TALKING TO YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER ABOUT BECOMING A MARINE

Becoming a Marine can be a life-changing decision, and it’s perhaps one of the first adult decisions your student will make. Talking about it will help you understand his or her reasons to become a Marine.

Here are several questions to ask and topics to consider during your discussion.

WHY IS HE OR SHE CONSIDERING THE MARINE CORPS?

- Pride associated with the prestige and legacy of the Marine Corps
- “First to fight” as our nation’s force in readiness
- Only a few have what it takes to become a Marine
- Serve others and defend our nation
- Want the chance to rise to a challenge for a greater purpose
- Ready to take control of his or her future

WHAT ARE HIS OR HER GOALS FOR THE FUTURE?

- Serving as a Marine gives young people a chance to make a difference
- Marines are focused and equipped with the character and leadership abilities to succeed
- Skills learned in the Marine Corps help Marines prepare for the professional world
- Marines are leaders on the battlefield and in their communities
- The Marines and college are not mutually exclusive. The Marine Corps encourages college during or after service
- Many Marines choose to have a career in the Marine Corps

HAS HE OR SHE SPOKEN TO A MARINE CORPS RECRUITER YET?

- The recruiter’s role is to support you throughout the decision process
- Recruiters are experienced Marines
- Recruiters have information on Marine Corps careers and jobs
- It’s important for parents to talk with a recruiter as well
- Recruiters know the roles of Marines, both active and reserve

CAN HE OR SHE MAKE THE INITIAL COMMITMENT OF FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE?

- Commitment to defending our nation
- Uphold freedom for future generations
- The Marine Corps will teach the skills necessary

WHAT SKILLS, ABILITIES AND QUALITIES DO THEY WANT TO GAIN AS A MARINE?

- Marine Corps Values, including Honor, Courage and Commitment
- Marines build character and develop countless individual abilities, such as confidence, focus and physical and mental strength