

Choosing to Serve is Choosing College (+)

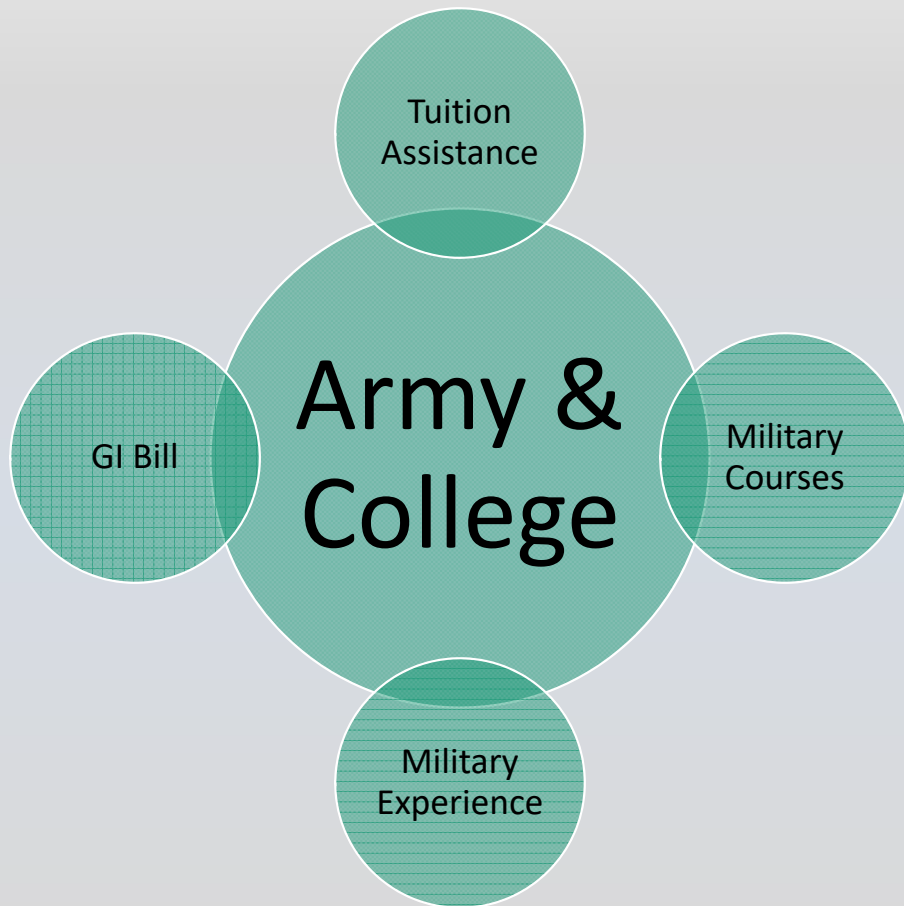


Larry Beer

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Choosing to Serve is Choosing College

