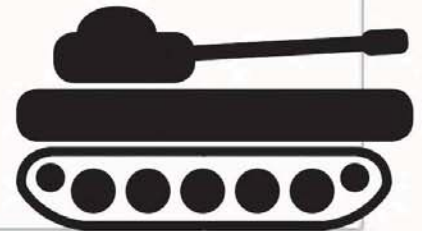




ARMY SOLDIER

JOB DESCRIPTION

Army soldiers work to protect their country while keeping peace around the world using land-based military operations. They perform missions assigned by the President and the Secretary of Defense, as well as combatant commanders. Soldiers also aid in disaster relief and humanitarian missions. With more than 150 US Army jobs, there are many specializations for recruits to choose from.



SALARY

Private ★★★★★

Four-star general ★★★★★

INDUSTRY PROFILE

Hiring for various job opportunities happens on a continuous cycle • May hire fewer new recruits at certain times depending on the state of the economy and/or funding

AT A GLANCE



YOUR INTERESTS Serving your country • Combat • Security • Science • Technology • Engineering • Mechanics • Mathematics • Aviation



ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS Age, education, and residency requirements must be met in order to join the military. Physical and written exams are required.



LIFESTYLE Working hours are around the clock, and soldiers can be deployed at any time, anywhere in the world. Army soldiers must wear a uniform.



LOCATION Most active-duty US Army soldiers live and work on or near military bases and facilities both in the United States and around the world.



THE REALITIES Soldiers may move often and be away from their families for long periods of time when deployed. Work is high-risk and physically demanding.

▼ RELATED CAREERS

- ▶ **MOTOR VEHICLE TECHNICIAN** *see pp. 184–185*
- ▶ **TELECOM ENGINEER** *see pp. 188–189*
- ▶ **AIR FORCE AIRMAN** *see pp. 232–233*
- ▶ **POLICE OFFICER**
see pp. 240–241
- ▶ **MEDICAL DOCTOR**
see pp. 276–277
- ▶ **NURSE** *see pp. 278–279*



More than
675,000 soldiers,
active-duty and
reserve, made up the
US Army in 2014.

CAREER PATHS

To enlist in the US Army, entrants must be at least 17 years old, have a high-school diploma or General Educational Development (GED), and be a citizen or permanent resident of the US. They also need to pass a physical and written exam, background check, and drug test. Specialized positions may need additional qualifications.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE You need a high-school diploma, a GED, or 15 or more college credits to enlist in the Army.

COLLEGE GRADUATE A four-year college degree is required for some roles, such as officer. For certain specialized careers, such as in the medical field, you need a master's degree.



ARMY SOLDIER Once recruited, you begin with Basic Combat Training (BCT), which teaches skills needed to perform essential Army duties. After BCT, you must complete Advanced Individual Training (AIT) to learn specialized skills for specific Army jobs.



INTELLIGENCE ANALYST Seeks out and analyzes information about the enemy to help inform battle strategy and assist troops serving on the battle front.



AVIONIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT REPAIRER/MECHANIC Member of the Army communications maintenance team. Responsible for performing repairs and maintenance on aircraft communications equipment.



NURSE CORPS OFFICER Leads a team of Army Nurse Corps nurses who provide care and special services for soldiers and their families. Requires a bachelor's degree in nursing from an accredited school.



AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY OFFICER Leads the air defense artillery branch, which shields the Army and its forces from aerial strikes and defends against missile attacks and enemy surveillance. Expert in air defense systems with special training in leadership, tactics, and weapons.

SKILLS GUIDE



Good communication skills with unit members, officers, and civilians at home and abroad.



The ability to work as a member of a close-knit team, follow rules, and have respect for authority.



Flexibility to adapt to frequently changing work environments and locations anywhere in the world.



Strong physical and mental fitness for taking part in land-force missions.



The perseverance to solve problems efficiently, sometimes in stressful and dangerous situations.