospace power, aerospace vehicles, rocketry, space and technology programs, and the aerospace industry. Students are also introduced to military customs and courtesies, citizenship in the United States, first aid, wellness, health and fitness, basic drill and ceremonies, effective communications, management, human relations, and life after high school. All uniforms and curriculum materials are provided by the Air Force.

To reinforce what is learned in the classroom, cadets participate in many outside activities such as field trips to military bases, aerospace facilities and industries, museums, civilian airports and other areas related to aerospace education.

Cadets also participate in parades, leadership laboratory activities, civilian air rifle marksmanship programs, drill team competitions, color and honor guards, military balls, and honorary academic groups. Many AFJROTC units complement the curriculum through the cooperation and resources of organizations such as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Civil Air Patrol, and the National Endowment for Financial Education.

### **Instructors**

All AFJROTC instructors are retired Air Force commissioned and non-commissioned officers. The instructors maintain Air Force standards and are trained through the AFJROTC Academic Instructor Course. They are full-time faculty members of the participating high school and are employed by the local school board to teach AFJROTC classes. There are more than 1,910 instructors serving in the 870 units around the world.

### **Community Service**

Community service is a major part of the cadet experience and helps instill a sense of civic pride and citizenship. Projects range from working with national organizations like the March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy, the National Red Ribbon Campaign, and Special Olympics to participating in local community projects such as cleaning and refurbishing cemeteries, building parks, and sponsoring Little League baseball teams. In school year 2012-2013, JROTC cadets performed more than 1.56 million hours of community service.

### **Drug Abuse Prevention**

Cadets are also very active in drug abuse prevention education. The Awareness Presentation Team is a program designed to provide cadets as positive role models for elementary and middle school students. Cadets visit the younger students at their schools and present talks and skits in an effort to deter drug use and abuse. Active unit programs make presentations to thousands of students each year.

### **Scholarships and Other Benefits**

AFJROTC cadets who choose to continue their education may receive special consideration for Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarships. Many of these scholarships will pay for two, three, or four years of tuition, books, and fees at numerous universities and colleges and allow cadets to pursue studies in various technical and non-technical majors.

Cadets completing two years of AFJROTC and who continue ROTC in college may waive one term of the AFROTC program. Students completing three years in AFJROTC may receive credit for a full year of college level AFROTC.

In addition, cadets electing to enter the military immediately after graduating from high school are eligible to enlist in the services at one to two pay grades higher than other enlistees. Students completing three years in AFJROTC are eligible to enter the Air Force two pay grades higher than other enlistees and are automatically enrolled into the Community College of the Air Force to receive college credit toward their associate college degree.

**For More Information**

For more information on AFJROTC, contact AFJROTC Headquarters, 60 West Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112-6501; dial 1-334-953-7513, online <http://www.au.af.mil/au/holmcenter>.

(Current as of February 2015)



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