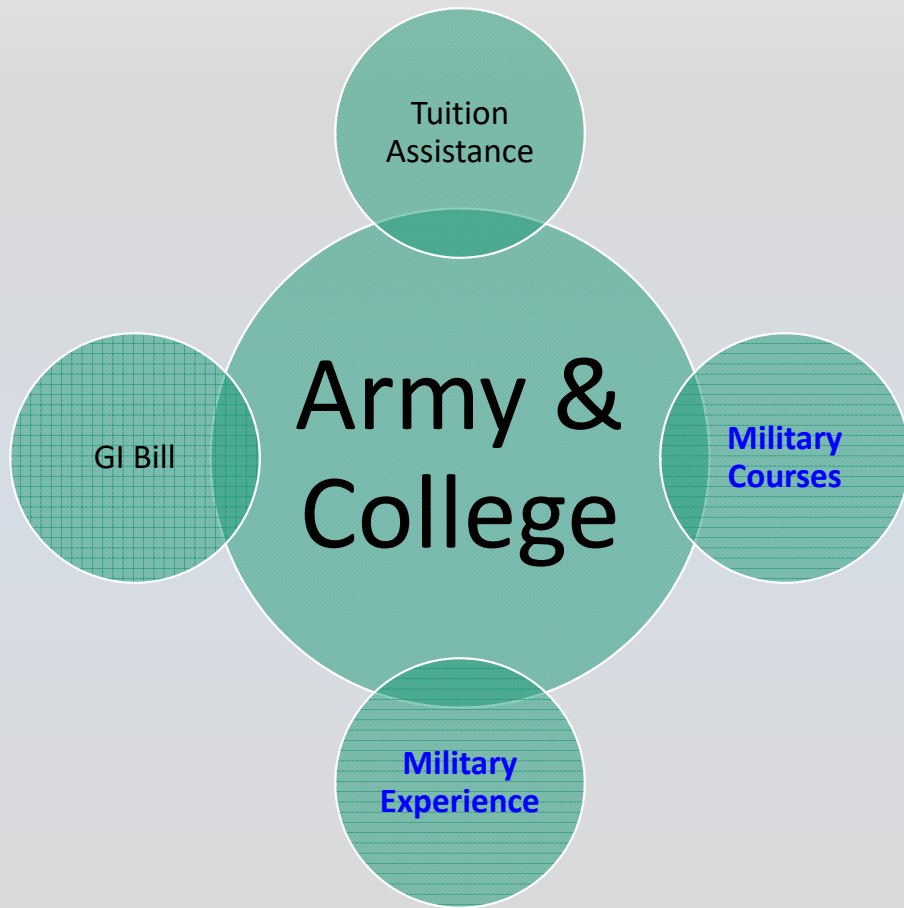
Why?



1. Soldiers get college credit for military **courses**
2. Soldiers get college credit for military **experience**
3. Soldiers get **Tuition Assistance** (TA) for college while serving
4. Soldiers can use the GI Bill if/when TA not enough while serving
5. Soldiers get the **GI Bill** after serving
6. Soldiers can **transfer benefits** to spouse and children
7. **IF** a Soldier wants an Army career... college is needed in order to be competitive

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Military Courses and Experience

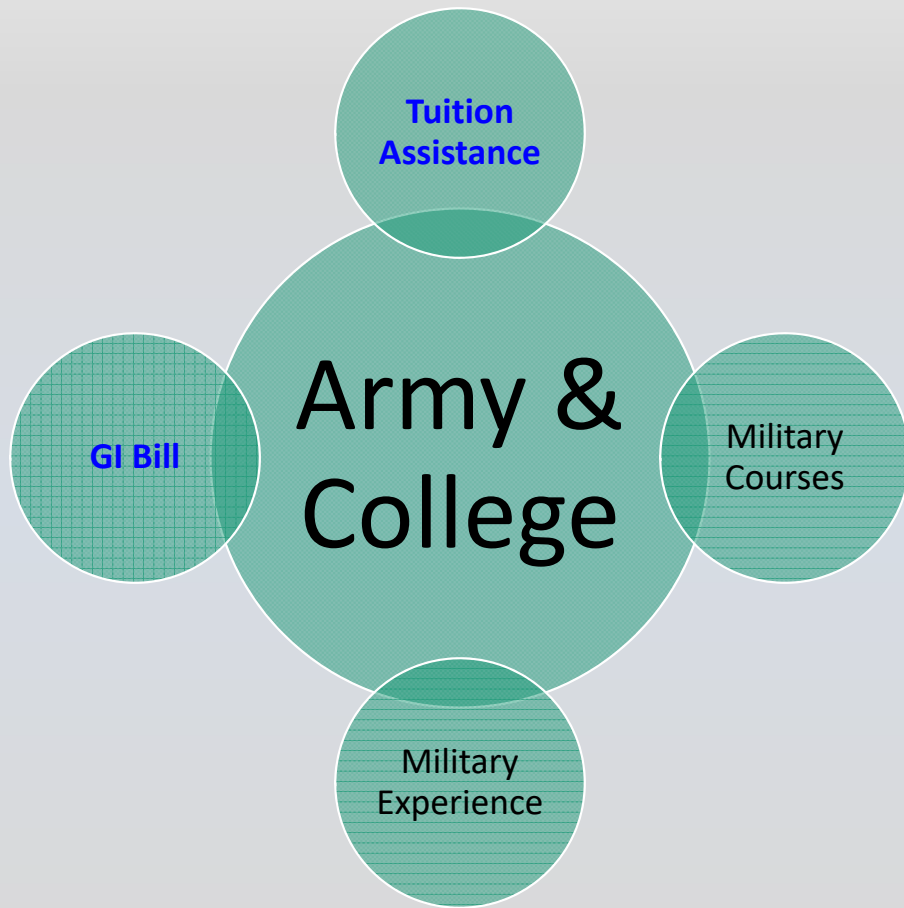


American Council on Education (ACE)

