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 Navy or Marine Corps. NROTC midshipmen are required to complete the naval science courses and attend weekly professional seminars. During the summer, NROTC midshipmen participate in active duty at sea or shore-based training cruises for approximately four weeks. Upon receiving the baccalaureate and completing the NROTC program, qualified midshipmen are commissioned as ensigns in the U.S. 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. Marine Corps officers attend basic school in Quantico, Virginia, and serve in fields such as infantry, artillery, and aviation. Staff positions (intelligence, law, medicine) are not normally offered through NROTC.

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, fees, $350 per semester for books, uniforms, and an allowance of up to $400 per month. Upon graduation, students are commissioned with a minimum four-year active duty service obligation. 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.

Two-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 of the student’s sophomore year. Selected applicants attend six weeks of instruction at the Naval Science Institute (NSI) at Newport, Rhode Island, during the summer before their third academic year. At NSI, students take courses in naval science, physical fitness, and drill, similar to those required of four-year NROTC students during their freshman and sophomore years. Successful completion of the NSI program qualifies the two-year applicant for appointment as midshipmen in the Naval Reserve and enrollment in the NROTC Scholarship Program. Upon acceptance of this appointment, students receive all the benefits and assume all the obligations of midshipmen in the Four-Year Scholarship Program.

Enrolling 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 with prior experience in the Navy are eligible for awards covering the nominal charges for on-campus housing and meals. 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 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.

Four-Year College Program—Students are enrolled in a non-scholarship Four-Year College Program upon acceptance by the Department of Naval Science. Uniforms are provided, and during their junior and senior years, students receive up to $400 per month. 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 junior and senior year. Upon commissioning, College Program students serve a minimum of four years’ active duty. Midshipmen who complete one term as College Program students, have a satisfactory academic record, and are physically qualified may compete for a scholarship awarded by the Chief of Naval Education and Training. 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.

Two-Year College Program—Application should be made by the middle of the fall semester of the student’s second year. Selections are made through the Chief of Naval Education and Training, based on the student’s academic record, physical qualifications, and an interview. Those students selected will attend the NSI and upon successful completion may enroll in the program. The benefits and obligations are the same as for the Four-Year College Program.

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.