



Corps of Cadets Quick Facts 2025-2026 Academic Year

- **Corps Strength:** Over 2,400 in the fall of 2025, led by Lieutenant General James W. “Chip” Bierman Jr., USMC (Ret.)
- **Keepers of the Spirit:** The Corps of Cadets is the oldest student organization on campus, having been established with Texas A&M in 1876. Many of Texas A&M’s most cherished traditions, including Muster, Silver Taps and Midnight Yell, rely on the Corps of Cadets. For 149 years, the Corps has developed well-educated graduates prepared to lead the nation in the military and public/private sectors.
- **Academic Excellence:** The grades of cadets consistently match or exceed the Texas A&M average over Grade Point Average (GPA).
- **Serving the Nation:** Texas A&M remains one of the nation’s largest producers of military officers outside of the United States Service Academies. From Aug. 2024 through May 2025, 235 cadets commissioned into the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard after graduation.
- **Developing Leaders:** The Hollingsworth Center for Ethical Leadership awarded more than 180 Certificates in Applied Leadership Studies last year, in partnership with the National Medal of Honor Institute. These students gained unique insight from experienced leaders and expanded their critical thinking capabilities through the program.

Specialized Units

- **Ross Volunteer Company** – formed in 1887, the Ross Volunteers (often referred to as RVs) is the oldest honor guard and drill team of its kind in the State of Texas. The company serves as the official Honor Guard of the Governor of Texas and performs 3-volley, 21-gun salutes at Texas A&M's Silver Taps ceremonies and the annual campus Muster ceremony.
- **Parson's Mounted Cavalry** – formed in 1973, Parson's Mounted Cavalry is comprised of more than 85 cadets and more than 70 horses and mules. The Cavalry represents Texas A&M at parades, home football games and other equestrian events throughout the state. The cadets are trained in basic horsemanship skills, as well as care and feeding of the unit's animals.
- **Fish Drill Team** – the Fish Drill Team is an all-freshman precision rifle drill team that represents the Corps of Cadets and Texas A&M at military drill meets across the country. The Fish Drill Team has won numerous national championships at drill competitions, making it one of the most highly decorated and recognized units in the Corps of Cadets.

Fightin' Texas Aggie Band

- Known for its precision military marching formations on the football field, the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band is the largest military marching band in the nation.
- With over 300 members, the Band provides music for University and Corps functions and presents spectacular halftime performances at home football games.
- The Band also performs at several away football games, parades, and other events. It is one of the most traveled collegiate marching bands in the nation, with a resume including the inaugural parades of many U.S. presidents and Texas governors.

Information for Future Cadets

- The Corps of Cadets is a large, diverse leadership program with 41 units, each with a unique identity. Students are assigned to a unit based on their interests, academic major and ROTC choice.
- While many members of the Corps of Cadets go on to serve in our nation's military, membership in the Corps carries no military obligation.
- The Corps of Cadets offers a variety of programs designed to introduce potential cadets to Corps life and Corps programs.
- To register for or learn more about the Corps recruiting programs, visit <https://corps.tamu.edu/visit-the-corps/>.