

# The Benefits for Successful Completion of MCJROTC

## PURPOSE

*This lesson identifies the benefits of successful completion of the MCJROTC program. It provides information on promotion potential in the military, advance placement in Senior ROTC programs, and the potential for early application to Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class.*

## Introduction

Did you realize that there are more benefits to MCJROTC than just the things you learn as a cadet participating in the program? Yes, you do learn how to be a leader and team player; and you learn self-discipline. Most important, you learn how to be a better citizen while improving your body and your mind. But, that's not all. There are some great benefits for successful completion of the program as well. The key to being eligible for these benefits is the time you spend as a member of the MCJROTC. The primary benefits for successful completion of MCJROTC are:

1. Promotion potential in the military
2. Advance placement in Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)
3. Potential for early application to the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class

## Promotion Potential in the Military

One of the many career options available to you upon graduation is your enlistment in the military. The military is the largest employer of high school graduates in full-time positions. As a member of the MCJROTC, one of the benefits for successful completion is your promotion potential if you decide to join the military. A student presenting evidence of successful completion of at least two academic years of JROTC is entitled to advance promotion to a grade of no less than E-2 on initial enlistment in an active or reserve component of a Military Service. At their discretion, the Military Departments may award the grade of E-3 for successful completion of three or more academic years of JROTC.



Individuals who successfully complete MCJROTC have the potential for advancement in the military, which can offer a lasting impact on their career. The most noticeable impact is in pay

grade and the continuing promotion potential. Based on the number of academic years completed, you will already be at least one or two pay grades ahead of your peers who enlisted at the same time but without any prior JROTC.

## Advance Placement in Senior ROTC

The Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) is a course that you can take while in college. It is normally referred to as the **Senior ROTC program** or **SROTC**. Upon enrollment in a college or university offering the Senior ROTC course, cadets who complete the three- or four-year course of instruction in JROTC may be entitled to one or two years of basic Senior ROTC by the college concerned.



Many colleges and universities across the country offer one or more ROTC programs for the Navy/Marine Corps, Army, and Air Force. In some cases, you may be eligible for a military scholarship (where the military pays most of the educational costs plus a monthly stipend for up to 10 months per year) or financial aid while participating in ROTC. Then, upon graduation from college and successful completion of a Senior ROTC program, you become a commissioned officer. Marines can be newly

commissioned to age 28. Participants must be younger than 27 years of age for the Army – 25 for the other services – when commissioned.

## Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class (PLC)

Upon acceptance to a four-year college or university, the cadet who has successfully completed the Junior ROTC course of instruction may apply for the **Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class** program during the summer prior to their freshman year.

Platoon Leaders Class lets you complete your academic career uninterrupted at the college or university of your choice. If you maintain an overall “C” average or higher and graduate, you’ll be commissioned as a Marine Second Lieutenant.

All PLC training takes place during the

summer. For freshmen and sophomores, PLC consists of two six-week training sessions at Quantico, Virginia. For juniors, it’s one 10-week session.

Your instructor can provide guidance and instruction regarding the options available to you.

## Conclusion

Upon completion of MCJROTC, you will be provided a certificate of completion. The

certificate will serve as evidence that you have successfully completed the program. It is your responsibility to keep your certificate in a safe place so that you will have it, if needed.

Remember, the key to obtaining the benefits discussed in this lesson is your successful completion of the MCJROTC. Currently, you may not see any of these options in your future plans. However, in life, plans can change. In any event, these benefits will be available to you once you have successfully completed MCJROTC. ❖