- ACE, the American Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), and the National Center for Higher Education (NCHE) field teams to evaluate military courses and experience
- The evaluation process involves in-depth review of courses and occupations by a team of professors, deans, and other academics.
- The process results in consensus on content, description, and credit recommended for selected courses and occupations.

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“Scholarships” during service

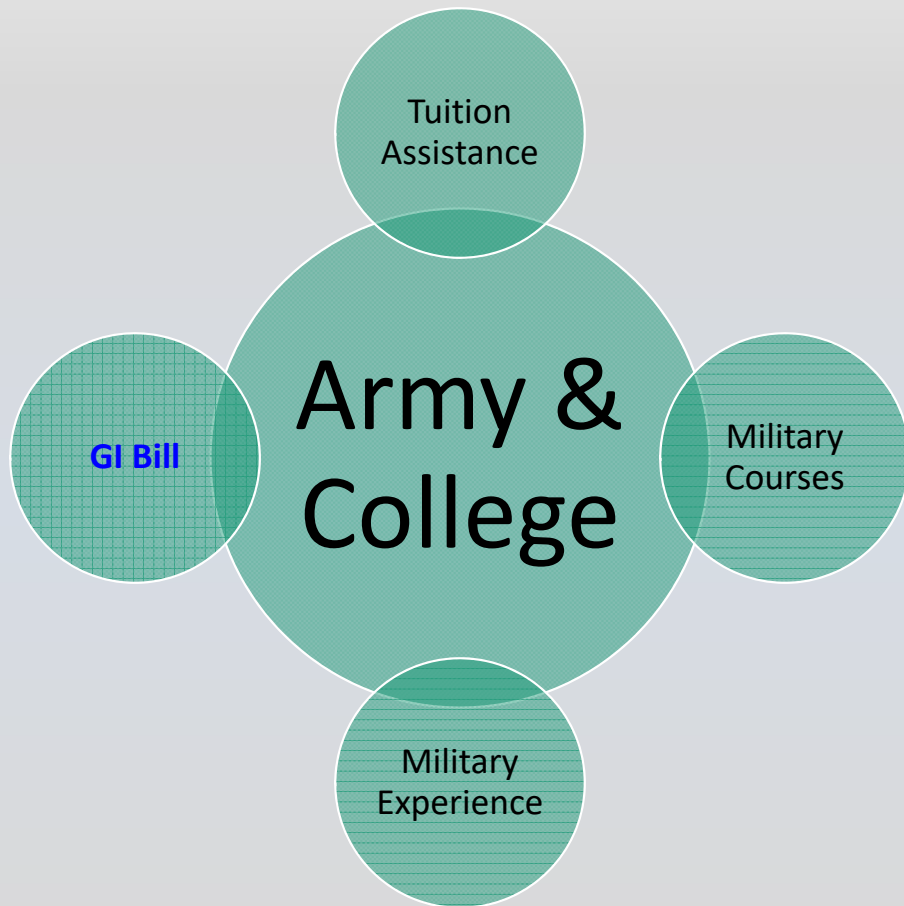


Tuition Assistance & GI Bill

- Tuition Assistance (TA)
 - Funds provided for voluntary off-duty education programs in support of a Soldier’s professional and personal self-development goals
 - \$250 per SH (or equivalent) cap and annual limit of \$4,500
- Post-9/11 GI Bill
 - Can be used to make up for whatever expenses are not covered by TA and yellow ribbon programs
 - More details upcoming

