NAVAL SCIENCE

Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Program

The Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) offers young men and women the opportunity to qualify for a full scholarship and a commission in the US Navy or Marine Corps. NROTC midshipmen are required to complete the Naval Science courses and attend weekly professional seminars and physical training sessions. During the summer, NROTC midshipmen participate in active duty at sea or shore-based training cruises for approximately four weeks. Upon receiving their baccalaureate degrees and completing the NROTC program, qualified midshipmen are commissioned as Ensigns in the US Navy or Second Lieutenants in the Marine Corps. Commissioned naval officers go on to training in various warfare specialties and serve as surface or submarine officers, naval aviators, or SEALs. Restricted line positions (intelligence, law, medicine, supply) are not normally offered through NROTC. Marine Corps officers attend The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia, and serve in fields such as infantry, artillery, logistics, intelligence, and aviation. Students may join the NROTC through any one of the following programs:

Four-Year Scholarship Program—Students enter the NROTC Four-Year Scholarship Program through national competition and are appointed midshipmen in the Naval Reserve. While enrolled, a four-year-scholarship student receives government-provided tuition and fees, $375 per semester for books, uniforms, and an allowance of up to $400 per month. Upon graduation, students are commissioned with a minimum five-year active duty service obligation (four years for Marines). Navy Scholarship Program students must include in their degree program courses in English, calculus, cultural awareness, physics, national security policy, and naval science and participate in three summer training periods of approximately four weeks each. Marine Option scholarship program students must include English, national security policy, and naval science in their degree program in addition to three summer training periods of approximately four weeks each.

Two-Year/Three-Year Scholarship Program—Selection for this program is made through national competition, based on the student’s academic record, physical qualifications, and an interview. Application should be made by the middle of the fall semester. Upon acceptance of this appointment, students receive all the benefits and assume all the obligations of midshipmen in the Four-Year Scholarship Program.

College Program—Students are enrolled in a non-scholarship College Program upon acceptance by the Department of Naval Science. Uniforms are provided and students participate in the program in the same manner as scholarship midshipmen with the exception of summer training periods. College Program students are eligible to apply for advanced standing status prior to their junior year and, if accepted, continue in the College Program through graduation and accept a commission in the Navy or Marine Corps. Advanced standing students receive up to $400 per month and attend one summer training period prior to commissioning. Students must include in their degree program courses in college algebra, science, and naval science and must attend the four-week at-sea training period between their junior and senior year (six-week OCS course for Marine Options). Upon commissioning, College Program students serve a minimum of four years on active duty. Midshipmen who complete one term as College Program students, have a satisfactory academic record, and are physically qualified may also compete for one of the national scholarships as described above. If awarded, the scholarship will be for the remainder of the student’s undergraduate enrollment, up to a maximum of three and a half years; service requirements and benefits are the same as for the scholarship programs.

Entering freshmen and transfer students who are awarded NROTC scholarships and plan to live on campus may also be eligible for GW residence hall awards from the University. NROTC scholars who are new to the Navy and are majoring in mathematics, chemistry, physics, or a program in the School of Engineering and Applied Science may receive up to $4,000 a semester to be applied toward the costs of on-campus housing and meals. Non-STEM scholarship midshipmen may be eligible for up to $2,000 a semester to be applied toward the costs of on-campus housing and meals. Further information on these awards is available from the University Office of Admissions.

Requirements for all candidates—Qualifications for acceptable candidates for the Scholarship Program or the College Program include U.S. citizenship, fulfillment of physical requirements, and willingness to participate in required summer training periods and to accept a commission in the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps when offered. Enrollment in NROTC is not a requirement for taking naval science courses. Any student enrolled at George Washington University may take Naval Science courses with the approval of the Professor of Naval Science.

Visit the GW NROTC Program website (https://nrotc.gwu.edu) for additional information.