



## Backgrounder

### Joining the Canadian Armed Forces: The Recruiting Process

November 30, 2016 – Calgary – National Defence / Canadian Armed Forces

Responsibility for attracting and enrolling highly motivated and qualified people to serve in 41 Canadian Brigade Group (41 CBG), Alberta's Reserve Army, is in the process of shifting out of the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centres directly to 41 CBG recruiters effective April 1, 2017 in an effort to streamline the process.

Recruiting efforts are carried out through advertising, public awareness events and targeted employment venues such as visits to high schools, colleges, universities, and job fairs. At these events 41 CBG recruiters impart the important information about specific careers, salaries, benefits and general life in the military to the students entering the job market, professionals in the job market who may be looking for a change, and influencers such as guidance or employment counsellors and parents.

While this reflects a significant change in how Primary Reserve Force recruiting will be conducted, the Basic Eligibility Requirements of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), listed below, remain unchanged:

In order to be eligible for enrollment you must:

- be a Canadian citizen;
- meet the minimum age requirement of your entry plan;
- meet the minimum educational requirement for your entry plan; and
- meet all medical and enrollment standards.

The main steps involved in the recruiting process include:

- Aptitude Testing – tests verbal skills, spatial ability and problem solving to help determine specific military occupations for which candidates are best suited;
- Medical Examination – ensures candidates are medically fit to a standard sufficient to complete basic training and be prepared for service with the CAF;
- Enhanced Reliability Check – confirms reliability and trustworthiness in the performance of duties and in the protection of assets and interests of the CAF and its personnel; and
- Personal Interview – basically a job interview that gives the recruiters a better idea about the candidate, his or her background, strengths, weaknesses and where the candidate would best fit in as a member of the CAF.

Although some delays can occur, the process can take as little as a week. When complications arise, the processing time increases. Examples of complications include: medical conditions that require follow-up with family doctors or specialists, or background checks through the RCMP that require fingerprinting and analysis.

## **Associated Links**

41 CBG Web page – <http://www.army-armee.forces.gc.ca/en/41-cbg/index.page>  
Live It Magazine – <https://www.facebook.com/liveitnation/>

## **Contacts**

Captain Brad Young  
Public Affairs Officer  
41 CBG  
Phone: 403-410-3220 ext 3508  
Email: [brad.young@qforces.gc.ca](mailto:brad.young@qforces.gc.ca)