



# LAFAYETTE COLLEGE ARMY ROTC

The Steel Battalion has been forging civilian college students into Second Lieutenants in the United States Army since 1919. Army ROTC is a four-year leadership program built into your college schedule. Lafayette students train as Charlie Company of the Steel Battalion, a partnership of nine colleges and universities hosted by Lehigh University. Freshman and sophomore Military Science classes are taught right on the Lafayette campus, and all cadets come together for leadership lab at Lehigh. National Army ROTC scholarships cover full tuition and mandatory fees (or room and board up to \$12,000 per year), plus \$1,200 per year for books and a \$420 monthly stipend. Scholarships are awarded on merit and require a military service obligation.

**If you are competitive for admission to Lafayette,  
you are also competitive for this national scholarship.**

## ABCs of ROTC

- A)** All Army. We do not offer Air Force or Navy ROTC at Lafayette.
- B)** Benefits. Army ROTC is the nation's largest source of merit-based college scholarships! Lafayette offers an additional Room & Board leadership award for Army ROTC scholarship recipients.
- C)** Charlie Company. Established at Lafayette in 2020 so cadets can take ROTC classes right on campus.

**Proven at Lafayette:** Two Lafayette cadets from the Class of 2026, Raymond Kerrison (Mechanical Engineering) and Daniela Spera (Geology & German), ranked **#3 and #4 in the nation** on the Army ROTC Order of Merit List out of 5,538 cadets, and commissioned as Active Duty officers in Aviation and the Corps of Engineers.

## Charlie Company FAQs

- **Does Lafayette add anything to the Army scholarship?** Yes. Lafayette offers a supplemental room & board award to Army ROTC scholarship cadets. Ask Lafayette Financial Aid how it packages with your Army award.
- **Do I still apply for financial aid?** Yes. Students exploring Army ROTC at Lafayette must still apply for financial aid through the normal channels.
- **Can I try ROTC without committing?** Yes. Freshmen and sophomores can take Military Science classes and leadership lab before signing a contract.
- **Is ROTC the same as Basic Training?** No. Cadets learn basic military skills like rifle marksmanship and small-unit tactics, but the focus is applied leadership and managing people and resources in dynamic organizations.
- **Do cadets enlist?** No. Cadets stay full-time college students. Service begins after graduation, when you commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Active Army, Army Reserve, or Army National Guard.
- **Do I major in ROTC?** No. Military Science courses count as elective credit, and nearly every Lafayette major is compatible with ROTC.

# How to Apply for the National Scholarship

- 1 Create your account in the new Army ROTC scholarship portal: [goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships](https://goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships)**
  - Applications opened June 14, 2026. You must start your application by March 4, 2027.
  - Finish the Personal Information tab first. The rest of the tabs unlock after it is saved.
- 2 Complete the Academic Information tab**
  - Enter your unweighted GPA and upload your transcript (through 11th grade) and SAT, ACT, or CLT score report.
  - Army ROTC superscores: your best section scores across attempts are combined.
  - Add your school counselor and a Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) administrator. Recommenders are optional.
- 3 Complete the Activities tab**
  - List every sport and activity from 9th through 12th grade, including jobs, volunteering, and family responsibilities.
  - If your exact activity isn't listed, pick the closest match (type, time commitment).
  - Include what you will do through senior year (varsity letters, captain selections, etc.).
- 4 Take the Survey**
  - Answer honestly. You cannot go back to a question once it is submitted.
- 5 Select your Schools of Intent**
  - List schools in priority order. Put Lafayette #1 if it is your top choice.
  - The portal requires 1 of every 3 schools to be an in-state public school.
  - Let us know you're interested: [armyrotc@lafayette.edu](mailto:armyrotc@lafayette.edu)
- 6 Complete the Essays and File Upload tabs**
  - Upload a resume and all required documents. Files show "Pending" until a processor reviews them.
- 7 Complete the Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA)**
  - 1-minute push-ups, 1-minute sit-ups, and a 1-mile run (no treadmill).
  - A coach, gym teacher, or JROTC instructor (not a relative) administers it and submits your scores.
- 8 Interview at a Senior Army ROTC program**
  - Arrive on time, dress appropriately, and RELAX. Bring your resume and transcript.
  - Do a mock interview with a family member or mentor ahead of time.
  - Be ready for the most important question: "Why do you want to be an Army Officer?"
- 9 Finish early! 2026–2027 Scholarship Boards**

| Board   | File complete by | Board meets         |
|---------|------------------|---------------------|
| Board 1 | October 12, 2026 | October 19–23, 2026 |
| Board 2 | January 18, 2027 | January 25–29, 2027 |
| Board 3 | March 8, 2027    | March 15–19, 2027   |

- Complete files that are not selected roll to the next board automatically.

## Interested? Contact us!

[armyrotc@lafayette.edu](mailto:armyrotc@lafayette.edu)

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