



## **VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

**The 192D Fighter Wing has a state and federal mission.** The federal mission of the 192nd Fighter Wing is to maintain the highest possible degree of combat readiness so as to be an effective combat unit to the U.S. Air Force upon mobilization. It is to execute directed tactical fighter missions designed to destroy enemy military forces, supplies, equipment, communications systems and installations.

The state mission is to remain ready to answer any call to duty by the governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia to aid, protect, and defend the commonwealth in any necessary capacity.

The 192nd Fighter Wing currently flies and maintains the F-22A Raptor here in the 149th Fighter Squadron, supports the ongoing intelligence mission here in the 192nd Intelligence Squadron, and supports the 735th Supply Chain Management Group under the Air Force Global Logistics Support Center.

The unit operates an active community relations program, assisting at Special Olympics events, supporting local patriotic and aviation activities and donating time and talents to the Children's Hospital, the local Veterans Affairs hospital, and the Commonwealth Challenge program.

### **MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

**COLLEGE EDUCATION** - Tuition assistance is paid directly to your school. Current school year maximum funding is up to \$7,500.00 FY (\$2,500.00 per semester) and \$350 per semester for books. This grant **cannot** pay for Room/Board. Also qualify for the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB), which pays **up to \$362.00 monthly to full time college students**. Some careers also offer the Kicker Program, which pays **up to an additional \$350 monthly along with MGIB, Cash Bonuses**. Pursue an Associate Degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

**HIGH TECH TRAINING** - Will equip you with vocational training second to none. Earn while you learn with the best vocational training available in your chosen Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC).

**PAY** - An E-1 can earn \$182, as an E-2 \$222 and an E-3 \$234 for a weekend drill. That's 4 days pay for 2 days participation (one weekend each month.)

**STATE TAX BENEFIT** – Virginia Air Guard members ranked O-3 and below receive a \$3,000 per year military pay exclusion on state income taxes.

**AGE** – Applicant must be at least 17 years old, but not have reached age 40 on date of enlistment. Parental consent is required for those who are 17 unless married.

**MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE** - Full Coverage for Guard members while in a duty status. Low cost Tricare Medical (\$192.89 for a family of 4 and \$54.35 per person) & MetLife Dental Insurance (\$30.89 for a family of 4 and \$10.30 per person).

**PROMOTIONS** - Promotions mean an increase in your paycheck, authority, prestige, responsibility and training. You must meet the required time in service, time in grade, level of Professional Military Education (PME), and be recommended by your supervisor.

**BASE EXCHANGE & COMMISSARY** - Unlimited shopping privileges for Guard members and their families at the Base Exchange and Commissary.



**MORALE, WELFARE, & RECREATION (MWR)** – You may use base facilities (gym, golf course, dining hall, libraries). Use of military recreation and camping facilities throughout the country as well as discounts. Space Available (Space A) Military aircraft travel for Guard members. Military discounts.

**LIFE INSURANCE** (optional) - Serviceman's Group Life Insurance is available for you, your spouse and minor children. Coverage is 24/7 whether you are on duty or not and ranges from \$50,000.00 to \$400,000.00. Maximum cost is \$27.00 per month. Serviceman's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) - SGLI is a low cost group life insurance members of the Air Guard can purchase.

**FREE LUNCH & LODGING** - Guard members eat free lunch at Base Dining Facilities on **training weekends**. Members outside the commuting distance are provided with lodging Saturday night of the training weekend at no cost to the member.

**RETIREMENT** - 20 years earns a military retirement. At age 60 you begin to draw your monthly retirement check and you will receive ALL the benefits entitled to any retiree (Unlimited Base Exchange/Commissary, access to all facilities on military installations, medical and dental coverage for you and your dependents.)

**COMMITMENT** – Service commitment is for 3 or 6 years for Prior Service and 6 years for Non Prior Service.

**DUTY REQUIREMENTS** – Basic Military Training which is a consecutive 8 ½ weeks long and Technical School immediately after (length varies based on career field). Drill is just one weekend a month and there will be 15 consecutive days of annual training required throughout each year.

**SERVE CLOSE TO HOME** – Your duty assignment is in the state of Virginia. You will work close to home! The Virginia Air National Guard has units located in Virginia Beach-203<sup>rd</sup> Red Horse, Hampton- 192D Fighter Wing and in Richmond – the 200<sup>th</sup> Weather Flight.

1. **VA HOME LOAN GUARANTIES** - are issued to help eligible Service members, Veterans, Reservists, National Guard and certain unmarried surviving spouses obtain homes, condominiums, and manufactured homes, and to refinance loans. For additional information or to obtain VA loan guaranty forms, visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans>.

**ADDITIONAL BENEFITS MAY INCLUDE:**

Limited legal assistance; Military burial assistance; Military clothing sales stores; Military death gratuity; Military discounts on tickets, shows, and activities;



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. Once enlisted how long will it be before I leave for training?
  - Once enlisted we start working on your security clearance. Once the clearance paperwork is sent to the approving authority, our training office will start looking for basic training and tech school dates. The bigger the job in the AF, the more frequent the schools are offered. We like to say 3-6 months are the norm, but at times it can be longer than this.
2. Can I use the education benefits before going to Basic Training?
  - No, once you are finished with Basic Training you can start using the Education Benefits.
3. How many years do I have to sign up for?
  - If you have never been in the service, your enlistment contract will be for 8 years. After 6 years, you can make a decision to re enlist or finish your time in the Inactive Reserves.
4. Do I get a sign up bonus?
  - Each year the National Guard Bureau attaches bonuses to certain AFSC's. If you decide to take this job, you will receive the bonus attached to it.
5. Will I have to deploy?
  - You always have to be prepared to deploy. Normally the Air National Guard asks for volunteers for deployments, but that is not a guarantee.
6. Can I retire out of the Air Guard?
  - Yes, after 20 years of service you can retire out of the Air Guard. Your retirement will be based on the amount of points you have accumulated through the years.
7. How do I decide what job I want to do in the Air Guard?
  - Once you have taken your ASVAB test and a physical, your recruiter will sit down with you and explain your scores and show you what jobs are available at that time. You can research those jobs and decide if any sounds interesting to you?
8. Can I change jobs throughout my career?
  - Often you can change your career field after you have completed 3 years of service.
9. What happens if I join the Virginia Air Guard and then move to another state?
  - If you move to another state you can request a release from the state you are assigned to and transfer to the new location. These releases have to go through your chain of command and can be turned down in extreme circumstances, but that rarely happens.
10. Can I get a full time job with the Air Guard?
  - Yes, we do have full time jobs available that you can apply and compete against other qualified applicant to earn the position. These jobs are usually advertised on [www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com). The job announcement will explain how you go about applying for these jobs.