






JAG CORPS SERVICE COMPARISON

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SERVICE	GENERAL INFORMATION	ELIGIBILITY
 <p>AIR FORCE</p>	<p>The Judge Advocate General's Corps HQ USAF/JAX Professional Development Directorate Pentagon 1-800-JAG-USAF www.airforce.com/jag airforcejagrecruiting@gmail.com</p> <p><u>Demographics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1200+ active duty JAGs • Approx. 100 commissioned annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned to active duty before 40th birthday • U.S. citizen and pass security clearance requirements • Be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school • Be admitted to practice law in the highest court of any U.S. State, commonwealth, or the District of Columbia • Medically qualified (after selection) • Be of good moral standing and character
 <p>ARMY</p>	<p>Judge Advocate Recruiting Office 9275 Gunston Road, Suite 3200 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060</p> <p>1-866-ARMY-JAG www.jagcnet.army.mil/jaro www.goarmy.com/jag</p> <p><u>Demographics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1800+ active duty JAGs • 130-150+ commissioned annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned to active duty before 42nd birthday • U.S. citizen and pass security clearance requirements • Graduate of ABA-approved law school (students may apply in final year of law school) • Admitted to the bar (and be a member of good standing) of a State Territory, Commonwealth, or the District of Columbia (students may apply prior to taking bar exam) • Medically qualified (determined after selection) • Meet Army mental and physical fitness requirements • Be of good moral standing and character
 <p>NAVY</p>	<p>Office of the Judge Advocate General Washington Navy Yard 1322 Patterson Avenue, SE Suite 3000 Washington DC 20374-5066</p> <p>202-685-8527 www.jag.navy.mil/careers</p> <p><u>Demographics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 900+ active duty JAGs • 50-70 commissioned annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned to active duty before 42nd birthday • U.S. citizen and pass security clearance requirements • Student Program: On track to graduate from ABA-approved law school and be admitted to the highest court of any state, territory, or federal bar • Direct Appointment Program: Graduate of ABA-approved law school and admitted to the highest court of any state, territory or federal bar and a member in good standing • Medically qualified • Meet Navy physical fitness requirements • Be of good moral standing and character
 <p>MARINE CORPS</p>	<p>Staff Judge Advocate Marine Corps Recruiting Command 3280 Russell Road MCB Quantico, VA 22134</p> <p>703-432-9008 http://officer.marines.com/ https://www.marines.usmc.mil/SJA/sja.htm</p> <p><u>Demographics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx. 630 active duty Judge Advocates • 60 commissioned annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer Candidates Course (OCC-Law): Law students in their final year at an ABA-approved law school and graduates from an ABA approved law school must be licensed to practice law in any state or the District of Columbia prior to attending Officer Candidate School and be under the age of 33 • Platoon Leaders Class-Law (PLC-Law): First or second-year law students must be enrolled in an ABA-approved law school and be under the age of 30; College seniors must be accepted to an ABA approved law school • U.S. citizen and pass security clearance requirements • Meet Marine Corps mental and physical fitness requirements • Be of good moral standing and character
 <p>COAST GUARD</p>	<p>Office of the Judge Advocate General Office of Legal Policy and Program Development (CG-0948) 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE, Stop 7213 Washington, DC 2059</p> <p>U.S. Coast Guard Recruiting 1-877-NOW-USCG www.gocoastguard.com</p> <p><u>Demographics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ~ 200 active duty Judge Advocates • 6-12 commissioned annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned to active duty after 21st birthday but before 41st birthday • U.S. citizen and pass security clearance requirements • Be a graduate of, or a third-year law student in, an ABA-accredited law school • Admitted to the bar (and be a member in good standing) of either a federal court or the highest court of any state in the United States or the District of Columbia • Must meet physical qualifications in Coast Guard guidance • Have less than 10 years of non-Coast Guard active duty military service

APPLICATION PROCESS

PROGRAMS / SERVICE COMMITMENT

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SERVICE

AIR FORCE



Deadlines

- DAP: 3 Selection Boards annually – apply online by 10 Aug, 10 Oct, and 10 March (eligible to apply once completed 2/3 of credit hours)
- AFROTC Programs: 1 Selection Board annually – apply by 10 Jan
- FLEP/ELP: 1 Selection Board annually – apply by 10 Jan

