



THE OFFICER BASIC COURSE (OBC)

Overview

There is a Personnel Operational Memorandum (POM) currently in draft form, that will make attendance in an Officer Basic Course (OBC) a requirement for officers called to active duty on or after 01 July 2007, within a newly commissioned officer's first 6 months of active duty,

Therefore, all newly commissioned officers should actively seek supervisory approval to attend the course as early as possible. Please continue reading for important information regarding the course itself, uniform requirements, funding (travel, lodging & per diem) and pre-requisite training. The dates of the training are provided in the table below.

Please contact Aaron Arnold at (770) 488-1886 or ala8@cdc.gov to be placed on the participation list for the month you wish to attend. Detailed information will be provided to officer participants approximately 3-4 weeks prior to each course.

Please Note: Officers who were called to active duty on or after 01 July 2007, but are now outside the 6 month window, may apply and be selected to participate in a future OBC on space available basis.

Details

The OBC is an official Temporary Duty Assignment (TDY) that provides a comprehensive orientation to the corps officer that includes but is not limited to:

- basic corps information
- career development
- leave and compensation
- readiness response requirements
- promotion process
- customs and courtesies
- awards, and
- other essential information.

The OBC training is held at The National Conference Center (NCC), 18980 Upper Belmont Place, Lansdowne, Virginia 20176. This is a resident course (including the weekend); all officers are under official TDY orders and assigned to the NCC and must be available for activities during the course 24 hours a day including the closing ceremony, for the entire 2-week period. *Participants will not be permitted to commute back and forth to their home or agency during this 2 week course.*

There is no cost to your program for this training. All travel arrangements and funding is now handled by OCCO through a travel management contract with Educational Services Incorporated (ESI). *ESI, not your agency, will handle the travel, lodging and per diem.* Travel directives are official orders and cannot be changed by the officer without the approval of the issuing authority (OCCO). Therefore, officers are committed to attend the training barring the development of a valid emergency.

During the first two days of OBC, all officers will be dressed as if they were a brand new Call to Active Duty officer. The standardized dress for these two days beginning Sunday evening will be: black pants (skirts optional for females), white shirts (long or short sleeves; no neckties are required), black shoes for male and females (black socks with pants, flesh tone hose for females wearing skirts). The uniform of the day for the commissioning ceremony, Wednesday evening of the first week, throughout the remainder of the course will be the poly-wool khaki only. You will be given ample opportunity to purchase uniforms prior to the commencement of the course.

Course Prerequisites

1. Certification in Basic Life Support (*BLS prerequisite may be satisfied at the OBC as a course is usually given over the weekend*)
 - American Heart Association BLS for Healthcare Providers *or*
 - The American Red Cross CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers
2. Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (OFRD) requires completion of four FEMA EMI Courses outlined below (*courses are located on the OFRD website under training*) prior to attending the OBC. Upon successful completion of the courses, you will receive a confirmation e-mail. The officer must bring a copy of this e-mail or a copy of the certificate-embedded in the e-mail to the OBC.

Four required FEMA EMI Courses:

- IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System
- IS-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction
- IS-800.B National Response Framework, An Introduction

Please contact your Staff Specialist for any questions/concerns regarding the Officer basic Course. Thanks!