

The Truth about the Military Money for College

Will I really get \$70,000 for college if I enlist?

Your chances of getting \$70,000 are about 20:1. Only about 5% of those who enlist are eligible for this maximum amount.¹

What will it cost me?

You will have \$100 taken from your paycheck for a full year to help fund the military's college tuition program, whether or not you actually get any college money from them. (There are special forms that you can sign to avoid paying this \$1,200, but if you sign them, you will not get any money for college.)¹

Will I get money for college if I don't complete the terms of my enlistment?

No! Your "deposit" is non-refundable so, if ever you are ruled ineligible, you will lose your \$1,200. However, if you die while on active duty, your family would then be eligible for a refund.¹

THINK BEFORE YOU ENLIST!

The military is not your only source of money for college, and the G.I. Bill will not fund your entire college education. If you're thinking of enlisting to get money for college, look at all your other options. High School guidance counselors and College financial aid officers can help you find other sources of money for college.

It's your life, and your choice.

The Truth Project, Inc. PO Box 7394, Delray Beach, FL 33482
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¹Military Money for College: A Reality Check, *Peacework* Magazine, June-July, 2005

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The Truth about the Military Recruiting

Do recruiters have to keep their promises?

No! The military does not have to keep any promises made to you by recruiters, but YOU must keep any promises that you make to THEM! The enlistment document you sign is not a contract or an agreement. Read paragraphs ‘b’ and ‘c’ on the second page of your document VERY carefully!

Who ARE these recruiters?

Recruiters may not be who you think they are. They might be from the military, or they might be from private corporations that are paid about \$5,700 every time they get someone like you to sign up.¹

How do recruiters work?

Recruiters work just like salesmen. They find their “customers” in high schools, or at the mall, or by making telephone calls.¹ And, just like salesmen, they have quotas that they must meet. If they fail to meet their quotas, they can be punished. That’s why they try so hard to sign you up, and why they might make promises to you that are not true.

THINK BEFORE YOU ENLIST!

Ask yourself: If I want to serve my country, is the military my only option? Through the Peace Corps and AmeriCorps, you can travel, earn money, and serve your community.

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¹Army tries Private Pitch for Recruits, *Washington Post*, Sept. 6, 2006

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The Truth about the Military Job Training

How much job training will I really get?

A recent study found that veterans received less than two months of training for every 31 months of active duty.¹

Do I get to choose the job I want when I complete my enlistment document?

Yes, *but!* After basic training, the military will train you for whatever job they need you to do at that time. Mostly, the army and marines need riflemen.

Will my military job training prepare me for a good job when I get out?

In most cases, No! Military training is for military jobs. Sometimes, you will get technical training so that you can work for defense contractors or jobs like that, but you will need to stay in the military longer in order to get that training.¹

How easy is it for veterans to get jobs?

The current unemployment rate for young veterans is more than 15% – nearly twice the national rate. Only about 10% of veterans ever use their military job training in their civilian jobs!²

THINK BEFORE YOU ENLIST!

Get all the facts about job training before you sign up. Get “promises” in writing, but remember that the military does not have to keep its promises to you. Ask yourself: How else can I get job training?

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The Truth about the Military Life in the Military

What can I expect if I enlist?

- About 25,000 families of our servicemen and women are eligible for Food Stamps because their income is so low.¹
- At some bases, many military families rely on donated food.⁵
- If you die in battle, your next of kin will receive a death benefit of only \$100,000. Police and firefighters killed in the line of duty get more than 2 times that much.²
- Compared to the general population, minorities and women are more likely to be in the lowest ranks, and less likely to receive career-enhancing training.³

What if I don't like life in the military?

You can't just quit! The military can keep you indefinitely, or call you back many years later. And remember—the military does not have to keep its promises to you. “Laws and regulations that govern military personnel may change without notice... **regardless** of the provisions of [your] enlistment document.”⁴

Will life be easier for me when I get out?

Not necessarily. Health care and other veterans' benefits have been cut. Many Vets are homeless or jobless, and many experience emotional stress, divorce, and suicide.*

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* B. Beck, *Political Gateway* 2006; Dept. of Veterans Affairs (est.) 2004; *Harpers*, Oct. 2006; Gov't. Accountability Office Report 2004

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