Requirements

- Interview with a Staff Judge Advocate
- Apply online at www.airforce.com/jag
- Other: Additional documents include all undergraduate and graduate transcripts, detailed résumé, motivational statement, certificate of good standing (for practicing attys), photograph (head to toe), Letters of Recommendation (optional), Writing Sample (optional)

Accession Programs

- Direct Appointment Program (DAP): 4 yrs
- AFROTC Educational Delay Program: 4 yrs
- AFROTC Graduate Law Program (GLP): 4 yrs
- AFROTC One Year College Program (OYCP): 4 yrs
- Funded Legal Education Program (FLEP): 6 yrs after law school (number of positions varies annually based on funding)
- Excess Leave Program (ELP): 4 yrs
- Intraservice/Interservice Transfer: 4 yrs

Summer Internship Program/School Year Externship Program

- 1L & 2L selected each year (CONUS only)
- GS-9/7 federal employees, 8-10 wks in summer
- Credit hours optional, 10-16 wks fall and spring semester

ARMY



Deadlines

- 1 Selection Board a year – apply online by 1 Nov

Requirements

- Interview with a Field Screening Officer (by 1 Nov)
- Complete online application (www.jagcnet.army.mil/jaro)
- Other: Additional documents include all undergraduate and graduate transcripts, detailed résumé, certificate of good standing (for practicing attys), Photograph, Letters of Recommendation (optional), Writing Sample (optional)

Accession Programs

- Direct Commission Program: 4 yrs
- ROTC Educational Delay Program: 4 yrs
- Funded Legal Education Program: 6 yrs after law school (25 positions annually)

Summer Internship Program

- 2L – approx 70 selected each year (GS07 federal employee for 8 weeks in last summer of law school)

NAVY



Deadlines

- 2 Professional Recommendation Boards held per year: applications due in Oct & Feb
- Student Program applicants can apply at either/both boards.
- Direct Appointment applicants can only apply to the Spring board

Requirements

- Structured Interview with a senior JAG Corps Officer and a Junior JAG Corps Officer
- Online application (www.jag.navy.mil/careers)
- Other: All undergraduate and graduate transcripts (w/ class standing, if available), résumé, LSAT score report, photograph (full length), Letters of Recommendation (min of 3), certificate of good standing (for practicing attys)

Accession Programs

- Direct Appointment Program: 4 yrs
- Student Program: 4 yrs (applicants may commission as inactive reservists during their 2L or 3L year)
- Interservice-DoD Transfer (Active duty junior officers must apply through Direct Appointment Program first)

Summer Internship Program

- 2L and 3L – approx. 60 selected for unpaid program
- 3L – 20 positions for paid program (subject to available funding)

MARINE CORPS



Deadlines

- Apply several months prior to planned Officer Candidate School class
- Eligible to apply as soon as accepted to an ABA-approved law school

Requirements

- Interview with an Officer Selection Officer
- Other: Personnel Security Questionnaire, SAT and LSAT scores, all undergraduate and graduate transcripts, letter of acceptance from law school for college seniors; certificate of good standing for law school students; proof of bar admission for law school graduates, Physical fitness test, drug statement, traffic violation form, non-traffic arrest form (if applicable), personal statement, character references

Accession Programs

- PLC-Law Program: 4 yrs
- OCC-Law Program: 4 yrs
- Funded Law Education Program: 6 yrs after law school (number selected varies)
- Excess Leave Program: 3 yrs

Summer Internship Program

Active duty legal experience at Marine Corps bases and stations for commissioned PLC-Law Officers only

Post-Bar Exam Internship

Active duty legal experience at Marine Corps bases and stations for commissioned PLC-Law Officers awaiting licensing and the next phase of military training.

