

## CHAPTER 1

### Introduction to the Air Force Junior ROTC Program

**Scope.** This guide is designed to provide a general overview of the Palo Verde High School Air Force Junior ROTC program. As a “guide,” it cannot cover every conceivable situation; it must be interpreted using common sense and good judgment. Assistance in the proper interpretation of information included herein may be obtained from any senior cadet or Aerospace Science Instructor. In any case, **do not** seek unqualified opinions or rely upon rumor.

This document is not a regulation or directive, although it does refer to Air Force Instructions and gives guidance in areas not particularly regulated. Should differences between this guide and any Air Force Instruction or Clark County School District policy exist, the instruction and/or school district policy will take precedence.

**MISSION** - The mission of the Palo Verde High School Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) program is “to prepare students through citizenship.”

To accomplish our Congressionally-mandated mission of building better citizens for America, the Palo Verde JROTC program is designed to educate and train high school students in citizenship; promote community service; develop leadership potential; instill responsibility, character and self-discipline; and provide instruction in air and space fundamentals.

**ORIGINS** - The JROTC program, as it is known today, began in 1911 in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Army Lieutenant Edgar R. Steevers, who was assigned as an inspector-instructor of the organized military of

Wyoming, originated the idea of a non-compulsory, high school cadet corps aimed at making better citizens, as opposed to soldiers. The National Defense Act of 1916 originally authorized JROTC. The ROTC Vitalization Act (Public Law 88-647) of 1964 directed the Secretaries of each military service to establish and maintain JROTC units at public and private secondary schools, with eligibility according to regulations established by each Secretary. Air Force Junior ROTC actually began in 1966 with 20 units.

General Colin Powell, the former Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, advocated expansion of the Junior ROTC programs. In August 1992, then President Bush announced the expansion, and in late October, Congress passed a public law to increase the number of Junior ROTC units. The Air Force is now authorized over 900 units throughout the United States and overseas. Currently, there are over 800 active Junior ROTC units with over 100,000 cadets enrolled.

Palo Verde’s Air Force JROTC Program, designated as NV-20011, was established on July 1, 2001. In 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016, and 2019, we were selected as a ‘Distinguished Unit with Merit’ by Headquarters, Air University for our outstanding achievements and contributions to Palo Verde and the community. We have been designated a “Distinguished Unit” in eighteen out of the last twenty years.

**BASIC CONCEPTS** - JROTC is **not** a basic military training course and **no** military service obligation is incurred by enrollment or participation in any of its programs.

Carefully screened, qualified, retired Air Force personnel guide the cadets through the Program. Each participating school is authorized at least one commissioned officer

as the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor (SASI) and one noncommissioned officer (NCO) as an Aerospace Science Instructor (ASI).

The JROTC curriculum has two focal points: Aerospace Science and Leadership Education.

The Aerospace Science curriculum focuses on the historical, scientific and technical aspects of aerospace power. It constitutes the core of the JROTC program.

Leadership Education provides experiences to develop discipline, responsibility, communications skills, and citizenship. Cadets learn leadership fundamentals to prepare them for leadership responsibilities within the cadet wing, Palo Verde high school, and the local community. Leadership education includes wearing the cadet uniform, engaging in Air Force customs and courtesies, participating in drill and ceremonies, giving and receiving instructions, and becoming leaders and members of an organization.

**Co-curricular Activities** - Co-curricular activities associated with the cadet wing organization include: award ceremonies, dinners, military balls, parades, and field trips to local military bases, airports and industries. Cadet participation in the following activities is highly encouraged:

**1. Color Guard.** Dedicated drill team that presents the Colors (U.S. Flag) at parades, football/basketball games, and other opening ceremonies. Successful completion of all requirements results in award of the Color Guard Ribbon.

**2. Unarmed Drill Team.** Drill team that is noted for its precise and intricate drill movements. Successful completion of all

requirements results in award of the Drill Team Ribbon.

