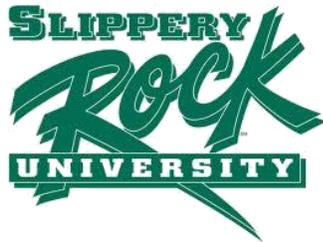




# THE FRONTIER BATTALION



## HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELOR SMART BOOK

The following contents of this document have been comprised to assist Guidance Counselors with the basic insight to assist students in their future endeavors with the Army at the collegiate level, which outlines process, procedures, eligibilities, and benefits.

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## **KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

### **Army ROTC**

**Enrollment & Eligibility  
Clarion/Slippery Rock**

**724 738 6175**

**[SRU.ROTC@SRU.EDU](mailto:SRU.ROTC@SRU.EDU)**

**Clarion National Guard  
Representative**

**814 393 2527**

**Slippery Rock National  
Guard Representative**

**724 738 6172**



**ARMY STRONG.®**

## **SECTION-1: ARMY ROTC OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Army ROTC and the Department of Military Science:**

The mission of the Department of Military Science is to train college men and women to become commissioned officers in the United States Army, Army National Guard, and United States Army Reserve. The U.S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program consists of a voluntary two-year basic course (Freshman and Sophomore- NO MILITARY OBLIGATION) and a two-year advanced course (Junior and Senior), which includes a five-week summer camp prior to the final year. Service veterans are eligible for academic credit (8 hours) and placement in to the advanced course if they are classified as academic juniors.

### **ROTC Mission and Vision:**

To commission the future Officer leadership of the United States Army, "inherent in this mission are the following objectives":

- 1) Intellectual: To supplement the University's traditional education with the subjects of value to the student in civil or military pursuits; to teach each cadet to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; and to motivate cadets to become leaders throughout their lives.
  
- 2) Moral: To develop in each cadet a high sense of duty and the attributes of character inherent in leadership which emphasize integrity, discipline, and motivation to succeed in the profession of arms. Ethical leadership is the foundation upon which the service leadership development through the Army ROTC program rests.
  
- 3) Physical: To develop in each cadet the stamina and fitness essential to a physically demanding career as an Army Officer. Physical fitness is a way of life. Physical fitness improves individual performance through the reduction of stress and improved mental and physical well-being.
  
- 4) Military: To provide cadets with the broad-based military science and military leadership education required as a prerequisite of commissioning. The traditional purposes and ideals are to unite in closer relationship the military departments of American universities and colleges; to preserve and develop the essential qualities of good efficient officers; to prepare ourselves as educated men and women to take a more active part and have greater influence in military affairs of the communities in which we may reside; and above all to spread intelligent, accurate information concerning the military requirements of our country.

## What is an Army Officer?

As an officer in the Armed Forces of the United States Army you are a citizen-Soldier, a warrior in the profession of arms, a member of a skilled profession, an unwavering defender of the Constitution and a servant of the nation. A leader of character, you accept unmitigated personal responsibility and accountability to duty, for your actions and those of your subordinates. You lead your service and defend the nation in seamless union with officers of all services. In so doing, you willingly take your place in an ancient and honorable calling. Obligated equally to those who have gone before you, those you walk among, and those who will follow.

“There is no greater demonstration of the trust of the Republic than in its expression and bestowal of an officer’s commission.” This trust involves the majesty of the nation’s authority in matters involving the lives and deaths of its citizens. That this particular trust most often is first directed on men and women of no particular experience in life, leadership, or war, elevates the act to a supreme occasion of faith as well. Accepting an officer’s commission in the armed forces is a weighty matter, carrying a corresponding burden of practical and moral responsibility. The officer must live up to this responsibility each day he or she serves.

## **SECTION-2: IDEAL CANDIDATE FOR ARMY ROTC**

Army ROTC cadets are scholars, athletes and leaders. Typically, those who volunteer to serve their nation through Army ROTC are well-rounded students with good grades and strong potential to serve in leadership positions. More than half of them have held office in their cohort class or in the student body. Most are strong potential to serve in leadership positions. More than half of them have held office in their cohort class or in the student body. Most are National Honor Society members. Many are members of school, church, or private clubs and other organizations, and others are varsity letter winners and varsity team captains. The U.S. Army is looking for achievers with broad interests, leadership ability, and a demonstrated willingness to take on and overcome challenges.

Successful candidates pursue academic excellence. Most fall in the top 25% of their class. These top achievers score on an average, between 1050 and 1350 on their SAT and between 22 and 30 on their ACT.

An Army ROTC battalion is the group of all cadets enrolled in the program at a particular school. These students scholarship cadets, non-scholarship cadets, Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) cadets, Green to Gold cadets and curious students.

The pursuit of excellence continues with cadets on campus. Army ROTC cadets are encouraged to participate in a variety of campus activities, including competitive sports and student organizations. The practice of leadership within ROTC is important, but it is not the only means for leadership development on campus. Many cadets develop leadership skills by being active in university-sponsored activities: student government, club officers, internships, study abroad, club and intramural sports, and volunteer work. Students that are required to hold jobs to pay for school or take care of other family members are recognized for taking on additional responsibilities, for these actions too, demonstrate leadership.

In addition to the required five-week Advanced Camp, cadets may choose to participate in a wide variety of Army-sponsored leadership development programs during the summer, including skills training programs like Airborne School and internships with Army agencies, in disciplines from ecology to medicine.

