If you are a member of the **National Guard** and are considering doing ROTC to become an officer, you have many options.

- If you complete ROTC you can choose to go Active Duty, remain in the National Guard or join the Army Reserve.

- You can sign a contract that guarantees you will be commissioned in the Reserve Component (ARNG or Reserves) or sign a contract that keeps your options open.

- You can “contract” when you’re 2 years away from graduating or when you’re awarded a scholarship or there is an option for some to contract 3 years before graduation (MS II contract option).

- When you contract you are considered a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP). You are considered a cadet and should be placed in an officer slot. You are paid as an E-5. You are non-deployable.

- Contracted cadets are able to retain all of their educational benefits plus they’ll receive a monthly stipend from ROTC ($350-so., $450-jr., $500-sr.). There is also an SMP kicker of $350 a month (you do lose any other kickers you were receiving).

- There are two scholarships that you’re able to apply for and still remain in the National Guard. One is called a 3-year Dedicated Army National Guard (DARNG) scholarship and the other is a 2-year Guaranteed Forces Reserve Duty (GRFD) scholarship. Both of these scholarships prevent you from going Active Duty.

- The 3-year Dedicated Army National Guard scholarship means you must stay in the National Guard as an officer and is awarded for your final three years of college. You aren’t able to use some of your federal benefits (GI Bill or kickers) but this scholarship pays 100% of your tuition, the monthly stipend, and $450 a semester for books and supplies. You are still able to use the state tuition reimbursement however.

- The GRFD scholarship allows you to keep **all** of your educational benefits associated with being in the National Guard. The scholarship pays 100% of your tuition, the monthly stipend, and $450 a semester for books and supplies. After graduation you can serve in either the National Guard or the Army Reserve.

- The MS II contract option is a non-scholarship option. You do receive all of your educational benefits plus you’ll receive the monthly stipend and SMP kicker. You still have the option to choose active duty or reserve component upon graduation. Under this option you would be a cadet for three years.

- If you’ve been to Basic Training you don’t have to take the first two years of ROTC classes; however there are many reasons to do so. There is no commitment so you can check out the program. If you’re considering active duty you can earn points for the national order of merit list. You have the opportunity to attend special schools such as Airborne and Mountain Warfare. Currently 75% of our slots are to be used by MS II’s (sophomores).

For more information, contact MAJ Jerry Bohl, Enrollment Officer
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