**3. Armed Drill Team.** Precision drill team using the inoperable M-14 Springfield Replica Rifle as part of the Program. Successful completion of all requirements results in award of the Drill Team Ribbon.

**4. Model Rocketry Program.** Designed for 2<sup>nd</sup>-Year Cadets (MS-II) desiring to build and fly small model rockets. Satisfactory completion of all requirements (see Model Rocket Guide) results in award of the Model Rocketry Badge.

**5. Static Model Program.** Designed for any cadet desiring to build small static aircraft (helicopter and fixed wing). Satisfactory completion of all requirements results in award of the American Modeling Association Wing. Cadets must be members of a local AMA-chartered model airplane club.

**6. Kitty Hawk Air Society (KHAS).** An Air Force JROTC academic honors society program. Its purpose is to promote high academic standards, school and community service, self-confidence and initiative. Successful completion of all requirements results in award of the Kitty Hawk Air Society Badge. Membership is evaluated at each grading period to determine continued eligibility. Graduating seniors may be awarded a KHAS Graduation Cord if they meet the following requirements: active member of KHAS their senior year, participation in at least two KHAS projects, and/or recommended by the SASI.

**7. Awareness Presentation Teams (APT).** Another Air Force JROTC program for 2<sup>nd</sup>-Year Cadets designed to provide positive role models for elementary and middle school students. Satisfactory completion of a presentation results in award of the

Awareness Presentation Team Badge. Membership is evaluated at each grading period to determine continued eligibility. Graduating seniors may be awarded an APT Graduation Cord if they meet the following requirements: active member of APT their senior year, participation in at least one APT performance, and/or recommended by the SASI.

**8. Physical Fitness Teams.** Designed to promote leadership, teamwork, and physical fitness within the cadet wing. Satisfactory completion of all requirements results in award of the Physical Fitness Team Ribbon and Medal. More than two unexcused absences from scheduled practices could result in a non-award of the PFT Ribbon and Medal. To be eligible for PFT, cadets must make satisfactory progress in all PVHS courses with no Fs, Us, or Ns. Membership is evaluated at each grading period to determine continued eligibility.

**9. Community Service Projects.** A myriad of projects designed to provide “hands on” involvement in local community service projects. Each project completed results in “points” being awarded towards a PVHS JROTC Letter.

*\* All badges/awards may be withdrawn for failure to maintain standards.*

**Uniform and personal appearance.** It is very important for cadets to maintain a high standard of dress and personal appearance while in the Air Force JROTC uniform. How you look, favorably or unfavorably, directly impacts people’s perception of you,



this JROTC unit, Palo Verde High School, and the United States Air Force. Wear the uniform with pride and distinction.

You have been, or will be, issued an Air Force Junior ROTC uniform. With certain exceptions, it is the same as that worn by active duty Air Force personnel. This uniform is a public symbol of the nation’s defense forces. It represents a long and honorable tradition of devoted duty and service to our country. The JROTC uniform should be worn proudly and, equally important, it should be worn properly. Proper wear guidelines will be forthcoming via handbook when you get your uniform and individualized instruction in the classroom environment.

Cadets will wear the prescribed JROTC uniform at least one (1) day per week. The uniform wear day is specified by the SASI. To insure compliance with established standards, cadet “open ranks” inspections (ORI) are conducted in conjunction with uniform wear day. For MS-Is and MS-IIs, failure to wear the JROTC uniform on **three** (3) specified uniform wear days during any **nine** (9) week grading period will result in a JROTC “**F**” grade for that quarter. For MS-IIIs and MS-IVs, failure to wear the JROTC uniform on **two** (2) specified uniform wear days during any **nine** (9) week grading period will result in a JROTC “**F**” grade for that quarter.

