

College of Arts and Science

Department of Aerospace Studies

The U.S. Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps helps open doors to a range of careers in the air and on the ground. MU ROTC graduates have served the nation and advanced their own skills working in areas such as flying, research and development, communications, electronics, human-resources management, health care, law, education and many more.

Our Strengths

MU is one of just 52 institutions in the nation with an Air Force, Army and Navy ROTC presence on campus. The Air Force program gives men and women an opportunity to complete their degree while training for service as an Air Force officer. It emphasizes leadership training and requires judgment, analysis, communication and other capabilities that ultimately prepare people for positions of responsibility in almost any kind of business or profession.

Such skills are more important today than ever before. It is estimated that, on average, college graduates will change careers, not just jobs, four or more times during their working lives. Leadership and management skills learned as part of Air Force ROTC training can make such transitions much smoother.

Teaching and Learning

Students entering Air Force ROTC their freshman or sophomore year begin as General Military Course (GMC) cadets.

Their classroom instructors are Air Force officers, generally with a rank of captain or higher. The GMC course of instruction covers life as an Air Force officer, Air Force history and communication skills. Cadets also attend a leadership laboratory once a week and physical training twice a week. Normally, they spend about five hours a week on ROTC activities, earning two credit hours per semester.

This program allows students to “try out” Air Force ROTC for up to two years without incurring any obligation (unless a student has an Air Force ROTC scholarship). Also, the program requires relatively little time.

Professional Officer Course

Cadets may compete to enter the Professional Officer Course (POC) two years before they expect to graduate from the University of Missouri. During their junior and senior years, POC cadets develop a range of useful leadership and management skills that will serve them well in both military and civilian situations. One way they practice those skills during their leadership laboratory is by preparing a variety of activities for the GMC cadets.

In addition, POC cadets take a three-semester elective-credit course taught by an Air Force officer focusing on leadership, management, communication and national military studies. POC cadets spend eight hours a week on ROTC activities. In addition to resident Air Force officers, many guest speakers from across the nation visit and speak to cadets about Air Force issues, careers and life in the Air Force. Cadets also have an opportunity to visit Air Force bases and take part in summer training programs that enhance their knowledge of the Air Force and their professional development.

Earning a Commission

All cadets selected to enter the POC who meet Air Force academic, physical and military-retention standards are commissioned as active-duty Air Force officers. To be commissioned, a candidate must complete two years of academic preparation in the POC and earn a baccalaureate degree.

The active duty commitment for all career fields, with the exception of combat systems operators, pilots, and air battle managers is four years. Combat systems operators have an eight-year commitment after completing their specialized under-

graduate training. Pilots incur a 10-year commitment after completing their specialized undergraduate pilot training. The minimum service obligation for the air battle managers is six years.

Qualifications

To qualify for the General Military Course you must:

- be a full-time student
- be a United States citizen (to receive a scholarship)
- be in good physical condition
- have good moral character
- be at least 14 years old (17 to receive a scholarship)

To qualify for the Professional Officer Course, you must meet all the qualifications for the General Military Course and:

- have two academic years remaining (undergraduate, graduate or a combination of both)
- be a United States citizen
- be physically qualified
- pass the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test
- be interviewed and selected by a board of Air Force officers
- complete a four-week field training course if you are in the four-year program or a six-week field training course if you are in the two- or three-year program
- complete all graduation and commissioning requirements as follows:
 - * pilot or combat systems operator candidates must enter flight training before age 30

* scholarship recipients must be commissioned before age 27 as of June 30 of the year they plan to be commissioned (waived through age 30 if the candidate has prior service)

* nonflying, nonscholarship students must be commissioned before age 30 (waived to age 35)

Special Activities

Air Force ROTC actively supports one national honorary service organizations: Arnold Air Society.

This organization is voluntary, providing a variety of social and community-service activities that help cadets and future officers develop professional skills.

Informal dinners, picnics and parties are planned throughout the year. The cadet wing also competes in various intramural sports.

Off-campus activities include opportunities to visit Air Force bases in Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, Ohio and Texas, including the Kennedy Space Center and the Air Force Museum, to get a firsthand look at Air Force life. Travel is provided by the Air Force.

Scholarships

Air Force ROTC one- to four-year college scholarships are available on a competitive basis to high-school and college students. Scholarship recipients are selected using the "whole person" concept, which includes objective factors (grade point average) and subjective factors (interview evaluation).

Three- and four-year scholarships are available to incoming freshmen. Students winning one of these scholarships

may receive full tuition and fee payment in addition to \$900 a year for textbooks. Recipients are also eligible to apply for a residential leadership grant through MU, which covers partial room-and-board expenses on campus.

All GMC cadets on scholarship and all POC cadets receive a monthly stipend while in school that ranges from \$300 to \$500 depending on the cadet's academic year.

Missouri Admission

The University admits students on the basis of their chances for success here. The main criteria are the high-school curriculum, test scores and class rank.

Applicants are expected to have followed a college-preparatory program with at least 17 units of credit, as follows (one unit equals one year):

Four units of English

Two units emphasizing composition or writing skills are required; one unit may be in speech.

Four units of mathematics

Acceptable courses include algebra I, geometry, algebra II, pre-calculus/trigonometry/analytic geometry, calculus and math analysis. Courses such as computer math, programming, consumer math and accounting are not acceptable.

Three units of science

At least one must be a laboratory course, such as earth science, biology, chemistry or physics. Courses such as general science and agricultural science are not acceptable.

Three units of social studies

Examples are world history, American government and principles of democracy.

Two units in a single foreign language

One unit in fine arts

If you apply for financial aid, you will learn about scholarships and grants for which you are eligible.

How to Apply

If you would like to attend an Air Force ROTC class and consider pursuing a commission as an Air Force officer, just call or write:

Unit Admissions Officer
Air Force ROTC
217Crowder Hall
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211-4110
Phone: 573-882-7621
Web: airforce.missouri.edu

For information about applying to MU, call or write:

Office of Admissions
230 Jesse Hall
Columbia, MO 65211-1300
Phone: 573-882-7786
800-225-6075 (toll free in Missouri and Illinois)
Fax: 573-882-7887
E-mail: mu4u@missouri.edu
Web: www.missouri.edu

The University of Missouri does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, disability or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era. For more information, call Human Resource Services at 573-882-4256 or the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights.

