



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### **Is JROTC a required course?**

No. JROTC is an elective course at Lake Highlands High School.

### **What does JROTC stand for?**

JROTC stands for Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps. It is a military regulated high school program whose purpose is to educate high school students in leadership roles while making them aware of the benefits of citizenship. The mission of JROTC is "To Motivate Young People To Become Better Citizens".

### **What is the class like?**

The program is a half credit elective class for every semester a person takes it. JROTC combines interesting classroom instruction with the opportunity to serve the school and the community, participate in extra-curricular activities, enjoy social activities, and have the chance to be in leadership positions.

### **What exactly is taught in class?**

The material covered in the program varies throughout the year, with short segments of self discipline, leadership training, basics of citizenship and other topics related to the U.S. Army. The Army JROTC curriculum also covers topics such as U.S. Military History, first aid, human relations, good techniques for oral communication, drill and ceremony, military map reading, personal hygiene, marksmanship, orienteering, and staff functions and procedures. NO MILITARY TACTICS ARE TAUGHT IN ANY JROTC CLASS.

### **Is there an obligation to go into the armed services after high school?**

Absolutely not. There is no obligation of any kind to join the service; in fact, most cadets do not go into the military. But for those who are interested in pursuing a career in the military, Army JROTC is a real benefit to include higher rank upon enlistment with 3 years of JROTC.

### **Who are the instructors?**

There are two instructors, a Senior Army Instructor (SAI), and an Army Instructor (AI). At LHHS the SAI is an officer, and the AI is a Master Sergeant. Both are retired from active military service.

### **What does the program cost?**

There is no cost to enter the program. The course materials, uniforms, supplies, and equipment are issued to the cadets free of charge by the U.S. Army. There are some things that a cadet might have to pay for, such as a field trip, issued equipment that is lost or damaged, or special equipment for a particular team. Cadets are issued clean uniforms and are expected to return them cleaned or dry cleaned for the dress uniform trousers and jacket.

### **Are both girls and boys enrolled?**

Yes. All leadership positions are available to both genders equally.

### **What are some of the benefits of taking the program?**

Aside from being a credit in high school, there are several other benefits that can be attained from joining the program. First, for people that enlist in the military after taking JROTC for at least three years, the military will take them up two pay grades and ranks. Second, many colleges give advance standing and credit for completion of the JROTC program if the person enroll in college ROTC. Third, the JROTC instructors have been very successful in helping high school students, who are interested, obtain ROTC scholarships and service academy appointments.

### **Are uniforms required to be worn?**

Yes. After being fitted for and issued a uniform in the beginning of their first year, cadets are

required to wear the Army JROTC uniform once a week on uniform day. Uniform day is typically on Wednesday of each week, but there are exceptions. The uniform is provided by the military, and is custom-fitted to each cadet. The uniform consists of a pair of trousers, shoes, black socks, shirt, black belt and buckle. Cadets earn their rank and awards to put on their uniforms. It is considered an honor to wear the uniform and cadets wear it with pride. Cadets can also earn a Battalion T-Shirt to wear on Fridays.

### **Are there special regulations I have to follow?**

Yes, although not to the extreme. There are, however, regulations about the personal appearance of cadets, wearing of the uniform, and even how to address the other military personnel and cadets. For example, males are not permitted to wear an earring (s) in the classroom, and females are only allowed one pair of earrings, one earring in each ear. On uniform day, males must have their hair not extend past the ears lengthwise, and female cadets must have their hair off the collar.

### **Can I still do other activities, outside JROTC?**

Certainly. JROTC students are involved in everything from varsity sports to band, chorus, student government, and other clubs. You can spend as much or as little time as you want to with JROTC. The program offers several additional teams (rifle team, drill team and color guard) that cadets may join in addition to the normal JROTC class activities. The program also offers field trips, summer camps, military balls, and other group-sponsored activities. Most of these offers are not mandatory for cadets to participate in; in fact, JROTC encourages students to participate in other activities.

### **What kind of recognition can I get by participating in the program?**

There are a large number of awards which cadets can earn for participation and achievement in the program. Some are given by the unit, but others can be awarded by local military organizations such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Military Order of Purple Heart, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. These are just a few of the organizations that give awards. All awards have certain criteria, but are open to all who achieve that criteria. Involvement, good leadership traits, and

being an active participant of the program are the main requirements. College bound cadets can compete for scholarships and grants.

### **What about the leadership training?**

In JROTC, being a leader means first being a follower. The curriculum teaches all aspects of being a good follower and being a good leader. Cadets must learn the 14 leadership traits of a good leader. The program encourages practical application in other school activities as well as in JROTC.

### **How can I enroll in the program?**

If you would like to be in the program it is as simple as signing the course sheet for that program. The most value is gained by joining as a Freshman and completing all four years. JROTC is normally a full year course.

**If you have any questions about the JROTC program at Lake Highlands High School please contact one of the instructors at (469) 593-1035.**