



**U.S. ARMY CHAPLAIN CORPS  
A SACRED CALLING TO SERVE  
GOD AND COUNTRY**

Text "chaplain" to goarmy (462769)

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**U.S. ARMY**

# A SACRED CALLING TO SERVE GOD AND COUNTRY

Our nation's Army is the largest military organization in the world. It serves not only the vital strategic needs of the United States and its territories, but also is a vanguard of freedom and justice around the world every moment of every day.

The U.S. Army Chaplain Corps is charged with ensuring the highest level of spiritual care for our Army's Soldiers and families. The well-being of our Army's soul determines the quality of its spirit and morale. It is critically important that our Army secures capable, experienced, and spiritually fit Religious Leaders to answer this sacred call. To talk to a recruiter go to [goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter](http://goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter).



## THE ARMY CHAPLAIN

The Army chaplain is an experienced Religious Leader dedicated to serving Soldiers and families. Chaplains provide ministry worldwide, accompanying Soldiers and families as they carry out their units' missions in both peace and war. Chaplains are charged to nurture the living, care for the wounded and honor the fallen.

### THE ARMY CHAPLAIN MISSION

A chaplain's mission is to bring Soldiers to God and God to Soldiers. America calls on our Army to fight and win our nation's wars and Army chaplains are there every step of the way. Whether in training or operations, Army chaplains represent hundreds of American denominations and faith traditions and fulfill a sacred calling of service captured in our motto, "Pro Deo et Patria" (for God and country). Selecting a vocation as an Army chaplain means making a difference in the world while enjoying great pay and family benefits. To talk to a recruiter go to [goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter](http://goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter).

# BENEFITS & INCENTIVES

As an officer and Army chaplain, you earn many lifestyle benefits and privileges:

- ★ Starting salary of approximately \$50,000 (Active Duty, after initial training is complete)
- ★ 30 days vacation earned annually
- ★ Up to 10 days administrative leave annually
- ★ Housing allowance or free on-post housing
- ★ Relocation cost plus dislocation allowance (Active Duty)
- ★ Comprehensive health care coverage for the entire family
- ★ Excellent retirement plans
- ★ Up to \$400,000 in life insurance at low rates
- ★ Use of worldwide world class recreational facilities
- ★ Uniform allowance
- ★ Tax free shopping at military exchanges and commissaries

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## RECEIVE THE FINEST TRAINING IN THE WORLD

As an Army chaplain, you will help young men and women make it through some of the most difficult moments in their lives. You will be there as a spiritual leader, counselor and confidant, using the word of God to comfort, console and instruct. To prepare you for this important work, you will receive world class training and education.

### CHAPLAIN BASIC OFFICER LEADER COURSE

Your training begins with the Chaplain Basic Officer Leader Course (CHBOLC), a 12-week program at Fort Jackson, SC. While this course lays the foundation of service and ministry, it is only one of many opportunities. Chaplains may also receive Clinical Pastoral Education, Family Life Chaplain training, and Emergency Medical Ministry/Combat Medical Ministry training. To talk to a recruiter go to [goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter](http://goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter).

# EXPLORE THE VOCATION OF A CHAPLAIN - JOIN WHILE IN SCHOOL

## CHAPLAIN CANDIDATE

You do not need to wait until ordination to join the Army Chaplaincy. You can train to become an Army chaplain at the same time you are training for the ministry. The training and experience you will receive as a Chaplain Candidate will be a supplement to your ministerial education and training. All Chaplain Candidates are commissioned officers assigned to the Army Reserve or National Guard in the Chaplain Branch.

Should you decide to become an Army chaplain, by participating in the Chaplain Candidate Program (CCP), you will have a head start on entering the Army as a chaplain, as well as enjoying the many benefits and privileges associated with being an Army officer.

A Chaplain Candidate may train up to 30 days each year under the supervision of a senior chaplain at a military installation. This training, called a 'practicum,' is offered to all candidates once they have completed Phase 1 of Chaplain Officer Basic Leader Course. Practicums vary in type and location. They include broad based experiences at active duty installations, the United States Military Academy, ROTC's Cadet summer camp, Army Reserve Commands, garrison ministries, combat ministries, medical ministries and National Guard units. Practicums may be completed at anytime according to the student's schedule.

## TUITION ASSISTANCE

While attending seminary, chaplain candidates may apply for tuition assistance through the U.S. Army Reserve which will incur a USAR service obligation as a chaplain.

You may be eligible for up to 100% of the tuition costs, up to \$250 per credit hour with a maximum cap of \$4,000 to \$4,500 per year. This program requires service of at least four years in an Army Reserve unit.