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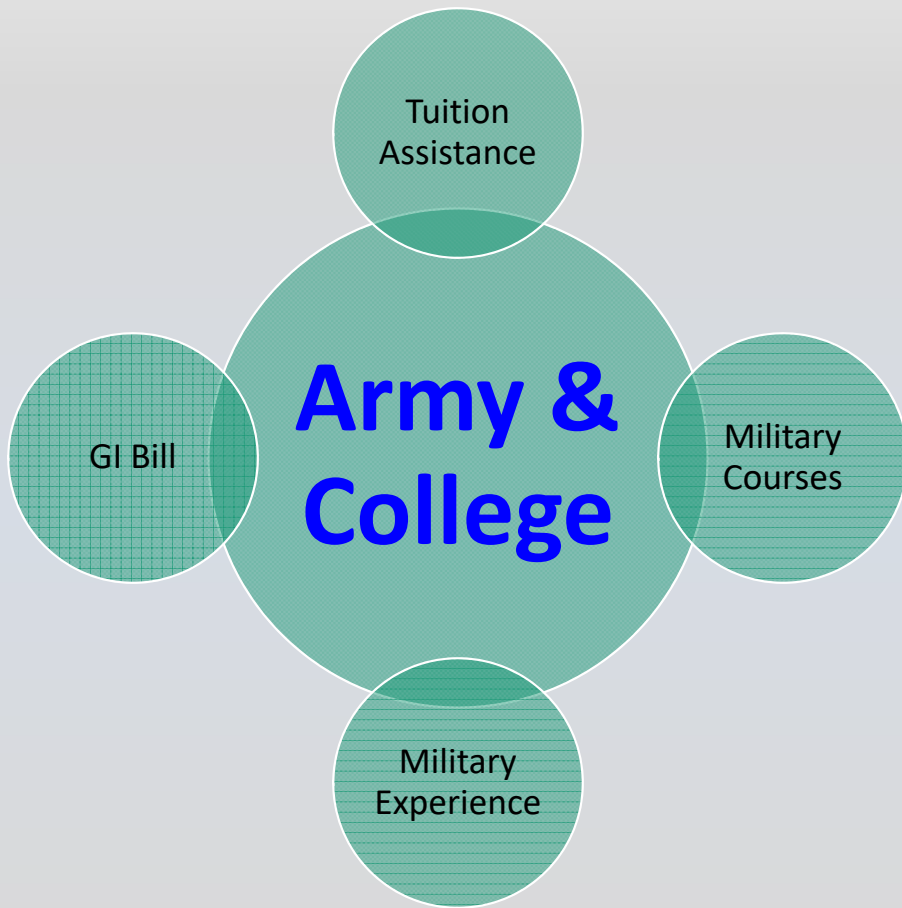
“Scholarships” after service



Post-9/11 GI Bill

- Tuition, books/fees, housing allowance
 - GI Bill generally covers 100% of a state’s public university tuition, plus \$1,000/yr for books
 - Plus stipend (monthly housing allowance). CU: \$1,938; U of NE Omaha: \$1,314; U of WY: \$1,350
- Yellow Ribbon programs for private schools
 - WY: Casper College, WyoTech
 - NE: College of St. Mary, Creighton U, Union College
 - CO: Colorado College, Regis U, U of Denver
- Transfer benefits to spouse and children
 - Must have 6+ yrs service, plus agree to 4 more
 - Split among spouse/children (not 100% for each)

