

The Two Purposes of the ASVAB

The **ASVAB**, or **Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery**, is sponsored by the Department of Defense and is a test that measures abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. It is also a highly effective career exploration exam for those students not wishing to enter the military, but hoping to figure out the best career pathway available to them. The test takes about **three hours** to administer and is **FREE**. At Union Mine, our students are tested under 'option 8' meaning there is no military obligation or recruiting of any of our students who are taking the ASVAB.

ASVAB Military Entrance

The **ASVAB** is the Military enlistment test, with students striving to achieve a score that gains them eligibility into the branch of their choosing. The ASVAB score also dictates the type of job within the military that enlistees will qualify for. Within the test, the **AFQT**, or **Armed Forces Qualification Test**, is the score utilized for these purposes. It is capped at 99 and consists of the following four sections: **Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, Arithmetic Reasoning, and Mathematics Knowledge.**

ASVAB Career Exploration Program

The **ASVAB Career Exploration Program** provides high quality, career exploration and planning at no cost to high schools throughout the country.

The goal of the ASVAB Program is to give students the opportunity to explore a variety of careers using knowledge they have gained about their interests and skills through assessment components and structured activities.

Students explore occupations in line with their interests and skills. In addition, they can compare their academic preparation against the requirements for entry into desired programs of study or occupations. In this way, they develop effective strategies to realize their career goals. **The ASVAB test is the most widely used multiple-aptitude test battery in the world.** The ASVAB tests in eight different areas. The test has proven to be a good measure of how students have developed both academic and occupational skills. It also measures aptitudes that are related to success in different jobs as well as training and education programs.

The heart of the ASVAB Career Exploration Program is the interpretation session. This session is run by trained Education Services Specialists or counselors. The interpretation sessions are **held during the Dback following the ASVAB.** During this session, students will have access to the following:

The FYI (Find Your Interests) is a 90-item interest inventory designed to help students identify their work-related interests. The FYI is based on John Holland's widely accepted theory of career choice which identifies six basic personality types. When students complete the FYI, they will receive three Top Interest Codes to use in conjunction with the OCCU-Find for career exploration.

The OCCU-Find contains more than 400 occupations grouped by the six RIASEC interest areas so students can quickly identify the occupations that match their own interests. Students use the OCCU-Find to explore careers based on their top interest codes. The OCCU-Find provides additional information on skill requirements-including the importance of verbal, math, and science and technical skills.