

Mighty Hawkeye News

The Official Newsletter of the University of Iowa Army ROTC



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• ARMY ROTC •

Reflecting on a Year

Thank you for the support

Every year is a year of growth, as the semester for the University of Iowa was winding down, we couldn't help but look back on all of the accomplishments we achieved as a Battalion but more importantly reflect on the people and the organizations that helped us get to where we are now. In the school year of 2023-24 the Cadets of the Mighty Hawkeye Battalion accomplished things many may never experience. First and foremost, the University of Iowa and the auxiliaries that support our program both with facilities and events. Cadets are able to conduct physical training in top-of-the-line facilities, step foot on Kinnick field representing Soldiers across the country and attend a university that supports them. The Iowa National Guard, without your support utilizing facilities, equipment, and

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educating the Cadets on branches we would not be where we are today without you. The MHBN has the ability to grow and thrive thanks to local organizations, university clubs, and departments like the IVets, and our incredible Alumni Association. Lastly and more importantly thank you to the families and the friends of the MHBN, Cadets get to follow their dreams of serving the United States Military with your support, none of this would be possible without our community's support. Thank you!



CDT STEULAND & CDT BECHTEL

Cadet Summer Training

Cadet Summer Training (CST) is a requirement to receive a commission that cadets approaching their senior year partake in. This training is designed to challenge and enhance cadet skills through a variety of disciplines. Over the course of several weeks (35 days), cadets will undertake in events such as land navigation, obstacle courses, marksmanship training, and field exercises that simulate real-world military operations.

As we near another incredible season of CST, we want to wish the best of luck to each one of the cadets that will be sent off. This summer will be filled with challenges, learning opportunities, and personal growth. From honing your leadership skills and mastering new technical abilities to building lifelong friendships, this experience is designed to challenge and inspire you. Remember to stay positive, embrace every opportunity, and support each other through this journey. Your dedication and hard work are what make our program truly exceptional and we cannot wait to see your efforts at CST. Good luck!

Spring Commissioning

A Salute to the Seniors

Class of Spring 2024:

- 2LT Claire Hellman
- 2LT Jonathan Gualtieri
- 2LT Beth Scoular
- 2LT Braeden Smith
- 2LT Christopher Cumberbatch
- 2LT Peter Dengler
- 2LT Bergen Ensminger
- 2LT Oluwashei Nicane Gbetokou
- 2LT Alexander Gralczyk
- 2LT Taylor Higgins
- 2LT Jacob Reifert



On behalf of the Mighty Hawkeye Battalion (MHBN), congratulations to our newly commissioned officers from the class of 2024! This year the University of Iowa MHBN commissioned three of the Nation's top 10%; a testament to the legacy our cadets strive to leave behind as they move on to lead the future of the military. The desire to leave the organization stronger created officers that stand ready to lead with honor and integrity. As you start on this new chapter of service, we wish you all the success in your future endeavors. May you continue to inspire those you lead and continue to uphold the values that brought you to this point. Make us proud and GO HAWKS!

Junior Cadet Leadership Challenge

Learning the Art of Leadership

This past week, Junior Reserve Officer Corps (JROTC) cadets departed from their schools and arrived at Camp Dodge, IA. JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge (JCLC) allowed JROTC cadets to have hands on experience what the military offers, regardless of branch. Cadets from both Army JROTC and Air Force JROTC were able to participate in this event to inform and recruit for all military efforts.

Senior cadets from University of Northern Iowa, Iowa State University, and University of Iowa came together to guide junior cadets during camp. Senior cadets took the lead as cadre and were able to directly oversee junior cadets to improve their leadership skills. This was an amazing opportunity to watch not only junior cadets lay a foundation for Military service but also our senior cadets enhance their leadership skills.



PHOTO BY CDT SZEWC

Contact us!

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Pathway to College and Commissioning

Iowa National Guard

The Iowa Army National Guard recently announced some changes in benefits for college students. Enrolled Cadets and students seeking opportunity to become officers can get college benefits from the IA ARNG without having to leave campus to attend Basic Combat Training (BCT) and Advanced Individual Training (AIT). The new program allows Cadets and students to join the IA ARNG as a "09R" contract.

The benefits they are eligible to receive:

- Federal Tuition Assistance in the amount of \$4,000/year
- Iowa National Guard Student Scholarship in the amount of ~\$9,000 (increases annually to keep pace with the rising cost of education)
- Drill and Annual Training Pay at E-5 Rate in the amount of ~\$300/month (immediately upon establishing a contract with the IA ARNG)
- Monthly ROTC Stipend in the amount of \$420/month (once contracted with ROTC, 9 payments during the school year)

The tuition assistance and NG Scholarship pay the school – over \$13,000 toward your education! Drill pay and stipend are paid to the Cadet (over \$7,000 for living expenses).

In addition to educational and living expenses, the new Cadet is eligible for Tricare Prime Remote (healthcare) for the very low monthly rate of ~\$50/month for single person. For those seeking higher education after the bachelor's degree, the newly commissioned officer will be GI Bill eligible following Completion of BOLC II (non-scholarship lieutenants) and can use this benefit for a master's degree.

This is the first program to offer these benefits without having to depart campus to complete BCT and AIT. Students with zero prior military experience are eligible. Contracting with ROTC can occur after completing at least 27 hours of college credit. Entering this program and using these benefits continues to allow the Cadet to seek an active-duty opportunity. Contact the Army ROTC recruiter for more information!