Army ROTC

The Army ROTC program at MIT (https://www.army.mit.edu) is designed to enhance a student’s college education by integrating into the curriculum leadership and management theory with leadership practicum modules. Through coursework and in-class practical experience, students will develop decision-making skills, climate and culture understanding, and time-management skills—leadership qualities that are essential to success in any field, including corporate or research careers. Students completing the ROTC program earn a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the US Army, Army Reserve, or Army National Guard. Non-scholarship students may participate in the first two years of Army ROTC with no commitment to military service.

The Military Science and Leadership Program is a four-year program composed of the Basic Course (first and sophomore years) and the Advanced Course (junior and senior years).

Four-Year Program

The four-year curriculum combines classroom and leadership laboratory work. Any MIT student is eligible to participate in the leadership development courses regardless of academic grade.

During the summer between their junior and senior years, students participate in a four-week Advanced Camp (AC) at Fort Knox, KY (near Louisville). Upon graduation from college and successful completion of Advanced Camp, students are commissioned as officers in the US Army, US Army Reserve, or Army National Guard.

Two-Year Program

The two-year program is designed for students who did not complete the first two years of the Army ROTC program. If students have at least four semesters remaining in their academic program at MIT or are interested in pursuing a graduate degree, they may be eligible to participate in the Advanced Course. Students who do not complete all requirements of the Basic Course (first and sophomore years) of instruction must participate in a four-week training camp, called Basic Camp (BC) at Fort Knox, KY, unless they have successfully completed any service enlisted Basic Training Course or are a graduate of a certified Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps program. Once students complete Basic Camp, they are eligible to receive the same benefits as members in the four-year program.

Scholarships

Army ROTC scholarships are available on a competitive basis to qualified applicants. Two-, three-, and four-year scholarships are available each year, and are awarded on campus through the professor of military science or through a national selection board. High school seniors may apply for four-year scholarships in conjunction with their application to MIT. Scholarships pay full tuition and all mandatory fees, plus $1,200 for books and supplies each year, and a tax-free stipend ranging from $450 per month. The scholarship is flexible and can be used for the either (1) tuition and all mandatory fees, or (2) room and board, but not combined to cover portions of both.

Program of Instruction

The Army ROTC curriculum is designed to enhance a student’s college education by providing distinctive leadership and management training in conjunction with realistic experience. The program emphasizes leadership theory and practice, organizational management, public speaking, tactics, purpose and history of the military, and physical fitness.

Students enrolled in the first two years of the program attend one hour of class and three hours of physical fitness each week. Collegiate athletes, while the sport is in season, must pass the standard physical fitness test and then are exempt from ROTC physical training. In the final two years of the program, class and physical fitness total four to five hours per week. Students also participate in a weekly Leadership Lab that highlights a particular military activity. Finally, students participate in a field training exercise each semester that includes small unit tactics and leadership, firing and M4 carbine rifle, land navigation, rappelling, obstacle courses, and possibly a helicopter orientation ride.

Extracurricular Events

The ROTC program offers MIT students a wide spectrum of opportunities to participate in numerous challenging and rewarding extracurricular activities, such as high adventure training and field training exercises. Army Airborne, Air Assault, Mountain Warfare, and other military schooling and training programs are available on a voluntary basis to qualified cadets. Also, there are global summer internships available at national research laboratories, numerous Army bases, or the Pentagon. Finally, following graduation there are opportunities—primarily for students going on to law, medical, seminary, dental, or veterinary school—to defer the service obligation until completion of their graduate studies. Most of these graduate study opportunities are funded by the Army, once the applicant is accepted through a national board process.

Opportunities in the US Army Reserve/Army National Guard

Army ROTC offers opportunities to seek a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Army National Guard or Army Reserve. This unique option provides the flexibility for newly commissioned officers to participate in the Army part time while pursuing an advanced degree or a full-time career.

Eligibility Criteria

Enrollment in the first-year and sophomore ROTC courses is open to all MIT students. To be eligible for Army ROTC scholarships and/or enrollment in the junior- and senior year ROTC courses, students must be citizens of the United States or on the path to citizenship and will become a citizen before they graduate; physically and
medically qualified in accordance with existing Army regulations; and enrolled at MIT, Harvard University, Tufts University, Wellesley College, Lesley University, Endicott College, Gordon College, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, or Salem State University as full-time students.

Application Procedure
Students normally apply for the four-year program during their junior and senior year in high school, but students may enroll in the course or apply for a campus-based scholarship each semester. Interested students can inquire about the Army ROTC program by visiting the Army ROTC office at W59-192 (201 Vassar St, Cambridge, MA 02139), by calling 617-253-4471, by sending an email (goarmy@mit.edu), or by visiting the website (https://www.army.mit.edu) or the program’s Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/PaulRevereBattalion).