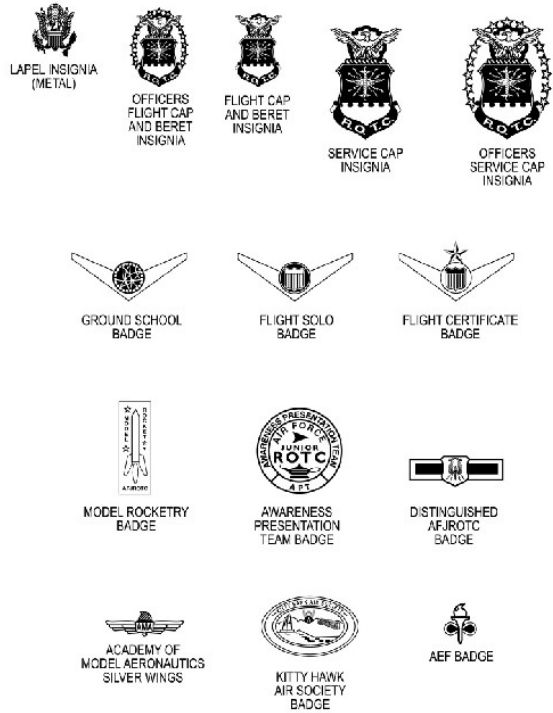
**AIR FORCE JROTC EMBLEM**

*Significance:*

- Blue and yellow are the Air Force JROTC Colors.
  - Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations.
  - Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force JROTC personnel.
- The winged Torch of Knowledge symbolizes education and understanding of the JROTC organization and operation.
- The “thunderhead” cloud represents potential power.
- Four lightning bolts signify that reserve power is a force capable of defending the nation in time of national emergency.
- The two crossed olive branches symbolize the potential of the Air Force JROTC graduate as a proficient leader and worthy citizen.



**AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC BADGES**



**Figure 1 – AFJROTC Badges**

**OUR UNIT PATCH**

- The four gold stars symbolize our Four-Year Program.
- The diploma is what ALL our cadets will have when they leave Palo Verde High School.
- The lamp of knowledge must be kept lit throughout your life. Education must be a continuing part of your life to maintain your Core Value of Competence.



*“The worst thing you can do is not ask for help... you are not going through this experience alone.”*

*The instructors*



# AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC

Wear your Ribbons Properly and Proudly!

Air Force JROTC Gold Valor Award	Air Force JROTC Silver Valor Award	Cadet Humanitarian Award	Silver Star Community Service with Excellence Award	Community Service with Excellence Award	Air Force Association Award
Daedalian Award	American Legion Scholastic Award	American Legion General Military Excellence Award	Daughters of the American Revolution Award	American Veterans Award	Reserve Officers Association Award
Military Order of World Wars Medal	Military Officers Association Award	Veterans of Foreign Wars Award	National Sojourners Award	Sons of the American Revolution Award	Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction Award
Military Order of the Purple Heart	Air Force Sergeants Association	Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War	Sons of Confederate Veterans H.L. Hunley Award	Tuskegee Airmen Inc. AFJROTC Cadet Award	The Retired Enlisted Association Award
Celebrate Freedom Foundation Award	National Society United States Daughters of 1812	Air Commando Association Award	Non-Funded National Award	Distinguished Unit Award With Merit	Distinguished Unit Award
Outstanding Organization Award	Outstanding Flight Ribbon	Top Performer Award	Outstanding Cadet Ribbon	Leadership Ribbon	Achievement Ribbon
Superior Performance Ribbon	Academic Ribbon	Leadership School Ribbon	Special Teams Competition	Orienteering Ribbon	Co-Curricular Activities Leadership Ribbon
Drill Team Ribbon	Color Guard Ribbon	Sabre Team Ribbon	Marksmanship Ribbon	Good Conduct Ribbon	Service Ribbon
Health and Wellness Ribbon	Recruiting Ribbon	Activities Ribbon	Attendance Ribbon	Dress and Appearance Ribbon	Longevity Ribbon
Bataan Death March Memorial Hike Ribbon	Patriotic Flag Ribbon	Gen Carl A. Spaatz Award (CAP)	Gen Ira C. Eaker Award (CAP)	Amelia Earhart Award (CAP)	Gen Billy Mitchell Award (CAP)
		Gen J. F. Curry Award (CAP)			

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Figure 2