In their final year, cadets compete for their choice of branch assignment based primarily on their order of merit – a score which encompasses their academic standing, battalion ranking, and performance at Advanced Camp. There are nineteen Army branches to select from including Air Defense, Artillery, Armor, Aviation, Chemical Corps, Cyber, Corps of Engineers, Field Artillery, Infantry, Military Police Corps, Military Intelligence Corps, Signal Corps, Adjutant General's Corps, Finance, Ordnance Corps, Quartermaster Corps, Transportation, Medical Service Corps, and Nurse Corps.

Students should meet with the Professor of Military Science (PMS) and the cadets at each campus visited and ask the cadets about their Army ROTC experience and ask the cadre about their experience as junior officers. Prospective candidates will find that they're in good company with this group and that Army ROTC is a premier leadership development programs in the world.

### **SECTION-3: GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be between the ages of 17 and 26
- Have a high school GPA of at least 2.50
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Score a minimum of 920 on the SAT (math/verbal) or 19 on the ACT (excluding the required writing test scores)
- Meet physical standards (Pass the Army Physical Fitness Test)
- No medical issues preventing you from serving
- No major convictions or felonies
- Agree to accept a commission and serve in the Army on Active Duty or in a Reserve Component (Army Reserve or Army National Guard)

### **SECTION-4: SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA**

**All factors are important and are considered in the selection of scholarship winners. Selection of scholarship finalists is based on:**

- SAT or ACT scores. If both tests are taken, or taken more than once, please furnish all results; the best score(s) will be used.
- High school academic standing. Class size and rank within the class are required. If the school does not rank students, they must provide at least an estimate of where the student would fall (e.g., "this student would fall within the top 20 %")
- High school Transcripts. A transcript of grades is required in reviewing the scholarship application. The applicant must complete the **Personal Data Section** on the Request for Transcript located in the application and give it to the Guidance Counselor to complete. The Guidance Counselor will send a copy of student's high school transcript along with the completed request for transcript.
- Evidence of extracurricular activity participation, athletic activities, and leadership positions held. If the student has held part-time jobs during the school year and has not had time for extensive participation in sports or other activities, credit will be given based on the number of hours worked per week.
- Personal interview(s). If selected as a scholarship finalist, the student must contact one of the schools listed in the notification letter (or any school of the student's choice) to have the interview conducted. The notification letter requires that the student respond back to the Cadet Command Scholarship Branch identifying where he/she wishes to have their interview conducted. Any travel to and from the interview will be at the student's own expense.

**It is important to note that those who don't receive a national scholarship are still eligible to compete for scholarships at individual programs and working with the Enrollment Officer.**

### **SAT & ACT**

When taking college entrance exams, students should list Army ROTC as a test score recipient. **The Army ROTC code for SAT is 0454; the code for ACT is 1676.** Students should also list those schools they are planning to apply for as recipients on their application. They may not be required to list their social security number (SSN) on the college entrance exams, however, it is recommended that they do so for proper scores posting.

Experience has shown that many applicants have been disqualified because they failed to allow sufficient time for processing test results. SAT and ACT test results require approximately four weeks to process; do not wait for test results to mail application forms!

By listing Army ROTC as a test score recipient, scores will automatically be furnished to Cadet Command. Test scores provided in this manner require no further verification. Also, test scores reflected on official transcripts require no further verification either. In order to accept scores provided from any other source, students must personally submit those scores to the Cadet Command address found in the application.

SAT and ACT writing tests are required; however they are used subjectively for the board at this time. No whole person score is associated with the writing tests. Students should contact their guidance

counselor to determine test dates and registration dates and requirements. The Army cannot schedule or administer these tests, nor can we initiate a request for scores.

## **SECTION-5: MEDICAL EXAMINATION & CRITERIA**

All recipients must be medically qualified in order to enroll as scholarship cadets and receive benefits.

Individuals selected as scholarship finalists will be contacted and scheduled for a medical examination by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB). DODMERB will normally contact students via letter or postcard announcing an appointment date and time or requesting that the student contact a contracted physician to make an appointment. If unable to report to the examination as scheduled, the student must notify DODMERB immediately to be rescheduled. Students are responsible for their transportation, lodging and meals related to this examination.

If a student does not receive appointment information within six weeks after being notified that their application has been provided to their school choices, they should contact DODMERB at 1-800-841-2706.

As part the medical evaluation, they must weigh less than the maximum allowable weight for their height. A table for the allowable weight for scholarship recipients can be found in the application.

Results of the medical examination will be furnished directly to the student by DODMERB as well as to Army ROTC. Upon receipt of the results, the student may want to e-mail Cadet Command at **atccps@usacc.army.mil**, to ensure that they have received a copy. Students must comply as quickly as possible with any requirements to provide additional medical documents or to schedule a consultation in a particular area, in order to avoid delays in the scholarship processing.

If a student is medically disqualified, he/she will not be eligible for a scholarship or service in the Army as a Commissioned Officer.

## **SECTION-6: OBLIGATIONS**

If selected for a U.S. Army ROTC scholarship, the student is required to sign a contract with the Secretary of the Army. If not yet 18 years of age when enrolling, the parents or guardians must also sign the contract.

Scholarship cadets must pursue an approved academic discipline. Within the scholarship application, the student must select an intended major.

This selection will not prevent changing majors later, but students must work with their PMS to do so. Any change of major that results in a requirement for additional coursework and a potential request for an extension of scholarship benefits must be approved by ROTC.

In each ROTC program, the student will be required to take Military Science classes each academic term, and will attend a paid five-week camp between the third and fourth year (normally the summer before senior year).

