

SENIOR NURSE CADET HANDBOOK

YOUR TRANSITION TO ACTIVE DUTY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION A – HELPFUL WEBSITES

SECTION B – ROTC ACCESSIONS

- Accessions (Branching) Process
- Assignment Preference Sheet
- Post for ADSO
- Nurse Clinical Transition Program
- EFMP and Joint Domicile
- Nurse GBR or LDAC/LTC 2LT

SECTION C – THE NCLEX

- Taking the NCLEX
- Review Course
- Testing Fees

SECTION D – PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

- Active Duty Orders
- Shipment of Household Goods

SECTION E – OFFICER BASIC LEADERSHIP COURSE (OBLC)

SECTION F – DEPLOYMENTS

- 180 Day Policy Letter

SECTION G – CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Specialty Courses
- Long Term Health Education and Training

Helpful Websites (Section A)

Websites

1. Army Knowledge Online (AKO)

www.us.army.mil

This is the most important website for you to know how to navigate on. From your AKO site, you can find websites to everything you need, including finance, healthcare, military forms and publications, and your Officer Record Brief (ORB). You will need to remember your username and password to access this account, or you may utilize your Common Access Card (CAC) if you are using a work computer.

2. Army Nurse Corps Home Page

<http://armynursecorps.amedd.army.mil>

This website contains information on continuing education, assignment opportunities, how to interpret your orders, etc.

3. ANC Website

<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/branches/officer/health/nurse/>

4. Student Loan Repayment Information

<https://www.hrc.army.mil/SITE/Education/LRP.html>

This website provides information on Student Loan Repayment options.

5. Military One Source

<https://www.militaryonesource.com>

This website is a great resource for military members, spouses and families. It provides access to the following features: Online articles, worksheets and suggested reading lists; educational materials; local community information; interactive tools; personalized homepage; and much more.

6. The US Army Homepage

www.army.mil

Helps you stay current on what is happening in the Army.

7. Army Medical Department

www.armymedicine.army.mil

Includes top news stories on what is happening in the AMEDD, the Surgeon General's blog, and information on current healthcare programs.

8. ANC OBLC Homepage

<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/obc/index.html>

<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/32medbde/32m/A187TH/Website2/alphacompany187.html>

<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/32medbde/32m/A187TH/Website2/inprocessing.htm>

Provides information regarding the AMEDD Officer Basic Leader Course

9. AMEDD Center and School
<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/>
10. Army Family Websites
<http://www.armyfamiliesonline.org/skins/WBLO/home.aspx> Army Families Online
<https://www.armyfcc.com/index02.cfm> US Army Family Child Care
<http://www.myarmylifetoo.com> Family Advocacy Program Online
11. Military Pay
www.dfas.mil
<http://perdiem.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/> Basic Allowance for Housing
12. Military Healthcare
www.tricare.osd.mil
13. Defense Travel System – Government Travel
<http://defensetravel.osd.mil/dts/site/index.jsp>
14. Human Resources Command
<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/index-flash.aspx>
Get information about selection boards, schools and training, branch newsletters, and the latest messages from personnel.
15. Army Nurse Corps Officer Career Management
<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/Active/ophsdan/default.htm>
Find your branch manager and look up assignment opportunities.
16. Education
<http://call.army.mil/> Army Center for Lessons Learned
<http://www.history.army.mil/reference/CSAList/CSAList.htm> CSA Reading List
<https://usarmy.skillport.com/SkillPortFE/login/usarmylogin.cfm> Army E-Learning
Take Rosetta Stone courses for free.
<https://atrrs.army.mil/> Army Training Requirements and Resources System

ROTC Accessions (Section B)

Accessions (Branching) Process

1. The Order of Merit List (OML) Model calculates OML Scores which are rank ordered to create the ROTC National OML
2. The ROTC National OML is used to determine duty status and branch for line cadets.

- According to the needs of the Army, most nurses go Active Duty (AD) unless they have a Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty (GRFD) control number. Being a Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) cadet does not guarantee a GRFD control number.
 - GRFD go to the Army National Guard or Army Reserves
 - Active Duty Green-to-Gold must go AD
3. The National OML ranking of nurses is used to determine duty locations. The top 10% on the Nurse OML are guaranteed their first choice of duty location depending on the needs of the Army.
 4. The ROTC OML model is listed below. Note that 40% of your score is based on GPA.

