At what age can a person enlist in the armed forces? A person can enlist as early as age 17, with parental consent, and at 18, without. Both males and females can choose to enlist in any branch of the military. Enlistees must be citizens of the United States or immigrant aliens with immigration and naturalization papers.

Who is required to register for Selective Service? All U.S. citizen males are required to register for Selective Service upon reaching their 18th birthday. Also, all permanent resident aliens and undocumented aliens must register. Lawful non-immigrants on visas should not register. Until the age of 26, men are required to inform the Selective Service Agency whenever they change their permanent address.

When do I register? All required males must register within 30 days of their 18th birthday; this provides a 60-day window in which registration is possible. A man may register as early as 17 years and 3 months old.

How do I register?

- Complete and return a registration form available at any
- U.S. Post Office.
• Return a reminder mail-back card that is sent to many young men around the time they turn 18.
• Check “Yes” on Box #29 on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
• Through the assistance of an appointed Selective Service Registrar at your high school, if available.

**Will draft cards be issued when I register?** You will receive a registration acknowledgment card. This card will be proof that you have complied with the law, so keep it in a safe place. If a draft occurs, you will be notified. You must report for a physical examination and processing. The notice will also provide information on possible exemptions and deferments.

**What happens if I don’t register?** Several punishments, including fines, incarceration and loss of privileges.