

Frequently Asked Questions

Officers Candidate School (OCS)

Can I submit a packet without SAT ACT results?

OCS selection boards are conducted at HRC (Accessions Branch). The school here at Fort Benning does not have any influence over what is required, nor who is selected or not. All questions for the board should be directed to the board.

U.S. Army Human Resources Command:

<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/opdistacc/OCS/COCS.htm>

Will TA-50 be provided in school?

TA-50 will be issued here from CIF.

In BOLC 2 are barracks provided or do we have to rent an apartment?

At BOLC 2 you are required to live in the barracks. You will not be given BAH while in OCS or BOLC 2.

Are we authorized to bring cell phones?

Yes

Is parking available for POV?

Yes

Will there be Internet access since we are authorized to bring laptops?

Yes - MWR has a program by which wireless internet can be purchased by the hour\day\month. You will be responsible for all costs.

What address can I use to send packages and letters to OCS candidate?

(CANIDATES NAME)

3-11TH INFANTRY

6510 BENJAMIN AVE, BLDG 2749

(COMPANY, IF KNOWN)

FORT BENNING, GA 31905

Can you tell me approximately how long I should expect to wait for orders, or when I will need to conduct an interview?

The average wait time to be selected to OCS is 5 months after the packet is submitted. Average wait to attend OCS after being selected for "in-service" Army personnel is 12 months.

What holidays are observed during OCS?

Holiday leave periods are the dates in the leave and pass regulation. Local commanders can adjust the dates depending on the units mission.

What uniform is used for OCS?

You will only wear your blues here once and that is for the Graduation Formal. The blues need to be sewn in the proper way for an officers Dress Blues. That means the proper shoulder boards, and sleeve braid sewn on. There are specific shoulder boards for MSC, but you can buy those down here once you are in week 11 of the course. You should wait to sew all those things on though. Once you get down here, put your Blues in for sewing here at the clothing and sales. They will be able to help you out. Plus you will not need your blues until week 12 of a 12 week course.

You will wear your class A's here more. At least twice in the cycle. You can also have your Class A's sewn down here at the Clothing and Sales. You will not need them until week 10 of the course. You do not have to bring the Blues, but you do have to bring the A's.

What are the physical fitness requirements for OCS?

You must be able to take a 3-event APFT. No alternate event is given at OCS. You further must be able to complete the POI for OCS, which is more than just the APFT there are several graded running events to include a 3, 4, and 5 mile release run as well as a 4 mile graduation run, in addition you will also have graded foot marches which you have to pass in order to graduate.

Do you get any time off during OCS?

You will have MOST weekends or parts of them off. When you are released for the weekend you must be back by 2100 Sunday, lights out is 2200. Same goes for during the week. After you are released you must be back by 2100 in the barracks unless otherwise directed.

How many weeks is OCS (BOLC I) and follow up classes?

OCS (BOLC I) is 12 weeks, followed by BOLC II (6 weeks) and then BOLC III (6 weeks).

Is branching done during OCS?

Branching is done during OCS (unless you are already assigned a branch). Branches are chosen by candidates based upon their ranking in their class and the branches available. All branches will not be available all the time. MI requires a Top Secret security clearance.

**Is there any additional information on BAH while attending OCS, 3-11 IN REGT?
See information below.**

SERVICE MEMBER SINGLE NO DEPENDENTS

If service member is single and has no dependents, service member will not receive BAH w/o dependent while attending OCS.

SERVICE MEMBER MARRIED TO SERVICE MEMBER (NO KIDS)

If service member is married to another service member and has no dependents the service member who is attending OCS will not receive BAH w/o dependent while attending OCS.

SERVICE MEMBER MARRIED TO SERVICE MEMBER (WITH KIDS)

If service member is drawing BAH w/dependent, service member will receive BAH w/dependents while attending OCS. Service member will need the following information.

DA FM 2142 (PAY INQUIRY)

DA FM 5960

MARRIAGE LICENSE

LEASE OF AGREEMENT / MORTGAGE CONTRACT / NOTERIZED LETTER

CHILDREN BIRTH CERTIFICATES

TERMINATION OF GOV'T QUARTERS

ORDERS BRINING TO OCS / DD FM 1610 / FORMAT 400

ORDERS FROM MEPS TO AG

ORDERS FROM AG TO OCS

****If service member is drawing BAH w/o dependent your BAH will stop while attending OCS.**

SERVICE MEMBER MARRIED TO A CIVILIAN

If service member is drawing BAH w/dependent, service member will receive BAH w/dependents while attending OCS. Service member will need the following information.