ROTC OML Model

1. Academic (40)

(40.0) Cumulative GPA (includes ROTC GPA)
(Spring Semester, most current)

2. Leadership (45)

(6.75) WF Performance (E/S/N)
- Leadership positions
- Leadership attributes/skills/actions
(11.25) WF PLT TAC Evaluation (E/S/N)
(4.50) WF Land Navigation (1st score)

PMS Experienced Based Observations

(6.75) PMS MSIII CER OML
(4.50) PMS Accessions OML
(4.50) PMS Accessions Potential Comments
(6.75) Cadet Training / Extracurricular Activities

*Numbers in parentheses are the maximum potential points if a Cadet maximizes each event (they total to 100)

3. Physical (15)

APFT

(1.28) Campus Fall Semester
(most current score)
(1.91) Campus Spring Semester
(most current score)
(9.56) WF (1st score)

Swimming

(0.375) Campus Swim Test
(0.375) WF CWST

(1.50) Varsity, Intramural, or
Community Team
Athletics

Warrior Forge, Platoon Top Five = 1 point added to final OMS
RECONDO = 0.5 point added to final OMS

1. General.

a. Nurses **will not be placed on AD prior to passing of the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX)**. Once the NCLEX is passed, the Brigade Nurse will verify the license and furnish a copy of the license verification to the Headquarters Cadet Command (HQCC) Chief Nurse.

b. After verification, the HQCC Chief Nurse will request orders by e-mail from Human Resource Command, Army Nurse Corps (ANC) Branch. The request will also go to the ANC Staff Officer located at U.S. Army Accessions Command as notification of accession date of the officer with resultant release of the ORB. A copy of the e-mail will also be sent to HQCC, Deputy Chief of Staff G1, ATCC-PAS. Once Human Resources Command publishes the request for orders (RFO), HQCC G1 Accessions & Security Division will publish and distribute the

orders through CCIMS. The HQCC Chief Nurse will be informed after the orders have been distributed.

2. Officer Incentives Programs (Post, Branch, and Graduate School for Active Duty Service Obligation [ADSO]). Please speak with your PMS or Brigade Nurse Counselor if interested in these options.

a. Nurses are eligible to participate in the Post for ADSO program.

b. Nurses are not eligible to participate in the Branch or Graduate School for ADSO programs. Nurses will be provided graduate school opportunities through AMEDD programs or with the Advanced Nurse Education Option Program.

3. Branching Board. Nurse Cadets do not go before the DA Branching Board. The HQCC Chief Nurse holds the authority for determining branching for the ANC during the accessions process.

4. National Order of Merit List (OML). For the most part, nurse Cadets in the top 10% on the National OML receive their first choice of assignment.

5. Completion of the initial Cadet's service obligation will satisfy the terms of the Cadet's service agreement and the Cadet will not incur an additional financial obligation. The increased ADSO, whether for graduate school, post, or dual will be served consecutively and will begin on the day after the officer's initial service obligation is completed.

Assignment Preference Sheet

When you enter your senior year, you will complete a CC Form 218-R, Assignment Preference Sheet, where you will indicate your duty assignment preferences. Please ensure that your 218-R is completed and entered into CCIMS by 30 September if graduating in May. If you are an "end of camp commissionee" without an assignment, please ensure that your 218-R is completed and in CCIMS by 1 May. This will facilitate the assignment process.

Remember to only choose the eight bases that have a MEDCEN due to the fact that your first year must be at a MEDCEN to complete the Nurse Residency Program. You will be required to put in four (4) total overseas requests to submit the application however, only Tripler and Landstuhl are possible assignments.

On the 218-R, there is a block to check if you will be requesting joint domicile. You can also check the joint domicile block if you are engaged and plan to be married to another service member. Under the comments section, make sure to explain your situation clearly.

Sample CC Form 218-R

ASSIGNMENT PREFERENCE SHEET

PART I - GENERAL INFORMATION

1. NAME: CADET, IAM A. 2. SSN: 123-45-6789
(LAST, FIRST & MI)

3. GRADE: 2LT

4. ROTC REGION: n/a 5. SEX: Female 6. RACE: C - White 7. PPN: Date of Birth 8. MARITAL STATUS: Single

9. DEPENDENTS: 0 10. DUTY: AD 11. BRANCH: AN

12. ACAD MAJ: NURSING 13. GRAD DATE: 10 May 2011 14. COMM DATE: 10 May 2011

15a. HOST INSTITUTION and ADDRESS: Auburn University, Nichols Center Drive, Army ROTC Bn, Auburn, AL 36849-5513

b. POC: LTC John A. Doe PHONE #: (123) 456-7890 BN FAX #: (098) 765-4321

16a. PERMANENT (NO POST OFFICE BOX) HOME ADDRESS: 2000 Nowhere Lane PHONE #: (987) 654-3210
Huntsville, AL 35242