Choosing to Serve is Choosing College *via Army Career*

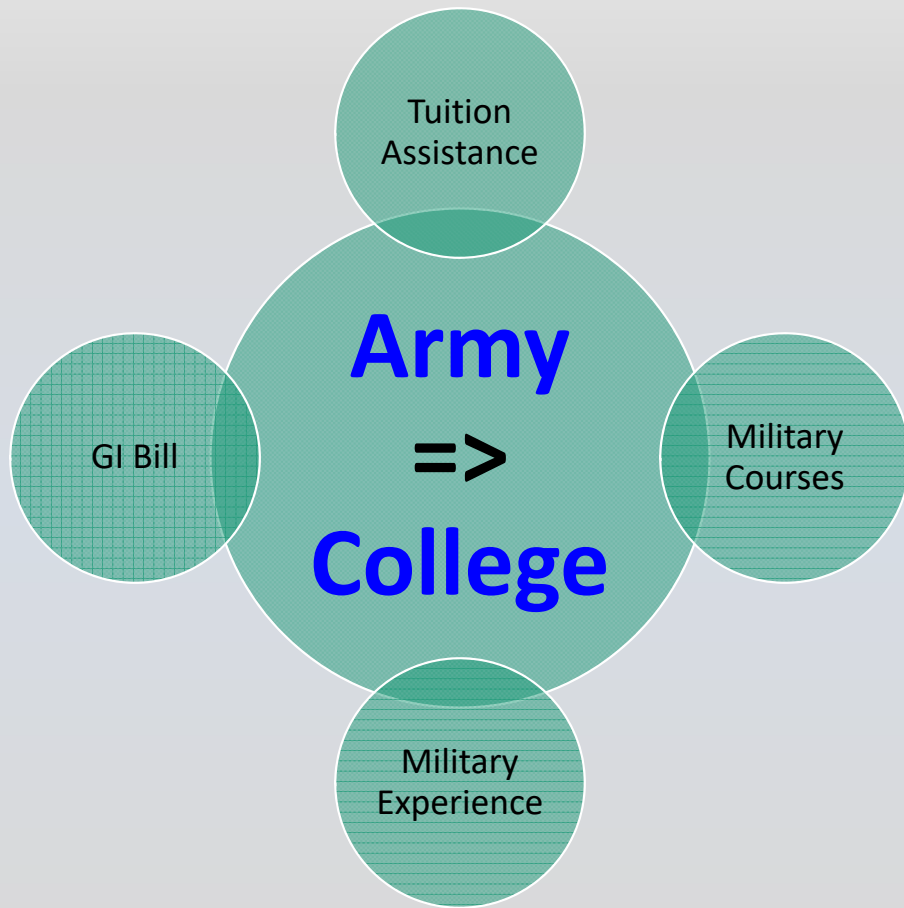


IF a Soldier wants an Army career

- The Army Culture of Excellence & Advancement via **HIGHER EDUCATION**
- You don't advance if you don't demonstrate excellence.
- Practically speaking, being competitive for higher rank requires college

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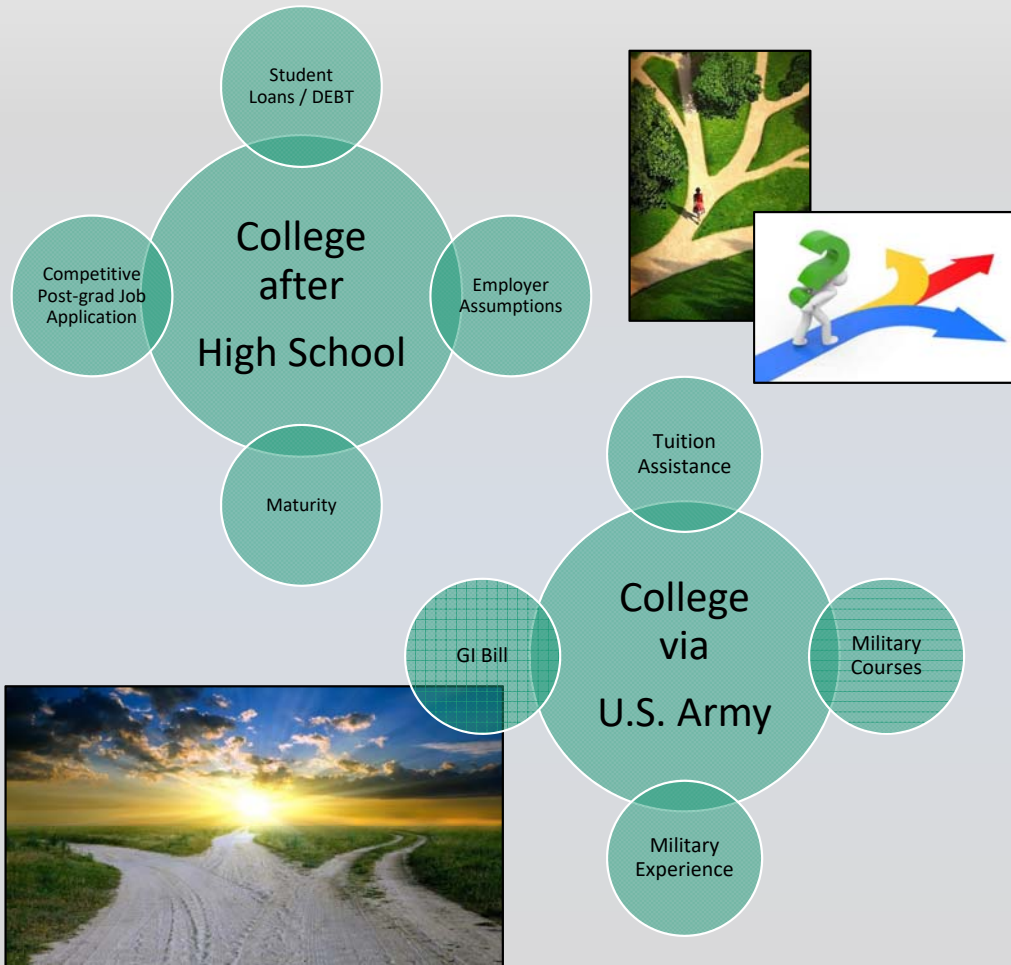
Why? (recap)



