



# Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Program

*August 10, 2021*

Fiscal Year 2021 Report to Congress



Homeland  
Security

*United States Coast Guard*

# Foreword

August 10, 2021

I am pleased to present the following report, “Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Program,” which has been prepared by the U.S. Coast Guard.

House Report 116-458 accompanying the Fiscal Year 2021 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-260) requires the Coast Guard to provide a report on requirements for establishing a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program.

Pursuant to congressional requirements, this report is being provided to the following Members of Congress:



The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Chairwoman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

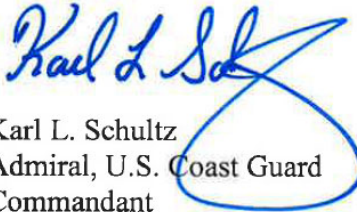
The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann  
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Chris Murphy  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

I am happy to answer any further questions you may have, or your staff may contact my Senate Liaison Office at (202) 224-2913 or House Liaison Office at (202) 225-4775.

Sincerely,

  
Karl L. Schultz  
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commandant



# Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Program

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# I. Legislative Requirement

This document responds to the language set forth in House Report 116-458 accompanying the FY 2021 DHS Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-260).

House Report 116-458 states:

Junior ROTC Program.—Section 519 of Public Law 116–92, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2020, authorized the Secretary to establish and maintain a Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps, at public and private secondary educational institutions. The Committee directs the Coast Guard, within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act, to report on the requirements for establishing this program.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-92) states:

## SEC. 519. COAST GUARD JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS’ TRAINING CORPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

### § 320. Coast Guard Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may establish and maintain a Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps, organized into units, at public and private secondary educational institutions.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Except as provided in subsection (c), the provisions of chapter 102 of title 10 shall apply to a Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps established and maintained under this section in the same manner that such provisions apply to the Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps of each military department. For purposes of the application of such provisions to this section—

- (1) any reference in such provisions to a ‘military department’ shall be treated as a reference to the department in which the Coast Guard is operating; and
- (2) any reference in such provisions to a ‘Secretary of a military department’, a ‘Secretary concerned’, or the ‘Secretary of Defense’ shall be treated as a reference to the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.

(c) EXCEPTION.—The requirements of chapter 102 of title 10 shall not apply to a unit of the Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps established by the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating before the date of the enactment of this section unless the Secretary determines it is appropriate to apply such requirements to such unit.

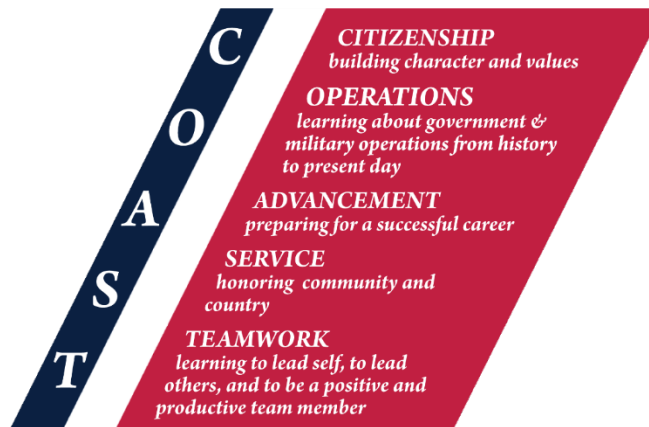
## II. Background

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-92) authorized the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating to establish Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) programs at secondary institutions across the Nation.

Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, the Coast Guard will operate a total of four JROTC units. The Coast Guard is in the process of establishing the first two JROTC units under this authority at Lucy Beckham High School in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, and at Pinellas Park High School in Largo, Florida. The Coast Guard also will transition two Junior Leadership Program units at the Maritime and Science Technology Academy in Miami, Florida, and at Camden County High School in Camden, North Carolina, to JROTC units.

### A. Purpose of the JROTC Program

The purpose of the JROTC program is to “instill students at United States secondary educational institutions with the values of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility and a sense of accomplishment.” In order to accomplish this objective, the Coast Guard trains cadets in the five pillars of the Coast Guard’s JROTC program, which are Citizenship, Operations, Advancement, Service, and Teamwork (COAST). These pillars guide and reinforce the learning that takes place in the JROTC program, both in and out of the classroom:



Goals: The five pillars of COAST correspond with the five JROTC program goals:

- Building character and values;
- Learning about government and military operations from history to present day;
- Preparing for a successful career;
- Honoring community and country; and
- Learning to lead self, to lead others, and to be a positive and productive team member.

The JROTC program is a cooperative effort between the Coast Guard, local communities, and host institutions to provide secondary school students with opportunities for personal and civic development. The program is a stimulus for promoting graduation from high school, in addition to providing instruction and rewarding opportunities that will benefit students, communities, and ultimately, the Nation. Satisfactory completion of the program equips participants with the skills and tools to excel and may lead to career success in the Armed Forces. Whether graduates go on to serve in the Coast Guard or in another military branch, or to pursue any other life path, they will develop attitudes, knowledge, and skills to help them be more prepared for tomorrow's challenges.

## B. JROTC Implementation Status

The Coast Guard's JROTC program is in the developmental and implementation phase. In October 2020, the Coast Guard established the JROTC Program under the Office of External Outreach and Heritage at Coast Guard Headquarters and began funding a full-time program manager. The Coast Guard also has partnered with the U.S. Navy's JROTC Program to leverage opportunities for learning, collaborating, and alignment. Significant areas of partnership include instructor certification, cadet regulations, and curriculum development.

The emphasis for the present year is on building foundations and launching two new units in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, and in Largo, Florida. The establishment of these two units will be a valuable testbed for future expansion of the JROTC program. We will continue to operate the two current units in Miami, Florida, and in Camden, North Carolina, as well, and to standardize them under the provisions of chapter 102 of title 10 U.S.C. this August. Moving into next year, we will bolster policy and partnerships, incorporate feedback, and prepare for program expansion.

A school desiring to host a JROTC unit should contact the Office of External Outreach and Heritage's JROTC Program Manager ([CGJROTC@uscg.mil](mailto:CGJROTC@uscg.mil)) to discuss eligibility and placement on the candidate list. Each school must be fully accredited by the appropriate state or regional accrediting agency. The Coast Guard is in the process of developing additional eligibility criteria.

### III. Conclusion

The Coast Guard's JROTC program is poised to bring immense value to students in the communities of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, and Largo, Florida. Additionally, the Joint Leadership Programs at Miami, Florida, and at Camden, North Carolina, will build upon their established success as they transition to full JROTC status. The Office of External Outreach and Heritage will continue to develop partnerships and to implement the JROTC program.