

FAQs

Will I carry a firearm?

We are not an armed force—our primary function is to help fellow Virginians and the Virginia National Guard.

Can I be sent overseas?

We are not under federal control; we cannot be called out of the state.

How much will I get paid?

The VDF is a volunteer organization—we are not paid for the majority of our exercises, which are training in nature. We are paid when called to active duty.

How long do I have join for?

We are not committed to any particular length of service.

How often will I attend UTA?

UTA is one Saturday a month and two weekends per year. Sessions include some classroom and hands-on practice.

What are the physical requirements?

If you would like to serve in the VDF, you most likely can. There is no particular physical standard and we can almost always find a place for you. All you need is your desire to serve.

Department of Military Affairs
Commonwealth of Virginia
www.vdf.virginia.gov
804-225-4051
866-791-9164



For more information, contact:

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*Virginians
taking care of
Virginia*



The
**VIRGINIA
DEFENSE
FORCE**

The Virginia Department of Military Affairs

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A HERITAGE OF SERVICE

Service for the common good is a proud Virginia heritage. Born in the earliest days of our nation's history, voluntary services by and for the citizens of Virginia was a cornerstone upon which our nation was built. Today that spirit still thrives in the citizen soldier. Brining diverse professional skills and talents, Virginians continue to unselfishly answer the call of their fellow citizens in times of crisis, disaster, emergency or need as members of the Virginia Defense Force.

THE MISSION

The Virginia Defense Force (VDF) is an all-volunteer, formal military organization. Its mission is to assist the Virginia National Guard in performing state missions as specified by the Governor.

The VDF is the state's only military force that is independent of federal control. With units located throughout the state, the VDF can move into a stricken area quickly, interact with and assist local authorities and restor community integrity as soon as possible. Working during blizzards, hurricanes, tornadoes, and other disasters, the VDF volunteers are familiar faces working in nearby towns and cities bringing aid and comfort to their neighbors.

RECRUITS NEEDED

The Virginia Defense Force is a partner in the Virginia Department of Military Affairs, Joint Force Headquarters, with the Virginia Army and Air National Guard. The VDF has expanding homeland security responsibilities. Membership in the VDF offers you an opportunity to assist in the protection of the Commonwealth and its citizens in these serious times. Recruits are needed for the following:

1. Automotive/Small Engine Maintenance
2. Aviation
3. Chaplaincy
4. Food Service
5. Information Technology
6. Law
7. Logistics
8. Medical
9. Military Police
10. Operations and Planning staff
11. Personnel and Administration
12. Signal (communications)
13. Training Specialists
14. Water-borne operations
15. AND MORE!

Membership in the VDF is open to Virginia residents with or without prior military service, ages 16 to 65. Members must have a valid social security number and no felony convictions.

TRAINING AVAILABLE

Training is available in many areas and on many different levels. Training in traffic control, communications, family assistance, urban evacuation, armory takeover and disaster response are just some of the areas in which the VDF specializes. All new members will receive basic orientation training and an individual appraisal of your skills. Members are required to attend a minimum of one training Unit Training Assembly (UTA) per month consisting of six (6) hours dedicated to training opportunities. Additional two Multi-Unit Training Assemblies (MUTA) are held during weekends in the spring (April/May) and again in the fall (October/November) at either the State Military Reservation in Virginia Beach, Fort Pickett in Blackstone, or Fort A.P. Hill in Bowling Green.

JOIN TODAY!

If you want to follow a satisfying path of service, learn new skills, and exercise leadership in working closely with your neighbors at the local and state levels, considering joining the Virginia Defense Force today. Join many other "Virginians taking care of Virginia."