



**T**he U.S. Armed Forces are made up of the five armed service branches: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy. The purpose of these federal armed forces is to protect and serve the United States of America. The President of the United States is the head of the military; however, the U.S. Department of Defense is the federal executive department which acts as the primary decision-making agency by which military policy is carried out.

### **For which students might this agency be appropriate?**

Students interested in joining the military can go to a recruiter during or after high school. This recruiter will give the student information about the military while also ensuring that the student meets all of the necessary requirements to be eligible for military service.

### **Who is eligible to receive their services/ supports and when?**

The five branches of the military have different requirements to join. The four factors that are consistent among the branches include: must hold U.S. citizenship or be resident alien, must be at least 17 years old, must have a high school diploma or GED, and must be able to pass a physical medical exam. Additionally, individuals must pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test (ASVAB) but each branch has different scores that



qualify as “passing.”

### **What is the referral process?**

### **What documents are needed?**

There is no referral process. One must meet with a local military recruiter to guide the process. To find a local recruiter, visit: <http://todaysmilitary.com/contact-a-recruiter>. Upon meeting with a recruiter, it will be clearer as to what documents are needed to apply for the army. Some potential documents include: a driver’s license, Social Security card, Green card, passport, birth certificate, marriage license or divorce papers, legal records, a credit report, school diplomas and/or degrees, school transcripts, résumé, records, locations, and contact information of all employment from last decade, recommendations, all residential addresses from the past decade, travel dates and locations of all places traveled outside of the US in past decade, and copies of medical records.



### **What is the family's responsibility?**

The family's responsibility is to help the student understand how serious the responsibilities that come along with joining the military are. The family should also help the student research the different branches of the military to help find the right option for their son or daughter.

### **What is the student's responsibility?**

The student's responsibility is to take the time to research the different branches of the military to determine if they are interested in serving their country in this way. After they do their research, they should meet with a military recruiter to gain more information about eligibility. Students who are eligible will then have to submit required documents and take the ASVAB test.

### **What is the responsibility of an educator?**

The teacher can give the parents contact information for the local military recruiters. Additionally, the teacher can invite the recruiter to come speak to parents and students about joining the military.

### **How (and when) do you involve them in the transition planning process?**

- If a student is interested in joining the military, invite a military recruiter to the transition planning meeting to provide more information to the student and family.
- The teacher can help the student prepare for the ASVAB test,
- The family and student can spend time researching the different branches of the military to better understand if the student is

### **Where can I learn more?**

Visit their website at: <http://www.military.com/join-armed-forces>

interested in joining the military.

### **What questions should I ask of a military recruiter?**

- When do I take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)?
- What documents do I need to start the recruiting process?
- What types of accommodations are provided to individuals with disabilities who join the military?