

Why You Should Join the Army

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Joining the army provides a feeling of duty and purpose that transcends personal interests. The advantages of serving in the army include traveling, visiting new places, learning new things, and making a difference in other people's lives. Through a comprehensive examination of the training, culture, and impact of the army experience, this paper will demonstrate that joining the army is a transformative and valuable experience that can shape a person's character and provide opportunities for personal and professional growth. The army lifestyle offers more than work; it offers personal and professional growth opportunities, including valuable skills, training, financial benefits, and a chance to defend one's nation.

Valuable Skills and Training

Individuals can gain valuable skills and training by joining the army, which will be very helpful to them in their future employment. The army offers training in various areas, including leadership, problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and discipline. These skills are highly transferable and are beneficial in multiple private and public professions. One of the most significant benefits of joining the army is soldiers' leadership training (Army.ChallengeYourself, 2023). The army emphasizes the importance of developing strong leadership skills, which are critical for success in any career. Soldiers learn to lead by example, inspire and motivate others, and make effective decisions under pressure. This training can be invaluable for individuals seeking a career in management or leadership roles.

In addition to leadership, soldiers also learn valuable problem-solving skills. In the army, soldiers face various challenging situations that require quick thinking and effective problem-solving. This training can benefit individuals interested in engineering, medicine, or law careers (U.S. Army Reserve, 2021). Communication and teamwork are also critical skills that soldiers learn while in the army. Soldiers work in a highly collaborative environment,

and effective communication is essential to the success of any mission (U.S. Army Reserve, 2021). These skills are valuable for individuals looking to pursue careers in fields such as marketing, public relations, or customer service.

Furthermore, the army emphasizes the importance of discipline and self-control, valuable traits in any career. Soldiers learn to remain focused and on task, even in challenging and stressful situations (Citizens Advice, 2023). This training can be highly beneficial for individuals seeking careers in finance or law enforcement (Citizens Advice, 2023). Ultimately, joining the army can provide individuals with valuable skills and training to benefit them in their future careers. The leadership, problem-solving, communication, teamwork, and discipline skills that soldiers learn in the army are highly transferable, and they can apply them in various professions.

Financial Benefits

People seeking a solid and secure professional path may find that joining the army offers significant financial benefits. These benefits include scholarships, bonuses, and pensions, which can provide financial security to soldiers and their families. One of the most attractive financial benefits of joining the army is access to educational opportunities (Piha, 2022). Soldiers can benefit from various educational programs, including tuition assistance and the GI Bill. Tuition assistance covers some college costs, while the GI Bill funds education and training after military service. The GI Bill can cover up to 100% of tuition and fees, and soldiers can use these funds to pursue various degrees and vocational programs (Bledsoe, 2022). Furthermore, the GI Bill can also be transferred to a soldier's spouse or children, providing them with educational benefits.

Another significant financial benefit of joining the army is the availability of bonuses. Soldiers may be eligible for various bonuses throughout their military career, including enlistment, reenlistment, and retention bonuses (Bledsoe, 2022). Enlistment bonuses are a

one-time payment given to soldiers upon completion of basic training. In contrast, reenlistment bonuses are payments given to soldiers who choose to reenlist after their initial term of service. Retention bonuses are payments to soldiers who agree to extend their service in specific roles or locations (Bledsoe, 2022). Also, the army provides pensions to soldiers who have served for several years. The pension is a monthly payment that soldiers receive for the rest of their lives once they retire. This pension can provide financial stability for retired soldiers, ensuring they can live comfortably in their golden years (Become, 2020). The pension amount depends on the length of service and the soldier's rank at retirement.

Defending the Nation

Joining the army can offer many opportunities to contribute to global peace and security, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and national defense and development. Soldiers can participate in various missions and operations to protect their country's interests and allies, deter potential threats, and support international law and order (U.S. Army Reserve, 2021). Serving in the army is a way to defend one's country's freedom. Soldiers play a critical role in safeguarding their nation's sovereignty by defending against external threats and preventing terrorist attacks. They are also responsible for protecting their fellow citizens during times of crisis, such as natural disasters or civil unrest (U.S. Army Reserve, 2021). Soldiers train to be ready to respond to any situation, no matter how challenging, which enables them to ensure the safety and security of their communities. Soldiers also have the opportunity to positively impact the world by promoting global peace and security. The army often participates in international peacekeeping missions, providing aid to countries in need and working to prevent escalating conflicts (U.S. Army Reserve, 2021). By serving in these missions, soldiers can help to build trust and understanding between nations, promote democracy and human rights, and help to establish stable and peaceful societies.

Moreover, serving in the army allows individuals to develop essential skills and attributes that employers and society highly value. Soldiers learn leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills and the ability to work under pressure and adapt to new environments (U.S. Army Reserve, 2021). These skills are not only valuable in the military but are also transferable to civilian life, making soldiers highly sought-after by employers in a variety of industries.

Risks and Challenges

Some of the challenges and risks associated with joining the army are the possibility of being injured, permanently maimed, or killed in the line of duty, the physical and mental stress during training and combat, the separation from loved ones for long periods, the lack of control over stationing locations, the ethical dilemmas of following orders that one may disagree with (U. S. Army War College, 2020). The army works through its programs and initiatives to solve these risks by providing medical care, disability compensation, and survivor benefits for wounded or fallen soldiers and their families, offering counseling, resilience training, and suicide prevention programs for soldiers' mental health, supporting family readiness groups, spouse employment programs, and child care services for soldiers' families, developing a modernization strategy that involves innovation, experimentation, and collaboration across the army and other stakeholders and promoting a culture of trust, respect, and professionalism that upholds the army values and ethics.

Conclusion

Joining the army is more than just a job; it offers individuals a transformative and valuable experience that can shape their character and provide opportunities for personal and professional growth. The army provides soldiers with a wealth of practical skills and training that are highly transferable and can benefit them in their future careers. Soldiers can also benefit from significant financial benefits, including scholarships, bonuses, and pensions,

providing financial security to soldiers and their families. Joining the army also offers opportunities to contribute to national defense, global peace and security, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. By serving in the army, individuals can develop essential skills and attributes highly valued by employers and contribute to a successful and fulfilling life. Overall, the army experience is a challenging and rewarding lifestyle that can provide individuals with a sense of purpose, camaraderie, and pride in serving their country.

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