COAST GUARD



Deadlines

- Two deadlines in a fiscal year --approximately at the end of Aug and in middle of Feb
- Qualified packages received after positions are filled will be held over until the next fiscal year
- Eligible to submit during 3rd year of law school

Requirements

- Interview with a three person panel, which includes at least one Judge Advocate and two other CG officers
- Forms located on www.gocoastguard.com or call local recruiter

Accession Programs






- Direct Commission Lawyer: 4 yrs
- Funded Legal Education Program: 5 yrs upon completion of law school (6-7 positions annually)

Summer Internship Program (unpaid intern/extern)

1L, 2L- approximately 12-15 unpaid interns or externs (for academic credit) selected each year

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SERVICE	INITIAL TRAINING	INCENTIVES
 <p>AIR FORCE</p>	<p>Total training period 14 weeks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 weeks - Commissioned Officer Training, Maxwell AFB, AL • 9 weeks - Judge Advocate Staff Officer Course, Maxwell AFB, AL (academic training) 	<p><u>Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$65K offered during initial term of service <p><u>Judge Advocate Continuation Pay (JACP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered after completion of initial term of service (total \$60K over 6 years) - \$20K for additional 2 years - \$40K for additional 4 years after that <p><u>Other</u></p> <p>Eligible for bar dues reimbursement of up to \$350 each fiscal year</p>
 <p>ARMY</p>	<p>Total training period about 16 weeks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 weeks - Direct Commission Officer Course, Fort Benning, GA • 10.5 weeks - Judge Advocate Basic Course, Charlottesville, VA (academic training) 	<p><u>Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$65K offered during initial term of service <p><u>Judge Advocate Continuation Pay (JACP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered after completion of initial term of service (\$60K in 1 installment at year 4 for additional 4 year service commitment)
 <p>NAVY</p>	<p>Total entry training period approximately 15 weeks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 weeks - Officer Development School, Newport, RI (professional officer introductory training) • 10 weeks - Basic Lawyer Course, Newport, RI (introductory military legal training) 	<p><u>Judge Advocate Continuation Pay (JACP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered after completion of initial term of service (total \$60K in increments of \$30K, \$15K, and \$15K over several years)
 <p>MARINE CORPS</p>	<p>Total training period approximately 11 months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 weeks - Officer Candidate School, MCB Quantico, VA • 6 months - The Basic School, MCB Quantico, VA • 10 weeks - Naval Justice School, Newport, RI (academic training) 	<p><u>Continuation Pay</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered after completion of initial term of service (\$30K over 3 year period) <p><u>Tuition Assistance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Corps Tuition Assistance Program (up to \$15K while in law school in exchange for additional commitment) (PLC-Law)
 <p>COAST GUARD</p>	<p>Total training period approximately 17 weeks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 week - military indoctrination, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT • 4 weeks - Direct Commissioned Officer School, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT • 10 weeks - Naval Justice School, Newport, RI (academic training) 	






ASSIGNMENTS

DEPLOYMENTS

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SERVICE

<p>AIR FORCE</p> 	<p>Worldwide locations; major installations include:</p> <p>CONUS locations, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington, D.C. • Massachusetts, New Jersey, California, Washington State • Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming, Utah • Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina • Alabama, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Texas • Ohio, Missouri, Kansas <p>Overseas locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alaska, Hawaii • Germany, England, Italy, Australia, Turkey, Korea, Japan, Guam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typically, 179-day deployments, practicing law • A few 365-day deployments – typically not for Captains • Locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Afghanistan -Kuwait, Qatar, UAE, Kyrgyzstan -Djibouti -Guantanamo Bay, Cuba -CONUS -Other
<p>ARMY</p> 	<p>Worldwide locations; major installations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas • Washington, Alaska, Hawaii • Washington, D.C. • Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama • Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland • Germany, Italy, Belgium • South Korea, Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typically, 6-12 month deployments, practicing law • Locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Afghanistan -Kuwait, Qatar -Djibouti -Guantanamo Bay -Other
<p>NAVY</p> 	<p>Worldwide locations; major installations include:</p> <p>CONUS locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virginia, California, Washington State, Maryland • Washington, D.C. • Florida, Hawaii, Illinois • Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine • Texas, Georgia, New Jersey <p>Overseas locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany, Spain, Japan, Italy, Greece, Singapore, Guam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typically, 6-12 month deployments as a legal professional • Locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -At sea -Afghanistan -Guantanamo Bay, Cuba -Djibouti, Africa -Diego Garcia
<p>MARINE CORPS</p> 	<p>Major locations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington, D.C. • Virginia • North Carolina, South Carolina • California, Arizona, Hawaii • Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typically, 7-month deployments (some 12-month deployments) • Mostly operational billets, some military justice • Locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Afghanistan -Pacific, Mediterranean, Guantanamo Bay, Djibouti
<p>COAST GUARD</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most Coast Guard legal positions are within the U.S. • Locations most likely to be stationed (among other cities) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Washington, D.C. -Boston, MA -Norfolk, VA -Miami, FL -New Orleans, LA -Alameda, CA, -Cleveland, OH -Seattle, WA -Honolulu, HA -Juneau, AK 	<p>Voluntary deployments may be available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afghanistan • Germany • Various international destinations





