BOLD EAGLE

Bold Eagle is an Aboriginal youth development program conducted by the Department of National Defence and its partnered Aboriginal organizations. It has been conducted within Land Force Western Area (LFWA) since summer 1990, expanding from its origins in Saskatchewan to include participation by Aboriginal people throughout western Canada and north-western Ontario.

Bold Eagle's Goals are to contribute to the development of Aboriginal youth by fostering:

Self-confidence
Self-discipline
Teamwork
Physical fitness

Bold Eagle Training

Bold Eagle consists of two parts: an Aboriginal culture camp followed by a Canadian Forces Army Reserve Basic Military Qualification course, otherwise known as *basic training*. The training is completed over six weeks during July to August.

- The **culture camp** is administered by Aboriginal Elders and staff with the intent of facilitating the transition to military training and life. The camp is instructed in a fashion that is beneficial to all Aboriginal backgrounds by focusing on the common traditions and spiritual components unique to Aboriginal culture.

- The **military training phase** is conducted over five weeks and entails basic recruit training. The skills taught will include the necessary knowledge to enable one to function in a military environment. Training will cover instruction in areas such as weapons handling, outdoor field craft, military drill, first aid, and navigation using map and compass. During this phase, weekly Elder hours are also held with the candidates.

- Some of the other activities include a day long career fair that helps expose candidates to the numerous career and education opportunities in the Canadian Forces, rappelling off the rappel tower, and attendance at a local area powwow.

Candidates who successfully complete Bold Eagle are offered the opportunity to continue employment in the Primary Reserve (part-time) with a Reserve unit near their home, or even the Regular Force (full-time) if they have completed their schooling.

Basic Eligibility Requirements

To join the Bold Eagle program, you need to apply to the nearest Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre (CFRC). The pre-requisites to apply are:

- Must be 16 years of age or older (applicants under 18 years of age will require parental/guardian consent);
- Canadian citizen and self-declared Aboriginal (First Nation, Métis or Inuit);
- Must have completed grade 10 or higher education (those in the process of completing grade 10 may apply but cannot be enrolled in the CF until they provide proof of completion – this may affect selection given there are limited positions); and
- Reside in western Canada or north-western Ontario.

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Applications for Bold Eagle, with the complete documentation listed below, must be received by April 30th.

Notes:
1. Applications should be submitted as early as possible to help ensure all the processing steps can be completed in time for selection.
2. Please confirm with a CFRC recruiter any possible extensions to submitting an application – they may on occasion accept applications after this deadline.

Application and Processing

You must provide the following documentation to the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre prior to the application deadline:

- Canadian Forces Employment application form (you can also apply on-line at www.forces.ca);
- High school transcripts (any post-secondary transcripts if applicable);
- Birth certificate;
- Photo identification - status card or passport or drivers license or Provincial health card;
- Personnel Screening Consent and Authorization form; and
- Personal Data Verification Consent form.

Note: Ensure you have a Social Insurance Number card as this will be required on enrolment – apply for a card if you do not currently have one and provide to the CFRC.

These required forms can be obtained at the nearest Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre or via the websites www.forces.ca or www.army.forces.gc.ca/boldeagle. You may FAX, mail or hand deliver this documentation to the applicable Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre.

Note: Please do not mail originals of your birth certificate, status card, passport, driver's license or provincial health card – send a photocopy and bring the originals with you for verification at your first processing appointment.

Once the documentation is received you will be booked for processing to determine your suitability to join the Canadian Forces Primary Reserve. Processing steps will include an aptitude test; medical; interview; fitness test; and enhanced reliability check.

Note: Start training for your fitness test immediately as this can help ensure your success.

Upon successful completion of processing, your file will be sent for consideration of acceptance into the Bold Eagle program. A maximum of 90 candidates will be accepted from across western Canada and north-western Ontario. Those selected will train in **Wainwright, Alberta** at the Land Force Western Area Training Centre during July to August. Check with a recruiter for the specific training dates.

What is Provided?

The following is provided through the Bold Eagle Program:

- Transportation to and from Camp Wainwright;
- All military clothing and required equipment;
- Accommodation and meals; and
- Approximately $4,000 earned over the six week period (salary and allowances combined).

For Further Information

To gain further information about the Bold Eagle program please contact the nearest Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre at 1-800-856-8488. You can also visit the website www.army.forces.gc.ca/boldeagle. You may also contact the LFWA Bold Eagle Coordinator at (403) 410-2320 extension 3555 or by e-mail at nolan.kemp@forces.gc.ca.

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