As a 4-year scholarship, 3-year advanced or campus based winner, students will be commissioned as a second lieutenant upon graduation, with a commitment to serve on active duty for a minimum of four years. Selected cadets may choose to serve in the U.S. Army Reserve or Army National Guard.

When enlisting into the Army, all obligations come with a minimum of 8 years of service. How that service is broken down is dependent on the individual and there option for enlistment plus contracting criteria for ROTC. Examples are as follows in the table below:

Type of Enlistment	Active Service Obligation	Ready Reserve Obligation (IRR)
4 Year National Scholarship Winner; 3yr Advanced or any campus based scholarship	4 years Active Duty Service or 6 years Reserve Drilling time	4 years IRR for Active duty and 2 years IRR for Reservists
2 or 3 year Non-Scholarship	3 years Active Duty Service or 6 years Reserve Drilling time	5 years IRR for Active duty and 2 years IRR for Reservists
ROTC with requested service Branch and Location (special)	Can range from 6 years to max of 12 years Active service time	Dependent on active service obligation
National Guard or Army Reserve Enlistment	6 years of active drilling time	2 years of IRR service
Active Duty Enlistment	3,4,5 & 6 Active service obligations	5,4,3 & 2 year IRR service

**Note**...Drilling service time for Reserves and National Guard is one-weekend per month and two-weeks in the summer for annual training.

**Note**...IRR is Inactive Ready Reserve, which means you are no longer serving your country and have been discharged. However, in time of war or military need, you can be activated over your IRR time period.

## **SECTION-7: SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS**

This is a supplemental guide for incoming freshmen or transfer students seeking an Army ROTC scholarship.

### **1. Overview**

- a. Scholarship allocations vary by year and type of scholarship.
- b. The scholarship process typically includes three rounds of evaluation. To make yourself the most competitive, complete your application for both the University and the Army ROTC scholarship as soon as possible.
- c. Scholarships are awarded based on an internally created order of merit list (OML). The OML gives us a tool to evaluate scholarship candidates by ranking individuals on the following: Student, Athlete, Leader (SAL) criteria or Whole Person Score (WPS), interview and Scholarship Board.

SAL Criteria or Whole Person Score (WPS) is determined by Cadet Command based on the information you provide during your application process. Interviews can be conducted at Slippery Rock, Clarion or the nearest program near your home location. We recommend that you interview in person (if possible) at Slippery Rock if it is one of your top choices of schools to attend. Lastly, the Scholarship Board reviews all of your credentials (packet) and you are awarded an overall score. The total of the three aforementioned categories determines your total score. You are then rank ordered against all of the other candidates who have applied. The top candidates will be offered scholarships. Be advised, we usually have additional scholarships available after the school year starts.

## 2. What makes you competitive for an Army ROTC Scholarship?

We are looking for motivated, well-rounded individuals to become the future warrior-leaders of the United States Army. We target the “Scholar – Athlete – Leader” (SAL). To find out if you are a SAL, review the following:

### Scholars – Athlete – Leader (SAL) Criteria

Please note any of the following SAL criteria you may have to justify your scholarship application and turn-in to your instructor by her/his deadline. Include both high school and college.

#### College Criteria:

##### a. Scholar (only requires one of the following)

- Campus Academic Honors Designee
- Top third of class and either - Cumulative GPA over 3.0 - and SAT/ACT score above 1100/21 (Freshman & G2G)
- Cumulative GPA over 3.0 and SAT/ACT over 1100/21 (Freshmen and G2G)
- In an academic program with the Academic Discipline Mix (ADM) coding of 3, 4 or IAW CC Reg 145-12 and a cumulative GPA over 2.5

##### b. Athlete (only requires one of the following)

- Current member of college competitive or intramural team
- Current member of regional/city/competitive league
- Either active competitive involvement in organized team sports / unit sports team (G2G) or active involvement in individual athletic competitions (triathlon, mountain biking, running, martial arts, etc)

c. Leader (only requires one of the following)

- Elected member of student government, class, activity
- Captain of college athletic or academic team · Eagle Scout / Gold Star
- Prior Service NCO (reserve or active duty)
- Owns/runs own business or in supervisory position
- Serves in position of responsibility in school/club or private organization and leader in volunteer service organizations/activities

High School Criteria (4-Year Scholarship Awardees):

a. Scholar (only requires one of the following)

- Valedictorian/Salutatorian
- Membership in National Honor Society
- Honors or Advanced Placement Program graduate
- GPA over 3.0 and SAT/ACT over 1100/21
- Top 10 percent of class and either - GPA over 3.0 or - SAT/ACT score above 1100/21

b. Athlete (only requires one of the following)

- Varsity Letter from HS team
- Member of regional/city/competitive league
- Either active involvement in organized competitive team sports or active involvement in individual athletic competitions (triathlon, mountain biking, running, martial arts, etc.)

c. Leader (only requires one of the following)

- Elected member of student government, class, activity
- Captain of athletic or academic team
- Eagle Scout / Gold Star
- Served in position of responsibility in school/club or private organization and leader in volunteer service organizations/activities

Here a few tips to make yourself more competitive for an AROTC scholarship:

Select Slippery Rock or Clarion 1st or 2nd when applying online @ [armyrotc.com](http://armyrotc.com)

- Enhance your SAL criteria
- Be accepted to university (or at a minimum have applied)
- Be physically qualified (DODMERB Medical Physical)
- Pass an Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT)
- Be a SAL (the more credentials, the better).