SERVICE

PRACTICE

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT


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SERVICE	PRACTICE	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
<p>AIR FORCE</p> 	<p><u>First Tour</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial term assignments are to base level legal offices; normally 2 base legal office assignments during initial tour (2-3 years in each) Typically 3 responsibilities at base legal office: Court-martial prosecution, Legal Assistance, subject matter “Chief” in one practice area <p><u>Areas of Practice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Military Justice, Legal Assistance, Torts and Claims, Labor Law, Environmental Law, Contracts, Fiscal Law, Operations Law, International Law <p><u>Future Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal Law: Area Defense Counsel, Special Victim’s Counsel, Senior Trial and Defense Counsel Medical Law Consultant LL.M. Program Teaching: Air Force Academy, JAG School Faculty, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial entry as 1st Lt (O-2), promotion to Capt (O-3) within 6 months; periodic promotion thereafter (approx. every 5-7 years) 2016 Promotion Rates: Major - 95%, Lt Col – 85%, Colonel - 60% LL.M. Program: International Law, Env Law, Labor Law, Space Law, Contracts, etc. Continuing Legal Education: short courses at Maxwell AFB, AL and Army JAG School in Charlottesville, VA (Litigation courses, Labor Law, Homeland Defense, Contracts, etc.); paid for by AF Developmental Education: Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, Air War College
<p>ARMY</p> 	<p><u>First Tour</u></p> <p>Typical initial term assignments (usually 12 months in each job):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal Assistance (wills, credit issues, landlord-tenant disputes, family law, tax) Administrative Law or Operational Law Trial Counsel (military prosecutor) May have opportunity to deploy <p><u>Future Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Civil Litigation: environmental law, employment and labor law, contract law Criminal Law: Defense counsel (trial level), government or defense appellate attorney, Chief of Justice, Senior Defense Counsel Chief of Administrative Law; Chief of Client Services (legal assistance); Operational law Professor at The Judge Advocate General’s Legal Center and School, Professor at West Point Military Academy Military Judge Special Victims Prosecutor or Special Victims Counsel Pursue an LL.M. at a civilian law school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial entry as 1LT (O-2), promotion to CPT (O-3) within 6 months; periodic promotion thereafter (approx. every 6-8 years) Certified to practice as a judge advocate upon graduation from the Officer Basic Course (Direct Commissioning Course) Continuing Legal Education: Judge Advocate Officer Advanced Course (when promoted to MAJ) will earn an ABA-approved LL.M.; other CLE courses presented by The Judge Advocate General’s Legal Center and School (TJAGLCS) Periodic civilian-hosted CLEs paid for by Army Military Schools: Ranger, Airborne, Air Assault, Pathfinder, etc. Promotion Rates: Major - 85%, Lt Col 75%, Colonel – 55%
<p>NAVY</p> 	<p><u>First Tour</u></p> <p>Initial assignment to a Region Legal Service Office; normally 2 years in length split into 6 month rotations in both Command Services and Legal Assistance, followed by 12 months in a military justice billet (either defense or trial).</p> <p><i>* Contracts, Labor Law handled by civilian attorneys in Office of Gen Counsel</i></p> <p><u>Future Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff counsel to a shore based installation or command Operational law/legal advisor to deployed air wing/carrier group Criminal Appellate Law defense/government counsel, Senior Defense Counsel/Senior Trial Counsel Office of Military Commissions (OMC) Defense/Government Counsel Funded graduate education Service legal school instructor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students at the Basic Lawyer Course start as LTJG (O-2) and are promoted to LT (O-3) one year after their first day at Basic Lawyer Course. Continuing Legal Education: Eligible for fully funded graduate education. LL.M.s in Military Law, Criminal Law, International Law, & Environmental law; Master degrees in National Security or Intelligence. Promotion Rates (converted to AF equivalent ranks): Major - 85% Lt Col – 75%, Colonel - 60% Periodic advanced courses at Naval Justice School and other service schools
