

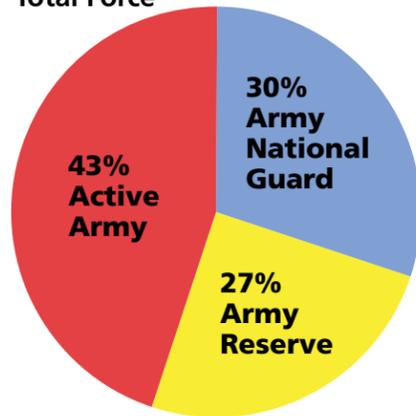
# Fast Facts

- Women have been an essential part of the Army team since the War for Independence. In 1942, Congress approved creation of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (became Women's Army Corps or WAC) and 150,000 women served during World War II. These were the first women within the ranks of the active Army. In 1948, women (WACs) were integrated into the Regular Army with full benefits.
- Today, women Soldiers make up 15.4% of the Total Army (164,000 women):



LTG (P) Ann E. Dunwoody, Deputy Commander Army Material Command (AMC), is the Army's highest ranking woman and the first woman in the history of the US Armed Forces to be nominated and confirmed for promotion to four star rank. She is expected to be promoted and take command of AMC during Fall 2008.

## Women Across the Total Force



- Women serve in 93% of all Army occupations. 98% of officer specialties are open to women.
- The current Department of Defense assignment policy governing occupations for women in the military was set in 1994. It guides the Army's assignment policy, which gives women the opportunity to serve in any officer or enlisted specialty or position except those where the primary mission is to engage in direct ground combat.

- Positions closed to women Soldiers are primarily Infantry, Armor, Combat Engineer and Special Forces.
- Women make up nearly one third of the Soldiers in medical, legal and public affairs occupations.
- A priority initiative of the Army is support for Families. More than 45% of women in the Army are married; about 13% are single mothers.
- Divorce rates for women in the Army are substantially below national norms – in some age groups (such as 20-30 year olds), the rate is half the nation's average.
- Army education and skill training benefits have attracted to the Army many of the women who serve. Today, a qualified young woman can expect generous stipends and tuition assistance to earn undergraduate and advanced degrees. Women who join the Reserve Officer Training Corps can receive scholarships that cover all college costs for an undergraduate degree, before entering the Army as newly-commissioned officers.
- Men and women in the Army are paid equally for every occupation, based on rank and time of service.
- Women accounted for 12.5% of those selected for promotion to Brigadier General on the list released 15 July 2008.



# Women in America's Army

## The Army's Way Ahead is Promising for Women

More and more women are choosing to serve their Nation in today's Army and our Women Soldiers are indisputably a key part of what makes America's Army the Strength of the Nation. Today, Women in America's Army comprise about 15.4% of the 1,060,000 Soldiers.

Women's roles in the Army have expanded steadily. Twenty years ago, only 52% of Army occupations were open to women. In 2008, women serve in 93% of the hundreds of military occupational specialties, in every arena except the direct ground combat roles (such as Infantry, Armor, Special Forces) prohibited by Department of Defense assignment regulations.

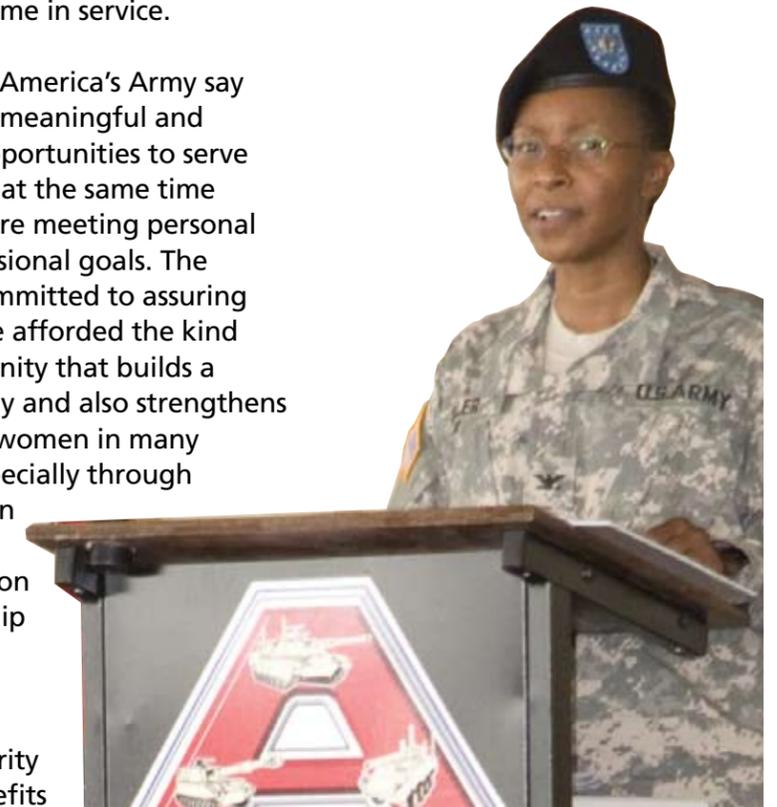
Hundreds of different kinds of jobs are filled by women who are essential to the Army team. Many are very skilled or professional services roles, with compensation equal to or better than similar jobs in the private sector. Women

fill 30% of the medical positions and 30% of the legal positions in the Army. Across the American workplace, women still are paid less than men for the same work. Not in the Army – where pay rates for women and men in the same job are the same, based on rank and time in service.