### 3. Incoming Freshmen

a. High school seniors - If you are a high school senior, your first step is to apply (and be accepted) to Slippery Rock or Clarion Universities.

b. If you are interested in an Army ROTC 4-year scholarship you can apply online:

<http://www.goarmy.com/rotc>

The application requires you to provide follow-up documentation and complete a physical (at no cost to you) at a later date. The deadline for Army ROTC scholarships for each school year (SY) is December 1st of the year prior to entry; i.e. – If you want a scholarship for fall, you must have your application in by December 1st. You can start applying online in mid-July (or soon-thereafter). The earlier you complete the application process, the better.

c. High school juniors – If you are a high school junior inquiring about our program, please check out our website for additional information and apply for an Army ROTC scholarship in the summer between your junior and senior year, no later than December 1st of your senior year in high school. To make yourself more competitive and increase your chances of receiving a scholarship, look at our SAL criteria (explained above) and enhance your SAL resume as much as possible before you apply for the scholarship (i.e. join athletic and academic clubs, student government, and study hard to get a great GPA!!)

### 4. Scholarship Timeline (Incoming Freshmen Only):

October 15 – Offer first-round scholarship(s)

February 10 – Offer second-round scholarship(s)

April 15 – Offer third-round scholarship(s)

*\*Dates are subject to change.*

### 5. Transfer Students

If you are transferring from another college, again your first step is to get accepted to the University, then join our program in order to be eligible for a scholarship. We offer 4, 3, and 2-year scholarships, targeting the SAL criteria we listed earlier. Again, you must enroll in our program to be eligible for the scholarship – we do not award scholarships before the SY starts. We also have other programs that can assist you financially, such as our Simultaneous Member Program (SMP), which can pay up to \$7,000 per semester in your sophomore, junior and senior years as well as Federal Tuition Assistance.

## SECTION-8: SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

**All scholarships come with the following options and it is dependent on the scholar recipient in how they choose to use those benefits.**

- 100% tuition and fees; **or** room/board not to exceed \$5K/semester

- \$600 per semester for books
- Cadet Stipend
  - Freshmen = \$300/month x 10 months
  - Sophomore = \$350/month x 10 months
  - Junior = \$450/month x 12 months
  - Senior = \$500/month x 10 months

**Note**...this scholarship can be used in conjunction with federal aid and any other scholarships the student may receive following university and federal financial aid guidelines.

## **SECTION-9: ARMY ROTC PROGRESSION MODEL**

### **High School Progression**

#### **HS Junior Year**

- Visit Colleges
- Meet with ROTC Enrollment Officials
- Meet with Reserve Recruiters
- Discuss options with HS Guidance Counselor
- Discuss options with Parents

#### **Summer Break**

- Attend Basic Training and Advanced Training (optional for National Guard and Reserve enlistments)

#### **HS Senior**

- Select Colleges of choice and apply
- Apply online for ROTC National Scholarship
- Gain admission to college
- Limit selections
- Meet with ROTC Enrollment Officer for a 2nd Time
- Final College Selection

#### **Summer Break**

- College Orientation Days
- Attend Basic Training and Advanced Training (optional for National Guard and Reserve enlistments)

## College Progression Model

### Freshmen Year (MS1) Basic Course

- MS100/102 Classes
- MS100 counts toward general liberal arts requirements for the university (3crh's)
- Contract if you received a 4yr/3.5yr Scholarship
- Take courses and be a cadet; no commitment is required

### Summer Break

- Will attend Basic Camp (If Contracted)
- Do not have to attend if you have gone to basic training (National Guard/Reserve soldiers)
- Cultural awareness visits are optional if contracted (dependent on availability). Similar to study abroad internships
- Training like Airborne and Air Assault are an option if contracted (dependent on availability)

### Sophomore Year (MS2) Basic Course

- MS201/202 Classes
- National Guard/Reserve soldiers can contract if they have 30 crhs.
- Can just take courses and be a cadet; no commitment is required

### Summer Break

- Will attend Basic Camp if you have not yet completed it
- Basic Training counts for all reserve soldiers
- Cultural awareness visits are optional if contracted (dependent on availability)
- Training like Airborne and Air Assault are an option if contracted (dependent on availability)
- If just entering the program, you must attend Basic Camp or Basic Training prior to entering Advance Course
- Must be contracted to enter Advance Course

### Junior Year (MS3) Advanced Course

- MS301/302 Classes
- Must be contracted to enter advance course...commitment is required
- Recommend taking Military History
- Preparing to assess for active duty (not guaranteed...must compete)
- If desiring an Educational Delay, must submit packet
- Preparing to attend Advance Camp

### Summer Break

- Will attend Advanced Camp during this summer (mandatory)
- Will have a chance to compete for summer schools and Cultural Awareness (minimal)
- Recommend no internships during this summer or summer classes

### Senior Year (MS4) Advanced Course

- MS401/402 Classes
- Seniors are in charge of the program and mentoring the underclass cadets
- Must have completed all basic and advance course classes
- Must have completed Military History prior to graduating
- Must have completed all degree requirements in order to graduate and commission
- Graduate and Commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in either the active duty or reserves

### Basic Course

The Basic Course, normally completed in the freshman and sophomore years, provides the student a general knowledge of the military's role in our society and the missions of the Army. Subjects include leadership, land navigation, marksmanship, military history, and basic military skills. Students enroll in one military science course each semester. It is possible for a sophomore to complete the Basic Course in one year through prior arrangement with the department. No military obligation is incurred for non-scholarship students participating in or completing the Basic Course.