# ANSWERING THE SACRED CALL - WAYS TO SERVE

## ACTIVE DUTY CHAPLAIN

Active duty chaplains serve almost every type of unit, including Special Operations, infantry, aviation, intelligence, hospitals, prisons, cyber, and community ministries. The Chaplain Corps also offers select chaplains advanced graduate degrees and specialized ministries in ethics, world religions, hospital ministry, and marriage and family counseling. You could be stationed in the United States, or in one of 180 countries around the world.

## ARMY RESERVE CHAPLAIN

The U.S. Army Reserve is the part-time force that provides essential capabilities to the Army, giving them added scale and scope to respond to challenges at home and abroad. As a chaplain in the Army Reserve, you will be able to pursue a civilian ministry while you train near home and serve your community. You will spend one weekend a month on duty and two weeks a year in training.

## NATIONAL GUARD CHAPLAIN

The Army National Guard operates in all fifty states, Washington, D.C, and the US territories of Guam, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. As an Army National Guard chaplain, you'll serve part time in support of your community, state and country.

You will spend one weekend a month on duty and two weeks a year in training, while still maintaining a civilian ministry. The National Guard responds to domestic emergencies, such as floods and hurricanes and may be deployed into active duty to respond to a national crisis.

## TO LEARN MORE

To talk to a recruiter go to [goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter](http://goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter).





## CHAPLAIN REQUIREMENTS

As the Religious Leaders of the Army, chaplains must be qualified morally and intellectually to provide Soldiers the free exercise of religion. On this page, you'll learn about the requirements to become an Army Chaplain.

We are looking for Religious Leaders who:

- ★ Are not older than 42 by the date they commission into the Army (Active Duty).
- ★ Have completed their basic theological education for their denomination or faith tradition (often the Master of Divinity degree).
- ★ Are ordained and endorsed by their denomination or faith tradition to serve in one of the components of the Army.
- ★ Have served at least two years in a full-time professional capacity as a member of a denomination or faith tradition, validated by an endorsing agent (this requirement is necessary for Active Duty applications and does not apply to Army Reserve or Army National Guard applicants).

## CHAPLAIN CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for this program, you must:

- ★ Obtain an official ecclesiastical approval from your denomination or faith group.
- ★ Possess a baccalaureate degree of at least 120 semester hours from an accredited college
- ★ Be a full-time graduate student (or have letter of acceptance) at an accredited seminary or graduate school (non-resident programs are acceptable).
- ★ Be a U.S. citizen
- ★ Be able to pass a favorable background check.
- ★ Pass a physical exam at MEPS.
- ★ Be between 18 and 36 years old (age waivers may be considered).

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## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

### WILL I HAVE TO CARRY A WEAPON?

No. Army chaplains are noncombatants. During training and combat, you will be accompanied by an armed Religious Affairs Soldier for protection. To talk to a recruiter go to [goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter](http://goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter).

### WILL I BE AN OFFICER?

Yes. You will enter with an officer's rank, usually a first lieutenant. However, depending upon your age, experience and circumstances, it is possible to enter with a higher rank such as a captain.

### WILL I BE FORCED TO COMPROMISE MY RELIGIOUS CONVICTIONS?

No. As a representative of your religious organization, you must adhere to the tenets of your faith in the service of your country as an Army chaplain. However, you must also understand that you are expected to minister to people of many backgrounds and faiths. The military community is a diverse organization requiring all of its Soldiers to respect its pluralistic nature.

### DO I NEED PERMISSION TO JOIN THE ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN?

Yes. You will need to acquire approval or endorsement by a Department of Defense recognized religious organization.





# THE ARMY CHAPLAIN'S CREED

I am an Army chaplain.

I am a religious leader and a member of a team.

I serve the Soldiers of the United States and live the SACRED Values.

I will always place religious freedom first.

I will always care for the living. I will always care for the wounded.

I will always honor the fallen.

I will never disrespect another's faith group.

I am spiritually and pastorally sound, and proficient in officer and chaplain tasks and skills.

I will always maintain faith, practice, and my beliefs.

I am a messenger and a professional.

I stand ready to minister, care, and provide for the service members of the United States of America in any context.

I am guardian of religious freedom and the virtuous way of life.

I am an ARMY chaplain.

## BECOME AN ARMY CHAPLAIN

Answer the sacred call and take the next step to make a difference in the world:

### TALK TO A CHAPLAIN RECRUITER

Chaplain recruiting teams are prepared to assist you and your family in exploring a vocation as an Army chaplain or chaplain candidate. Should you conclude that you want to apply, these experienced teams will assist you in preparing a complete application packet for the selection board. To talk to a recruiter go to [goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter](https://goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter).

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