<p>SERVICE MARINE CORPS</p> 	<p><u>First Tour</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At major bases and stations; normally with a Marine Logistics Group or a base legal office Typical first-tour responsibilities include court-martial prosecution and defense and legal assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PLC-Law: Initial entry as 2ndLt, promotion to 1stLt two years after commissioning, periodic selection for promotion thereafter (approx. every 4-7 years) OCC-Law: Initial entry as 2ndLt, promotion to 1stLt within 9 months and eligible for next promotion board to Capt, periodic selection for promotion thereafter (approx. every 4-7 years)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually 3 years at base or station • Opportunities to deploy <p>Areas of Practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military Justice, Operational Law, International Law, Family Law, Torts and Claims, Labor Law, Environmental Law, Contracts, Fiscal Law <p>Future Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Defense Counsel, Military Justice Officer, Military Judge • Staff Judge Advocate at bases and stations, or to operational units • Unit commander (e.g., Marine Corps Embassy Security commander) • LL.M. Program • Teaching: Naval Academy, Naval Justice School, TJAGLCS, NROTC units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three years of constructive service credit for time in law school prior to commissioning (accrues upon graduation from Naval Justice School) • Military schools: Expeditionary Warfare School, Command and Staff College, etc. • Continuing Legal Education : Naval Justice School advanced courses, Judge Advocate Officer Advanced Course and other TJAGLCS courses, funded LL.M programs in environmental, labor, and international law. • Periodic CLEs paid for by Marine Corps
<p>COAST GUARD</p> 	<p>First Tour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a district (base) level office or staff attorney at headquarters office • District level is a diversified practice; practice areas include military justice, contracts, ethics, and any other legal issue that a base legal office may encounter • Headquarters practice is a specialized practice in such areas as international and maritime law, environmental law, etc. • JAGs assigned to headquarters typically spend 2 years in one area, then rotate to another area in a headquarters office • JAGs assigned to district offices usually remain in the same office for one entire tour <p>Areas of Practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal Law , Operations Law, International Law, Civil Advocacy, Environmental Law, Internal Organizational Law, Legal Assistance, Regulations & Administrative Law, and Member Advocacy <p><i>*Coast Guard Judge Advocates are Line Officers and can therefore rotate from the specialty of law to tours in other Coast Guard missions (dependent on needs of service)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial entry as LT (O-3); periodic promotion thereafter (approx. every 5-7 years) • Continuing Legal Education: LL.M. in Military Law at Army JAG School (Charlottesville, VA) • Periodic training in various areas of practice, to include courses with other services

BENEFITS (applicable to all branches)

Military Benefits

- TRICARE provides world-class low cost or free personal and family medical and dental care
- 30 days paid leave (not including 10 federal holidays)
- Tax-free entitlements for housing and food
- Use of commissaries (grocery) and base exchanges (retail) at all military installations
- Use of military recreation and fitness facilities around the world
- Post 911 GI Bill: member eligible and transfer of eligibility to dependents
- Low cost \$400,000 term life insurance
- Ability to contribute to tax-free retirement accounts under the Thrift Savings Plan
- Space Available travel on government aircraft
- 12 weeks maternity leave or 10 days paternity leave
- Low cost childcare facilities availability

Other Benefits

ABA free membership for JAGs in first five years of practice
 Some states waive state bar dues/CLE requirements
 College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA): Provides for income-based repayment and loan forgiveness after 120 qualifying monthly payments