1. Soldiers get college credit for military **courses**
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7. **IF** a Soldier wants to make the Army career... college needed to be competitive

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Notional Comparison



College straight out of High School

- Time frame: Avg completion of 4-year degree: between 5 years, 8 months and 6+ years
- Debt: 70% of college grads in debt; avg \$37,172
- Assumptions (unfair): entitled and aloof generation?

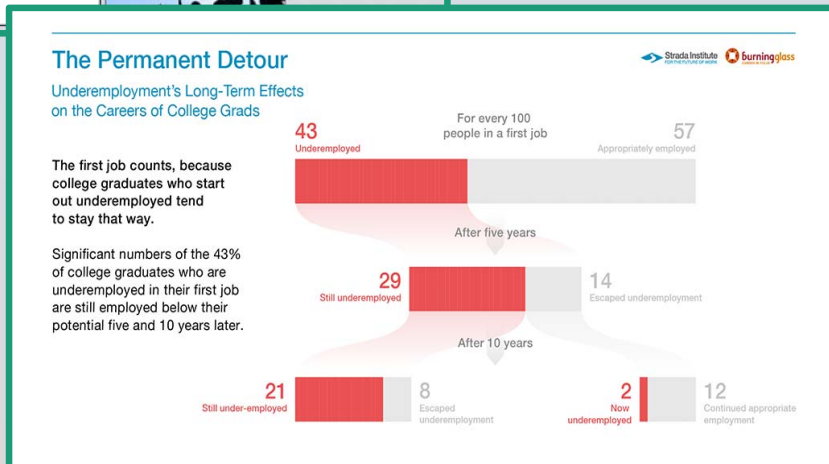
Soldier's Route to Completing College

- Time frame: 3-yr enlistment w/college credit, summer classes likely, 3-yr completion probable (total ~6 yrs)
- Debt: None
- Assumptions: responsible, team-player, hard working and focused when necessary

Choosing to Serve is Choosing College

Remember this plus sign (+) from the beginning of the presentation?

Choosing to Serve
is
Choosing College (+)



College out of High School → Future Work

- “Among college grads in recent study, **43%** were underemployed in 1st job.”
- “Almost one out of every two (**47%**) female college graduates are initially underemployed.”
- “This report highlights just how important it is to position graduates well in that first job...”

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/pomp-and-circumstances-new-study-finds-most-college-graduates-who-start-out-underemployed-stay-there-300653352.html>

- Work experience: Internships, jobs, volunteer work

Soldier's Route → Future Work

- Often, there are skills/experiences that directly and positively impact work in future job fields.
- Even when military service isn't significantly relevant to future jobs, it stands out as time not wasted → soft skills

Things to Know about Service in the US Army

Often Not Well Understood

• STUDENTS' ARMY JOB IS GUARANTEED

- ✓ Students get the job they qualified for and chose *before* joining.
- ✓ The Army will NOT force a Nursing, IT, Human Resources professional switch to infantryman job (MOS).
- ✓ Must complete basic training before job training (AIT: advanced individual training)

• THERE'S MORE THAN ONE JOB IN THE ARMY

- ✓ 150+ jobs/ways to serve in the US Army (14 are combat)
- ✓ Examples: Intelligence, Medical, IT, Cybersecurity, Human Resources, Research, Linguistics, et al.
- ✓ The Army will NOT make a Nursing professional into an infantryman.

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DISCUSSION



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