

Educational Delay Law Program



OVERVIEW

The Educational Delay Law Program is a three-year program for officers commissioned through AFROTC who want to delay their entry onto extended active duty in order to pursue a law degree. Applicants are not guaranteed positions as Air Force Judge Advocates and must compete for selection for entry into the Educational Delay Program (Educational Delay – In) and for entry onto active duty as Judge Advocates (Educational Delay – Out). The JAG Corps does not award any scholarships for participation in the Educational Delay Program.

ELIGIBILITY

Interested students must:

- Be AFROTC senior cadets in the second year of the Professional Officer Course to apply for Educational Delay – In
- Be in the second semester of the third year of law school to apply for Educational Delay – Out
- Be in good academic standing
- Have applied and ultimately be admitted to an American Bar Association (ABA) accredited law school

APPLICATION PROCESS (DELAY – IN)

To apply for entry into the Educational Delay Program, applicants must apply through their local AFROTC detachment to the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) at the beginning of the spring semester of their senior year of college. They must also submit an application to the JAG Corps by completing the application materials available online at www.airforce.com/jag. Applicants schedule a hiring interview with the Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) at any active duty Air Force base and submit their

application packet at the time of the interview. The deadline for completion of the application paperwork and the interview is 1 February of each year. Applicants are typically notified of the results in early March. Applicants must have applied to law schools at the time they apply to the JAG Corps; however, they may be awaiting decisions from the schools. Selection for the Educational Delay – In Program does not guarantee the AFROTC cadet a JAG position.

APPLICATION PROCESS (DELAY – OUT)

To apply for entry to the JAG Corps, Educational Delay Program students submit an application during the second semester of their third year of law school by completing application materials available online at www.airforce.com/jag. Applicants schedule a hiring interview with the Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) at the any active duty Air Force base and submit their application packet at the time of the interview. The deadline for completion of the application paperwork and the interview is 1 February of each year. Applicants are typically notified of the results in early March. If selected for the JAG Corps, a student will enter active duty as a Judge Advocate. Those not selected will be referred to the Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) for assignment into a different career field.

SELECTION

Selection is on a best-qualified basis. Selection factors include academic performance, extracurricular activities, work experience, community service, military record, and interview recommendation. The best-qualified applicants are selected by the Judge Advocate General using

recommendations from a board of senior Judge Advocates.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Participants in the program are responsible for the cost of their legal education and they do not receive military pay or benefits during their legal studies.

TRAINING

Educational Delay students are assigned to AFIT and serve in a reserve status during law school. They normally complete a legal internship with the JAG Corps between their second and third years of law school, which is typically performed at the base legal office nearest to their place of residence. Internships vary from 60 to 89 days, during which time officers draw full active duty pay, benefits, and travel allowances.

COMMISSIONING AND SERVICE COMMITMENT

Once an applicant is medically qualified and meets legal licensing requirements, HQ USAF/JAX contacts the applicants to discuss duty assignment. Those officers who are not selected through both the Educational Delay – In and the Educational Delay – Out Programs or who otherwise fail to meet legal licensing requirements will be referred to the AFPC for reassignment. Officers selected for the JAG Corps will enter active duty as First Lieutenants and are eligible from promotion to Captain after six months. The initial active duty service commitment is four years.