

## **Military Enlistment and Adult Education Services**

Adult education students have career opportunities to enlist in the military.

### **Local Program Responsibilities:**

Adult education programs have the responsibility to provide appropriate education courses built on rigor and integrity meeting Utah State Board of Education standards. By Board Rule 277-733-8 Adult Education Programs, all courses designed and implemented by adult education programs should address the following:

- All Utah Core Curriculum and related objective standards as defined in Board Rule R277-700 must be met.
- Teaching strategies used to present course instruction are to meet the adult education students' needs through adjustment or modification.
- All Adult High School Completion (AHSC) courses must have written course descriptions that contain mastery criteria rather than completion of predetermined seat time.
- AHSC courses for students seeking an Adult Education Secondary Diploma should meet federal Adult Education Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) AHSC Levels I and II competency requirements.

The following information is presented to programs to assist students seeking enlistment in the military. It is strongly recommended that contact be made with the education specialist associated with the specific branch of the military that the student is considering, to ensure compliance with the most current recruitment criteria.

### **Army Recruitment:**

The Army maintains three tiers of eligibility standards. These tiers are national program qualifiers for Army admission, not Utah's alone.

#### **Tier 1**

- The recruit must have graduated from a traditional (12-year) day school program that has Northwest Accreditation.
- Adult education programs are not traditional day school programs and, as such, Tier 1 status may only be obtained after an on-site evaluation by the designated Army Education Services Specialist.
- In order for an adult education program to be considered Tier 1, the majority (95%) of the instruction must be *teacher directed/led* (i.e., lecture, computer-assisted, self-paced, or modular units of instruction) with required 95% attendance for the class work.
- More than half of the credits earned in the recruit's last education program must be classroom based.
- It does not matter whether the recruit passed or failed a state/school exit exam.
- Recruits who have taken and passed 15 college credits are considered equal to recruits who possess a traditional 12-year high school diploma.
- The recruit's ASVAB score is taken into consideration in tier placement.

Tier 2

The following contribute to Tier 2 status:

- Electronic high school programs
- Most adult education programs that have Northwest Accreditation
- GED recipient
- “Clepped-out” classes in a traditional 12-year day school program or adult education program

Tier 3

The following contribute to Tier 3 status:

- Diploma mills courses (course credits earned in unreasonably/unrealistic short period of time, credits issued by persons not licensed to teach given courses, and/or programs that tend to “fast track” students)
- Schools and adult education programs not accredited by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools
- No high school diploma or GED credential

Other considerations:

- At the present time, Tier 2 education options are “okay” for a recruit to be considered for enlistment in the Army.
- The Education Services Specialist is concerned about the manner in which instruction is presented.
- If students “dropout of a traditional 12-year day school,” they must wait for six months after their class has graduated before they can be considered for enlistment, provided they have earned a Tier 1 or Tier 2 credential.
- If a potential recruit drops out of a traditional 12-year day school program at any time during his/her senior year and enrolls in an adult education program during the same time period that his/her senior class is completing graduation requirements, he/she will not be considered for enlistment in the Army.
- The only credits the Education Services Specialist evaluates are those issued by the diploma-issuing agency.
- At a minimum, 51% of these credits must be acquired from single-subject classroom direct instruction by a teacher, not from independent study or multi-discipline classes.
- The Army will pay for course instruction (“Education Plus Program”) and subsequent GED testing.
- The “March 2 Success Program” is an Internet program designed for the Army to assist recruits in enhancing their scores on standardized assessments. (Note: Neither of these options are credit-type courses through an adult education program.)

Typically, recruits will be “shipping out” within 90 days from the time of enlistment; thus, programs must consider:

- What coursework can realistically be completed within the 90 days, given that 95% of the coursework must be teacher directed/led and completed in class.
- The importance of partnering with the local recruiter in communicating education concerns regarding attendance and course progress.

**Marine Corps Recruitment:**

The Marine Corps maintains two tiers and must adhere to national standards similar to the other branches of the military. Standards are not Utah's alone.

**Tier 1**

- The recruit must have graduated from a traditional (12-year) 100% seat-time day school program.
- The program must have Northwest Accreditation.
- It does not matter whether the recruit passed or failed a state/school exit exam.
- Successful completion of 15 college credits equals a high school diploma.
- "Clepped-out" credit is accepted.
- ASVAB score is taken into consideration.

**Tier 2**

- The recruit is not a high school graduate, but has completed the tenth grade.
- School(s) attended does not have Northwest Accreditation (Note: This applies to adult education programs as well.)
- Courses/programs that are delivered online are not accepted.
- In order for an adult education program to be considered Tier 2, the majority of the instruction (95%) must be *teacher directed/led* (i.e., lecture, computer-assisted, self-paced, or modular units of instruction) with required 95% attendance for the class work.

Other considerations:

- Each school's website is reviewed and evaluated to assist in determining the focus and rigor of the program.
- Electronic courses are not acceptable.
- Home-schooled students are not counted in Tier 1.
- At the present time, only 5% of Tier 2 applicants are accepted into the Marine Corps.

**Navy Recruitment:**

The Navy maintains two tiers and must adhere to national standards similar to the other branches of the military. Standards are not Utah's alone.

**Tier 1**

- The recruit must have graduated from a traditional (12-year) 100% seat-time day school program.
- The school awarding the diploma must have Northwest Accreditation.
- It does not matter whether the recruit passed or failed the UBSCT.
- Successful completion of 15 college credits equals a high school diploma.
- "Clepped-out" credit is accepted.
- ASVAB score is taken into consideration.

Tier 2

- Alternative programs, including adult education programs, are reviewed and considered.
- Recruits who have successfully passed the GED Tests may be considered *if* the GED Tests were paired with, at a minimum, packet instruction.

Other considerations:

- Each recruit's case is reviewed on an individual basis.

**Air Force Recruitment:**

The Air Force has three tiers of eligibility standards. These tiers are national program qualifiers for Air Force admission, not Utah's alone.

Tier 1

- The recruit must have graduated from a traditional (12-year) day school program.
- The school awarding the diploma must have Northwest Accreditation.
- The recruit may have attended and graduated from an adult education program and used 5.0 credits received from the successful passing of the GED Tests and be considered a Tier 1 candidate, depending on the intensity and rigor of the adult education program.
- Each recruit is evaluated on an individual basis by the operations officer.
- Having passed 15 hours of college credits is the equivalent of a traditional high school diploma.

Tier 2

- An adult education program may be considered a Tier 2 program, depending on how the course instruction is presented and how credits are transcribed.
- Home-schooled students will be considered for enlistment before a person who has successfully passed the GED Tests.
- Recruits who have passed the GED Tests at the beginning of the fiscal year (October) have a greater chance of being accepted into the Air Force.
- "Clepped-out" classes are frowned upon.

Tier 3

- Diploma mills (course credits earned in unreasonably/unrealistically short periods of time, credits issued by persons not licensed to teach given courses, and/or programs that tend to "fast track" students)
- Schools that are not accredited

Other considerations:

- How classes are listed on a transcript is important.
- Participation in an adult education program is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- The maximum number of GED-credentialed recruits annually enlisted as Tier 2 is less than 1%.
- The recruit's ASVAB score is taken into consideration in tier placement.
- The number of driving violations could be an issue for a recruit.
- The Air Force recruiter is not a "hand holder"; the candidate must take and show initiative.