## **Advanced Course**

The Advanced Course is the professional phase of the ROTC training program. Upon satisfactory completion of required ROTC courses and the professional military education (PME) component, the student is eligible for a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the active Army, the U.S. Army Reserve, or the Army National Guard.

The professional phase includes courses in leadership skills, training, personnel management, ethics, military justice, and military tactics. During the two years of the Advanced Course, students enroll in one military science course per term. The PME component consists of two essential parts: a bachelor's degree and at least one undergraduate course from three designated fields of study. You must take a course in military history, computer literacy and (written or oral) communication. See your military science instructor for specifics in PME. Attendance at one scheduled field training exercise (FTX) is required each semester, and all students must meet Army physical fitness and weight control standards. A five-week Advanced Camp is normally attended in the summer between the junior and senior years.

## **SECTION-10: ARMY ROTC HISTORY**

The tradition of military instruction on civilian college campuses began in 1818 when Captain Alden Partridge, former superintendent at West Point, established the American Literary, Scientific, and Military Academy, which later became Norwich University. The idea of military instruction in civilian colleges soon spread to other institutions, including Virginia Military Institute, The University of Tennessee, and The Citadel. The Land Grant Act of 1862 (Morrill Act) reinforced this tradition by specifying that courses in military tactics should be offered at the colleges and universities established as a result of this act.

Although 105 colleges and universities offered this instruction by the turn of the century, the college military instruction program was not directly associated with Army needs. The National Defense Act of 1916 turned away from the idea of an expandable Regular Army and firmly established the traditional American concept of a citizen's Army as the keystone of our defense forces. It merged the National Guard, the Army Reserve, and the Regular Army into the Army of the United States. Officers for this expanded citizen's Army were to be given military instruction in colleges and universities under a Reserve Officers' Training Corps. Army ROTC was firmly established in the form in which it is known today.

By the beginning of World War I, ROTC had placed some 90,000 officers in the reserve pool. In 1917 and 1918, the majority of these were called to active duty.

At the outbreak of World War II, more than 56,000 Army ROTC officers were called to active duty within a six month period. By the end of World War II, more than 100,000 had served. Since 1945, more than 330,000 men and women have received commissions through Army ROTC.

In 1945, Congress passed the ROTC vitalization Act, which made the ROTC program more effective by establishing an attractive scholarship program, introducing the two year program and providing monthly financial assistance to Advanced Course Students.

Today, the importance of the ROTC program to national security is highlighted by the fact that about 75% of all officers commissioned each year come from ROTC sources. The national resurgence of interest in ROTC is also clearly evident by the involvement of over 70,000 college students in ROTC courses and by the more than 300 college institutions and 600 cross-enrolled schools which offer the ROTC program on their campuses.

## **SECTION-11: FRONTIER BATTALION HISTORY**

On 21 July 1980, Slippery Rock State College contacted the First ROTC Region at Fort Bragg, North Carolina about establishing an Army ROTC program at Slippery Rock University. The mission establishing Army ROTC at Slippery Rock was assigned to Indiana University of Pennsylvania. An Extension Center agreement was submitted on 21 August 1980 and was approved on 1 March 1981.

In January 1982, the first military science course was offered at the freshman level. The following fall semester, Both MSI and MSII classes were offered. The first Advanced Course class was offered in September 1982. The first Second Lieutenants were commissioned in May 1984. Since that first class, there have been over 300 officers commissioned from the Slippery Rock ROTC Program.

In March 2000, Major General Stewart Wallace approved Slippery Rock's application to be a fully independent, stand-alone, host ROTC program.

Since the beginning of Advanced ROTC, Slippery Rock cadets have consistently scored among the top 20 of 93 schools in the First ROTC Region. Slippery Rock, along with its former host institution, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, has won the Governor's Trophy for the Best ROTC Unit in the Commonwealth three separate times. Slippery Rock was awarded the General Douglas MacArthur Award as the best unit of its size in the nation in 1993 and again in 1995. The commissioning class of 2007 had the honor of being #1 out of 19 schools in the 2nd Brigade, Eastern ROTC Region.

Slippery Rock University's ROTC Program offers a first-rate military education to supplement the other fine academic offerings of the university. Slippery Rock ROTC graduates are currently serving successfully in the Army in leadership positions throughout the world.

## **SECTION-12: ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES PROGRAM (SMP)**

In the Simultaneous Member Program (SMP) you participate in unit training with your USAR or ARNG unit one weekend a month, while earning your commission through ROTC. Upon college graduation, you will be commissioned as an officer in the Army, and have the option of either serving full-time on Active Duty, or part-time in the Army Reserves or Army National Guard.

## Who is eligible?

- full-time college students (sophomore, junior, senior, or grad students)
- currently serving (or willing to enlist) in the USAR or ARNG
- those already enrolled in Army ROTC

## If You Are Already Serving in the USAR or ARNG

If you're already enlisted, your benefits already include tuition assistance (up to \$4500 per year), 100% tuition waiver (ARNG only), GI Bill (\$309 per month, if MOS qualified), and drill pay. Joining ROTC adds a few things to that:

- Drill pay increase to SGT (E-5) rate (\$274.84 per month)
- ROTC stipend (\$350-\$500 per month)
- GI Bill Kicker (\$350 per month) for being in ROTC
- Non-deployable status—your college education won't be interrupted by deployment
- Officer training in your unit

If you are (or will be) a freshman and are currently enlisted, you are eligible for SMP at the beginning of your sophomore year. For your first year you can still enroll in ROTC classes, and drill with your unit, but are not formally in the SMP. If you are a sophomore or higher and currently enlisted, you must enroll in the SMP to enroll in ROTC.