Women in America's Army say they value meaningful and exciting opportunities to serve the nation at the same time that they are meeting personal and professional goals. The Army is committed to assuring women are afforded the kind of opportunity that builds a better Army and also strengthens individual women in many arenas, especially through

- Education
- Talent Realization
- Leadership Training
- Financial Stability
- Job Security and Benefits

- Family Support
  - Social Structure
- In every arena that affects a woman's life, the Army is dedicated to the goal of making the Army a great choice for women.



Colonel Sherry Keller, Anniston Army Depot's 31st commander, 2007.

# Future Leaders Wanted

## Resources:



**P**aths to opportunity in the Army are many. Some women choose the Army over another post-high school job. Others choose the Army during college or after. Either way, the Army is in the business of developing leaders.

Today more than 50% of college enrollees in professional schools are women. Many could have that education financed by the Army – not only for undergraduate, but also for graduate degrees. Professional opportunities exist throughout a wide variety of fields in the Army and 98% of officer occupations are open to women.



**I**n 2005, SGT Leigh Ann Hester of the Kentucky National Guard, fought her way through an enemy ambush near Baghdad, saving other Soldiers' lives. For her actions she was awarded the Silver Star, making her the first woman since WWII to do so.

**I**n April 2007, PFC Monica Brown, an active duty medic, was supporting a platoon from C Troop, 4th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, when their convoy was struck by an IED followed by an ambush. For her actions in rescuing and providing medical care to Soldiers in the convoy, she was awarded the Silver Star, making her the first female in Afghanistan to receive the nation's third highest award for valor.

### WOMEN

- <http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/wita>
- <http://www.army.mil/women/index.html>
- <http://www.militarywoman.org/>
- <http://www.armywomen.org/>

### FAMILIES

- <http://www.myarmylifetoo.com>
- <http://www.4militaryfamilies.com/>
- <http://www.armyfamiliesonline.org>
- <http://www.armyonesource.com/>
- <http://www.armymwr.com/>  
(Army Community and Support Center)

### SEXUAL ASSAULT

- <http://www.sexualassault.army.mil/> (DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Website)
- <http://www.sapr.mil/> (Army Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office)
- <http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/page.cfm?pg=23> (Mental Health and Sexual Trauma Counseling for Women Veterans)

### HEALTH

- <http://www.hooah4health.com/deployment/femreadiness.htm> (Women's Health)
- <http://www1.va.gov/wvhp/> (Women Veterans Health Strategic Healthcare Group)

### RECRUITING

- <http://www.goarmy.com>
- <http://www.goarmy.com/rotc>

### VETERANS

- <http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/>
- <http://www.womensmemorial.org/> (Women in Military Service for America Memorial WIMSA)

### Some of the Many Career Fields Women Choose

- Meteorologist
- Navigator
- Legal
- Public Affairs
- Recruiting
- Transportation
- Medical
- Air Defense Artillery
- Maintenance
- Aviation
- Signal Operations
- Military Police
- Electronic Warfare
- Psychological Operations
- Military Intelligence
- Engineering
- Chemical
- Ammunition Specialist
- Multimedia Illustrator



**1775-1783**

Hundreds of women aid soldiers as nurses, cooks and spies during the *American Revolution*.



**1861-1865**

Women serve in both the Union and Confederacy during the *Civil War*, most as nurses.



**1917-1918**

35,000 women serve in WW1, 21,000 of them in the Army Nurse Corps.



**1942-1945**

More than 150,000 women serve in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (later WAC) during *World War II*.



**1950-1953**

Women serve in the *Korean War* primarily as communicators, supply specialists, record keepers and administrators.



**1965-1972**

85% of the women deployed to Southeast Asia during the *Vietnam War* are in the Army.



**1978**

The Women's Army Corps is disbanded as a separate unit and women are integrated into the Army.



**1980**

First class of women USMA graduates are commissioned.



**1990-1991**

Gulf War deployments include 26,000 Army women.



**1993**

Combat Aviation is open to women and the first women qualify to fly Army Attack aircraft.



**1996**

The first woman guards the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington Cemetery.



**2002**

First woman selected to be Senior Enlisted Advisor of Army component.



**2007**

Women account for 15.4% of the more than 1 million Soldiers in the Army.