DA FM 2142 (PAY INQUIRY)

DA FM 5960

MARRIAGE LICENSE

LEASE OF AGREEMENT / MORTGAGE CONTRACT / NOTERIZED LETTER

CHILDREN BIRTH CERTIFICATES

TERMINATION OF GOV'T QUARTERS

ORDERS BRINING TO OCS / DD FM 1610 / FORMAT 400

ORDERS FROM MEPS TO AG

ORDERS FROM AG TO OCS

SERVICE MEMBER SINGLE (NOT MARRIED / DIVORCED) WITH KIDS

If service member is drawing BAH w/dependent, service member will receive BAH w/dependents while attending OCS. Service member will need the following information.

DA FM 2142 (PAY INQUIRY)

DA FM 5960

COPY OF DIVORCE PAPERS

PROOF OF CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

LEASE OF AGREEMENT / MORTGAGE CONTRACT / NOTERIZED LETTER

CHILDREN BIRTH CERTIFICATES

TERMINATION OF GOV'T QUARTERS

ORDERS BRINING TO OCS / DD FM 1610 / FORMAT 400

ORDERS FROM MEPS TO AG

ORDERS FROM AG TO OCS

SERVICE MEMBER PAYING CHILD SUPPORT

If you are paying child support you are authorized BAH DIFF. You will need the following information.

DA FM 2142 (PAY INQUIRY)

DA FM 5960
CHILD(REN) BIRTH CERTIFICATE
PROOF OF SUPPORT
COURT ORDER
ORDERS BRINGING TO OCS / DD FM 1610 / FORMAT 400
ORDERS FROM MEPS TO AG
ORDERS FROM AG TO OCS

I was in an ROTC program prior to enlisting and was disenrolled. Am I still eligible to Commission through OCS.

You are not eligible for OCS since you have been previously disenrolled from another commissioning program.

Where can they go to find out information about the Degree Completion program?

Officer branch managers can answer questions about Degree Completions.

Who can I ask a question to concerning my application packet for OCS?

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<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/opdistacc/OCS/COCS.htm>

What Uniform should I wear when reporting to OCS for class?

ACU duty uniform

Do we receive a DA 1059 (Service School Academic Evaluation Report) for OCS?

No

Can I take a pass between Basic Training and starting OCS?

All College Option Soldiers reporting to OCS from Basic Training must use government provided transportation between their Basic Training and OCS. The first opportunity a Soldier/Candidate has to take a pass occurs beginning on Friday after the close-out formation and safety briefing. These generally occur in the evening approximately 1730 (5:30 PM). The Candidates that do not have duty for the weekend, may be authorized a single day or even an overnight pass for the Columbus/Phenix City area (within 25 miles of OCS only). They will be required to return to the company area no later than Sunday at approximately 1700 (5:00 PM). Soldiers are not authorized to travel outside the 25 mile radius on any pass for any reason except emergencies (Red Cross Messages).

I have a 4 year degree and less than 6 months before I ETS. Do I have time to put in my packet for Officer Candidate School (OCS)?

To apply for admission to OCS in-service perspective candidates must have at least 1 year of retainability.

I attended OCS over a year ago and was released due to medical reasons. I do have a letter of recommendation to re-attend after my injuries are fully healed. Do I have to re-submit my packet or can my old one be used?

You must resubmit your packet, with all of your updated documentation, for approval by the board if it has been over the year allowed in your recommendation to re-attend memo.

I am graduating later than scheduled from present training and will be unable to report for my scheduled OCS class. Will I be moved to the next OCS class?

If the Soldier is going to be late to OCS, they need to contact Mr Burke at 703-325-3756, to inform him so he can reschedule them for the next OCS class available. They would be considered a "No Show" for the class they were originally scheduled for.

I am an IRR soldier currently called up and in Iraq. I am considering returning to active duty. I have a Bachelors degree, and I want to go to OCS. What are my options?

After his deployment he should go to a recruiter to do an OCS packet for active duty. He could go through a Reserve unit and get OCS that way but he would Not be on active duty after commissioning.

Are there any formal gatherings prior to the graduation ceremony where family of the students may attend?

Yes - The Senior Officer Candidate Review (Monday week 7); The Family SRP (Week 12) Day of the week may vary normally Wednesday; Graduation Formal (Tuesday Week 12); and the Graduation (Thursday Week 12).