## If You Are Not in the USAR or ARNG

To get into the SMP, students with no prior military service will attend Basic Combat Training (BCT) and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) during the summer and will be assigned to a local National Guard or Reserve unit upon completion of training. (Prospective cadets with prior military experience may simply be assigned to a unit.)

- It is possible to join the ARNG and enroll in ROTC without going to Basic Training, but without Basic Training and AIT you are only eligible for a fraction of the tuition benefits available.
- In most cases, completing BCT and AIT will take longer than the summer break and cause you to skip a semester, or half semester of classes. However, many students see this as a good bargain for the amount of financial aid it makes you eligible for.

## Simultaneous Membership Program Benefits:

- Up to 100% tuition and fees paid
- Cash enlistment bonus, depending on MOS
- \$300-\$500 monthly ROTC stipend
- \$274.84 monthly drill pay
- \$309/month GI Bill (requires completion of BCT and AIT)
- \$350/month GI Bill Kicker (requires completion of BCT and AIT)
- Basic soldier skills (BCT) and job skills (AIT)
- Hands-on military experience by participating in your unit training

## After Graduation

When you enlist in the USAR or ARNG you may choose an enlistment period of up to 6 years. However, as soon as you graduate college and get commissioned through ROTC (usually on the same day as graduation), your enlistment contract is terminated—no matter how much time is left on your enlistment.

Upon commissioning, you start a brand new career as an Army officer. That means that even though you were enlisted in the USAR or ARNG while going to school, you have the option of serving as an officer either full-time on Active Duty, or staying part-time as an officer in the USAR or ARNG.

Also, the job specialty (MOS) you had while enlisted has no bearing on your career options as an officer. If you like the field you were in as an enlisted soldier, you can choose that field as an officer. If not, you can pick any of the other 16 basic branches.

SMP does not lock you into--or out of--any commissioning options. You can still go on Active Duty, or switch from having been enlisted in the USAR to an officer in the ARNG (or vice versa). You can stay in your enlisted career field, or switch to something totally different.

## Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty (GRFD)

Cadets who know that when they graduate they only want to serve in a reserve component (USAR or ARNG) can request a GRFD contract. A GRFD contract means that you will not—either voluntarily or involuntarily—be given an Active Duty assignment after commissioning. By signing a GRFD contract, you agree to pick either a USAR or ARNG assignment upon commissioning.

It is not necessary to sign a GRFD contract in order to get a USAR or ARNG commission; you can request USAR or ARNG at the same time (the end of your junior year) as you request your career branch and other commissioning options. SMP participation is not required for GRFD contracting.

## SECTION-13: TOP 10 TIPS FOR SELECTING THE RIGHT SCHOOL

- 1. Curriculum** - Look for the schools that offer the right courses and facilities offered for the kinds of studies you want to undertake. If you're not sure yet, look for a school with a broad-based liberal-arts program. If you want science, make sure they have up-to-date labs, computers and other facilities.
- 2. Location** - Decide where you want to go to college. If you need to live at home or just want to be close to home, or if you want to live in a big city with all its other attractions, limit your scope to that area.
- 3. Size** - If you think you might be overwhelmed at a large university, look for a school with a smaller number of students. But remember, even at a larger school, after your first couple of years, classroom size gets smaller and you get to know the students in your major area of study.
- 4. Sports and Activities** - A rich social life is an important part of college. Find out if the school you're interested in has clubs or other organizations you can participate in. If you like big-time

athletics, make sure your college has the teams in the sports you want to watch or intramural programs you can play in.

**5. Religious Affiliation** - If a religious orientation is important to you, find out what types of campus-based religious activities and places of worship are available.

**6. Cost** - Find out what the tuition, fees, room and board charges will be at your choices. You can also find out what the average student pays after financial aid is factored in. The results can be surprising.

**7. Financial aid** - Financial aid is available at every school you might want to attend. But some schools make aid more available than others. Private schools may charge more for tuition and other expenses, but they also tend to offer more financial aid. Get in touch with the financial aid office at your choices and inquire how they can help you.

**8. Academic Standards** - Find out what the average test score is for the accepted students at the college of your choice. If your scores aren't quite high enough, you might have to emphasize other attributes to the ad-missions officers.

**9. Visit the Campus** - Make visits to a number of schools. Sometimes you can get a good feel for the campus and the people by visiting the place in person. Many schools offer open houses and campus visits on week-ends. You can also take "virtual tours" at many college Web sites.

**10. Talk to Students and Alumni** - Nobody knows as much about a school as students who are currently enrolled and alumni who have graduated. The students can tell you about campus life and academics. The alumni will tell whether a degree from this institution fulfilled their educational expectations and how it helped them in their careers.

## **SECTION-14: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)**

**Q. By enrolling in ROTC, are you joining the Army?**

A. No. Students who enroll in ROTC don't join the Army. They take an ROTC class for which they receive credit. It's considered a college elective.

**Q. Is ROTC like "boot camp"?**

A. No. ROTC cadets go directly to college where they earn their degree.

**Q. What can students expect to learn by taking ROTC?**

A. Quite simply, leadership and management skills needed to become a U.S. Army officer or have a successful civilian career.

