Defense Civilian Training Corps (DCTC) Student Call for Applications
Cohort 1

Applicants are required to submit their application for the Defense Civilian Training Corps (DCTC) online by March 31, 2024, at 11:59pm EST. Before the end of the Spring 2024 semester, successful applicants will receive a tentative offer contingent upon passing an initial background check and have one week to accept. The initial background check will be performed within two months of receipt of the tentative offer.

Students selected to DCTC must:

- register for the 2-credit hour DCTC 301 course in the Fall 2024 semester, and
- register for a 2-credit DCTC course in each of the three subsequent semesters leading up to graduation.

If selected, students are strongly encouraged to join the DCTC Research Review event in Washington, DC, July 29-31, 2024 (stipend provided).

ABOUT THE DEFENSE CIVILIAN TRAINING CORPS (DCTC):

Vision - DCTC strategically develops talent that can immediately contribute to solving the Department of Defense’s (DoD) most challenging problems and adapt to the future.

Mission - The DCTC integrated curriculum and development program provides scholars from a broad array of majors across the Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM), finance, business, law, and policy fields with the critical skills and experiences needed to jump-start a career in the civilian acquisition workforce. DCTC is designed to provide a multidisciplinary cohort-based learning environment, match scholars to a project-based summer internship with DoD organizations, facilitate a security clearance before graduation, and establish a pathway to employment.

Defense acquisition delivers business and weapon systems that strengthen our national security. Defense acquisition enables offensive and defensive combat operations and situational awareness across the battlespace, delivering critical capabilities like submarines, space-based systems, ground vehicles, helicopters, and aircraft with cybersecurity safeguards. It also enables humanitarian missions, reconstruction projects after hurricanes or earthquakes, building infrastructure like bridges and schools. Defense acquisition is responsible for tools, equipment, training, materials, fuel, food, uniforms, software systems and so much more. We innovate to win. We use modern development approaches to rapidly prototype and meet war fighter needs on time and at cost, in the required quantities, and with the training to operate and maintain them.

Members of the defense acquisition workforce collaborate with defense contractors and non-traditional suppliers to innovate, source, design, develop, test, produce, field, ship, equip, and maintain systems.
**Critical Skills** - The DCTC program is designed to prepare scholars for the DoD Acquisition Systems’ most critical skills through development in three areas: Specialty, DoD Acquisition, and Employability.

**Specialty** - DCTC scholars acquire knowledge and experience that demonstrate the ways in which their chosen fields of study contribute to and align with the DOD acquisition system.

**DoD Acquisition** - DCTC scholars gain knowledge and skills related to the DoD acquisition process and community. Potential roles include research and development, contracting and procurement, project and finance management, production and supply chain management, and test and evaluation.

**Employability** - DCTC scholars acquire essential employability and character-building skills vital for their personal and professional development, e.g. leadership, strategic and critical thinking, resilience and adaptability, collaboration, intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, integrity, communication, etc.

**Internship to Employment Pathway** - DCTC project-based summer internships, which provide a pathway to employment, give scholars experience applying their studies, working with DoD organizations who may hire the scholar, and solving real-world DoD challenges.

**DCTC Scholarship Provides** - full tuition + a monthly stipend of $2,000 + a summer internship support stipend + a book allowance (subject to availability of funding).

**Who Can Apply** –

- Applicants’ interests should align with a desire to serve in a national security role that supports the research, development, and production of military capabilities.
- Applicants must plan to become a DoD civilian upon graduation and complete a two-year service obligation (one year of service obligation for each year of scholarship).
- Applicants must be a citizen of the United States at the time of application. Nationals and permanent residents are not eligible to apply.
- Applicants must have (and maintain) a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Applicants must have 4 semesters remaining before graduation (i.e. an expected graduation date of May 2026). The DCTC curriculum includes four 2-credit courses that must be taken over four semesters as part of Cohort 1.
- Applicants must be able to qualify for a security clearance and will be subject to a background check before final acceptance into DCTC.
- Applicants must be enrolled in a full-time, in-person bachelor’s degree program or accepted as a full-time in-person transfer student from a community college.
- Applicants must currently be unencumbered by another federal scholarship and/or internship-type program.