**Q. What makes ROTC different from regular college management courses?**

A. Students in ROTC learn through a unique program that involves both classroom and "live" situations. For instance, an ROTC cadet might be found leading classmates through adventure training, down a river in a raft, or up a mountain wall.

**Q. Is there a military obligation during college?**

A. During the first two years, ROTC cadets have no military obligation (or the first year in the case of scholarship winners).

**Q. What is the ROTC course comprised of?**

A. ROTC programs are divided into phases: The Basic Course studies Army history, organization and structure. The techniques and principles of leadership and management are stressed throughout. The Advanced Course concentrates on tactical operations and military instruction, as well as advanced techniques of management, leadership, and command.

**Q. Does Army ROTC offer scholarships?**

A. Yes. Each year hundreds of students attending colleges nationwide receive ROTC scholarships. ROTC awards them to students studying science, engineering, nursing, business, as well as a variety of other majors.

**Q. How much money does ROTC usually award and what does the money go towards?**

A. Scholarships are awarded at different monetary levels. At some schools an ROTC scholarship is worth up to \$100,000+, which goes towards tuition and educational fees. Also, scholarship winners receive an allowance of up to \$1,500 a year and \$1,200 a year for books.

**Q. On what basis are scholarship winners chosen?**

A. ROTC scholarships are not based on financial need. Instead, they're awarded on merit. Merit is exhibited in academic achievement and extracurricular activities, such as sports, student government or part-time work.

**Q. Can only scholarship winners enroll in ROTC?**

A. No. Anyone can enroll in ROTC. And regardless of whether you're a scholarship winner or not, all ROTC books, supplies and equipment are furnished at no cost to you.

**Q. How often are Army ROTC scholarships awarded?**

A. Scholarships are awarded once a year. Students apply by November 15 and selections are made continuously thru May 15. Four-year scholarship applications must be requested between March 1 and November 1. Also, once cadets are on campus, two-year and three-year scholarships become available.

**Q. How do students benefit from Army ROTC?**

A. In college and after graduation, cadets find that the training and experience that they have received are assets - whether pursuing an Army or civilian career. Employers place high regard on the management and leadership skills that ROTC instructors stress. Plus, ROTC looks great on a resume. When cadets complete the ROTC course, upon graduation, they become commissioned officers in the U.S. Army.

**Q: If I enroll in Army ROTC, won't I have a service obligation?**

A: No. You can enroll in all ROTC classes with no service obligation. The obligation comes when you decide to contract into the ROTC program to become an Army Officer.

**Q: If I do eventually contract and become a Second Lieutenant, I will have to serve on Active Duty, right?**

A: No. At least two-thirds of the upcoming graduating cadets will receive an active duty tour. Cadets who receive Reserve Duty will serve in local Reserve or National Guard units one weekend a month, or serve in the Ready Reserves with no "drilling" requirement if a suitable unit is not available where you reside. The Reserves are one of the best adjunct career and retirement systems in the U.S. today.

**Q: Won't ROTC interfere with my academic or athletic pursuits?**

A: No. Our current cadet corps has an average cumulative GPA above the general university average. Yes, there are some time demands and some voluntary extracurricular activities in ROTC. But, simply put, ROTC cadets are more mature and better time managers than many students. Your academic and athletic success is the highest priority and we stress that. You must do well academically and athletically to succeed in ROTC. Army ROTC provides the best leader development program in the world. No corporation or leadership institute can provide the combined classroom and hands-on leadership training, education and practice as Army ROTC. During the academic year, your focus is on academics getting your degree -- with ROTC classroom instruction and labs complimenting that education. What's best about Army ROTC is that while learning to become an Army officer, you are interacting, socializing and learning with students with diverse backgrounds, experiences, political ideologies and goals. This dynamic on campus develops the team-building, negotiating and consensus-building skills that Army officers need in helping the people of the world establish democratic systems, govern & secure themselves and institutionalize freedom and human rights.

**Q: I see ROTC as a potential interference to my career field. How can you get around that one?**

A: Well, there are surely some career tracks where ROTC may not help you, but the exceptional record of graduating cadets getting good jobs in their fields is well above average. In the Reserves, there are also a lot of job networking and contacts, and most employees view Reservists or officers leaving active duty in very positive terms. Further, students that emphasize their ROTC enrollment are generally viewed as desirable to most employers because of their competitive leadership and managerial abilities, maturity, and time management skills.

**Q: What about haircuts, wearing uniforms, and harassment?**

A: Well, you have to be well-groomed; hair off your ears and not down your shoulders (crewcut not required). You will learn how to wear a uniform properly, but the uniform is only required to be worn during class times and training. Finally, harassment of any type went out years ago; it is not acceptable. We emphasize proper decorum, respect, military courtesies, ethics and standards of conduct; all of which apply equally well to non-military, professional careers.

**Q: What can Army ROTC do for me even if I only want to enroll for a year or two?**

A: If you enroll in Army ROTC, we will help you become a better person in many ways - no doubt about that. ROTC will: Give you better leadership and managerial skills applicable to any field. Provide you a lot of personal attention, encouraging you to get good grades and further mature. Class sizes are small and everyone is given personal counseling. We compel you to stay in shape and improve your physical fitness. Yes, there are some progressive physical fitness requirements and you cannot be overweight and complete the program. We give you the opportunity to learn what the military is all about these days - the role of the Army and its Soldiers, (strategy, politics, technology, standards, career fields, etc.) We provide additional fun and learning activities, and opportunities for you to make more friends than virtually any other organization on campus. Cadets consistently relate that one of the best aspects of the ROTC program is the camaraderie students find among each other -that is what Esprit de Corps or belonging is all about.

**Q: Is enrolling in Army ROTC the same as joining the Army? Once a student starts taking ROTC courses, is he/she obligated to join the Army?**

A: Young adults must serve as Officers in the Army after graduation if they have received an ROTC scholarship, OR if they have enrolled in the ROTC Advanced Course. Enrolling in the ROTC Basic Course (the first two years of college) does NOT obligate someone to serve unless they have also received a scholarship.

**Q: What kinds of scholarships are available in Army ROTC? Are any of the scholarships retroactive?**

A: Army ROTC scholarships vary based on the length of time remaining for students to complete their degrees. There are two-, three- and four-year merit-based scholarships providing full tuition. Scholarships also include annual book allowances and a monthly stipend. Army ROTC scholarships are not retroactive.

**Q: What is my young adult's Army service obligation to pay back any scholarship benefits, or for enrollment in the ROTC Advanced Course?**

A: Scholarship winners must serve for four years; non-scholarship Cadets who enroll in the ROTC Advanced Course must serve for three years. All who graduate and complete ROTC training are commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the U.S. Army.

**Q: What good is Army ROTC for a career outside of the Army?**

A: Army ROTC is one of the only college courses that teaches leadership. This training is invaluable for any career that involves leading, managing and motivating people or fostering teamwork. Young Army Officers are typically responsible for hundreds of Soldiers and millions of dollars in equipment; this kind of management experience can be very attractive for post-Army employers.

**Q: Why should my young adult choose Army ROTC over a different branch's ROTC?**

A: The Army offers a wider range of career opportunities, in more places around the world, than any other U.S. military branch.

**Q: How do I learn more about the Army?**

A: Visit the website [GoArmy.com](http://GoArmy.com)

**Q: Are all college majors compatible with Army ROTC?**

A: Army ROTC Cadets are allowed to major in nearly all academic areas.

**Q: Can my young adult go into the Army Reserve or National Guard after graduation instead of the regular Army?**

A: Yes. Selected Cadets may choose to serve part-time in the U.S. Army Reserve or Army National Guard while pursuing a civilian career.

**Q: What are Army ROTC courses like? How will the class work help my young adult? Will ROTC classes interfere with his/her other studies?**

A: Army ROTC classes normally involve one elective class and lab per semester. Although the classes involve hands-on fieldwork as well as classroom work, they are standard college classes that fit into a normal academic schedule. These courses can help students with personal and academic decision-making while giving them the tools to exercise leadership and personal discipline in college life, even before graduating and becoming Officers.

**Q: How will being an Army ROTC Cadet affect my young adult's daily life? Do Cadets experience normal college life and activities?**

A: Army ROTC Cadets have the same lifestyles and academic schedules as any other college students. But there are two intensive Army ROTC courses that take place on Army Posts, usually during the summer: Basic Camp is a four-week summer course at Fort Knox, KY is ONLY for students who enroll in Army ROTC going into their junior years without having taken the first two years of military science classes. Advanced Camp is for all Cadets who enter the Advanced Course must attend this five-week summer course at Fort Knox, KY between their junior and senior years.

**Q: What are the chances that my young adult will be deployed to a combat tour?**

A: It depends on the Army branch the cadet chooses and the unit to which he/she is assigned. However, Army missions and challenges are always changing, so there's no way to know in advance

which specialties and units will be needed where. All Soldiers in the Army or Army Reserve face the possibility of deployment at some point during their careers.

**Q: What is the typical career path for an Army Officer? What career fields are available?**

A: Army ROTC graduates are commissioned as U.S. Army Second Lieutenants. They then receive specialized training in one of 19 different Army branches. During their Army careers, they'll receive regular professional training as they advance through the ranks, and they'll have many opportunities for advanced leadership positions and post-graduate education.

**Q: What kind of salary and benefits will my young adult earn as a commissioned Army Officer?**

A: Visit the benefits section of the [GoArmy.com](http://GoArmy.com) website for complete details. Specifically, the money sub-section provides details on pay for both Officers and Enlisted Soldiers.

## **SECTION-15: KEY CONTACT INFORMATION AND PHONE NUMBERS**

### **1. ARMY ROTC:**

Slippery Rock and Clarion University ROTC Enrollment Advisor:

Mr. Bret Rogowitz, Assistant Professor of Military Science

Department of Military Science, 103 Lowry Center, Slippery Rock, PA 16057

**Office:** 724-738-6175 • **Email:** [srurotc@sru.edu](mailto:srurotc@sru.edu)

Army ROTC Scholarship Application Website <http://www.goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships.html>

Army ROTC Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/cadetcommand>

Slippery Rock Web Page <http://www.sru.edu/rotc>

Slippery Rock Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/SRU-ROTC/349448495076891>

Clarion Web Page <http://www.clarion.edu/rotc>

Clarion Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/clarionrotc>

### **2. SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY:**

University Home Page <http://www.sru.edu>

Admissions to SRU <http://www.sru.edu/apply>

Majors and Minors <http://www.sru.edu/majors>

Veterans Resources <http://www.sru.edu/veterans>

### **3. CLARION UNIVERSITY:**

University Home Page <http://www.clarion.edu/>

Admissions to Clarion <http://www.clarion.edu/admissions/>

Majors and Minors <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/degrees-programs/>

Veterans Resources <http://www.clarion.edu/admissions/veterans-and-military/>