b. ADDRESS FROM WHICH (NO POST OFFICE BOX) TRAVEL COMMENCES: 149 GBR Street PHONE #: (987) 654-3210
Auburn, AL 36849

PART II - PREFERENCE/OTHER INFO

1. Assignment Preferences (List in order of Preference, must be 4 Overseas):

1. Fort Lewis, WA 5. Fort Gordon, GA 9. Seoul, Korea
 2. Walter Reed AMC, D.C. 6. Fort Hood, TX 10. Fort Wainwright, Alaska
 3. Landstuhl RMC, Germany 7. Tripler AMC, Hawaii
 4. Fort Bragg, NC 8. Fort Sam Houston, TX

2. I desire to enter active duty on/or about: 1st: 1 June 2011 2nd: 20 July 2011 3rd: 15 Aug 2011

3. I desire the following additional training: () AIRBORNE () AIR ASSAULT () RANGER () OTHER

4. I will travel to OBC by () POV () COMMERCIAL AIR

5. I (DO) (DO NOT) desire to serve as a GOLDBAR RECRUITER

6. I (DO) (DO NOT) desire to serve as CADRE at LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT COURSE (LDAC)

7. I (DO) (DO NOT) desire to serve as CADRE at LEADER'S TRAINING COURSE (LTC)

8. I (DO) (DO NOT) request consideration for a JOINT DOMICILE assignment
 (If yes, indicate name, SSN, grade, branch, and location of spouse): _____

9. If I am selected for IA, I desire _____ days excess leave OR _____ days of advanced leave

REMARKS: _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY:
 SCH-OBC: _____
 SCH-FTL: _____
 SCH-DLI: _____
 SCH-KNOX: _____
 HOR-OBC: _____
 FTL-OBC: _____
 KNOX-OBC: _____
 DLI-OBC: _____
 HOR-KNOX: _____
 HOR-FTL: _____

I certify the above information is correct and current.

 SIGNATURE OF CADET

DATE: _____

CC USE: NAME OF SCHOOL COURSE NO CLASS NO REPORTING DATE

Post for ADSO

This program allows Cadets to request their first duty assignment of choice in exchange for an additional 3-year ADSO.

a. The CG, USACC, will survey all Cadets selected for active duty assignment for interest in this program. Cadets interested in this program will sign the U.S. Army Cadet Command Supplemental Service Agreement, Post for Active Duty Service Obligation (ADSO) Program, pages P-11 and P-12 of this appendix. If the HRC-A assignment officer can align the Cadet with that assignment based on the Cadet's branch, date of availability, and unit requirements, the Cadet will incur the additional ADSO. Cadets volunteering for this program who do not receive the assignment requested will receive their assignments through the normal process, their contract addendums will be voided, and they will not incur the additional ADSO.

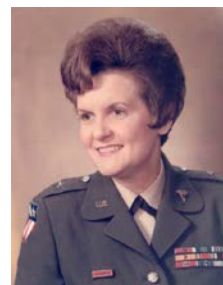
b. To be eligible for this program, nurse Cadets must pass the National Council on Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) on the first attempt.

c. If a Cadet fails to be commissioned as projected in their Post for ADSO Program Agreement, HRC-A may not be able to hold the requested post assignment. If the post cannot be held, the Cadet will be reassigned by HRC-A through the normal assignment process and their contract addendum will be voided.

d. Cadets not participating in this program will receive assignments from HRC-A through the normal assignment process.

Nurse Clinical Transition Program

All novice nurses must begin their Army Nurse career at one of the large medical centers (MEDCEN) listed below to complete the BG Anna Mae Hays Army Nurse Clinical Transition Program (ANCTP). BG Hays was the first women in the U.S. military to be promoted to the rank of general officer and the 13th Chief of the Army Nurse Corps. The nurse program is generally twelve (12) months in length. Some nurses will move to new duty locations following the clinical program while others will remain at that MEDCEN. If assigned to Hawaii or Germany you will remain on station for three years. If you contract for a post for ADSO to a MEDCEN you will stay at that location. If a post for ADSO is requested for a location other than one of the nine MEDCENS listed, you will be moved to that location once you complete the program. Speak to your nurse counselor about locations that are available to request a post for ADSO.



1. Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) – San Antonio, TX (Fort Sam Houston) ; also known as San Antonio Military Medical Center – North (SAMMC-North)
2. Charles Darnall AMC (DAMC) – Killeen, TX (Fort Hood)
3. Dwight D. Eisenhower AMC (DDEAMC) – Augusta, GA (Fort Gordon)
4. *Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) – Landstuhl, Germany

5. Madigan AMC (MAMC) – Tacoma, Washington (Joint Base Lewis-McChord)
6. *Tripler AMC (TAMC) – Honolulu, Hawaii
7. Walter Reed AMC (WRAMC) – Military District of Washington, Washington, D.C.
8. William Beaumont AMC (WBAMC) – El Paso, TX (Fort Bliss)
9. Womack AMC (WAMC) – Fayetteville, NC (Fort Bragg)

*OCONUS Assignments (Outside the Continental United States)

EFMP and Joint Domicile

Exceptional Family Members Program (EFMP) and Joint Domicile are two things that could also determine your assignment locations.

EFMP – If you have a child or spouse with special needs, if they have a chronic medical condition, or are under the care of a physician for specific disorders please inform the Brigade Nurse Counselor. These individuals may require special medical treatment, and thus may be required to be located near a specific MEDCEN.

Joint Domicile – Also, if you will be legally married to another Army military service member on active duty, the military has a program called the Army Married Couples Program (AMCP) that will attempt to assign you both to the same geographic area. This information is important and could determine your duty assignment

Nurse Gold Bar Recruiting or LDAC/LTC Support

Once you pass your NCLEX, you have the option to come on Active Duty status prior to attending OBLC. As a new 2LT, you can work at one of the universities associated with ROTC with a school of nursing as a Nurse Gold Bar Recruiter (GBR), or you can work as support staff at LDAC or LTC. LDAC is in Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington and LTC is located at Ft. Knox, Kentucky.

If you are assigned to support LDAC or LTC you will be working to support the medical mission. If you would like to work at LDAC or LTC and are a May graduate, remember that you must take the NCLEX early since you will report in June and verification of licensure is essential prior to requesting orders.

If you would like to be a Nurse Gold Bar Recruiter, speak to your PMS so they can submit a formal request. You must have a **minimum** of 45 days and a maximum of 140 days to work as a GBR prior to attending OBLC. You are required to report to the first available OBLC following coming on active duty. A nurse Gold Bar Recruiter works with the Recruiting Operations Officer (ROO) to bring students into the program. This includes visiting local high schools,

talking to students, and attending college fairs and career days. You not only gain experience as an officer, but you also will start drawing 2LT pay!

Please ensure that you state your preference to your nurse counselor when you are informing them that you passed your NCLEX so it can be placed in your orders.

Taking the NCLEX (Section C)

As a new 2LT nurse graduate you cannot come on active duty until after you have passed the NCLEX. Typically, you will be assigned to the first available OBLC course. If you have a valid reason why you cannot go to the first available OBLC course, you must let your Brigade Nurse Counselor know in order to initiate the proper paperwork.

Study for the NCLEX throughout the year and after graduation. Take an NCLEX review course. All cadets, scholarship and non-scholarship, are eligible to have their review course paid by ROTC. Scholarship cadets are also eligible to have the NCLEX testing fee paid. The testing fee does not cover the state licensing fee which you will be responsible for. Ensure that your university submits the payment request within 30 days prior to graduation.

The NCLEX must be taken within 60 days of graduation. It is best to take it within 30 days. If failure occurs, the cadet must wait the allotted time to retest as determined by the state where you are seeking your licensure.

A two-time NCLEX failure may result in the cadet being re-branched according to the needs of the Army. In some cases a cadet can apply for a third attempt. The Cadet Command Chief Nurse will determine if a third attempt is permitted.

The cadet must keep the Brigade Nurse Counselor (BNC) informed about their current address, phone number, and email address. If a cadet moves or changes phone numbers, they must notify the BNC immediately.

Notify your Brigade Nurse Counselor when you have scheduled a date to take the NCLEX. After you take the NCLEX, your BNC will verify your license online and will request your orders be initiated.

NCLEX-RN review course (even offered to non-scholarship students) For the nurse Cadet to become a professional Registered Nurse (RN), they must take and successfully pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). An officer must pass the exam and hold a valid license before being accessed into the Army Nurse Corps. The knowledge used to pass this exam comes from the years of attending classes within the school of nursing. To assist a student focus their studies and provide a general refresher of their nursing knowledge, many schools offer a NCLEX review course. Frequently, a school of nursing will present this review as a non-credit elective during the last semester before graduation. There are also many private educational corporations that offer the review course in larger cities nation-wide. The cost range is \$250 - \$400.

There are two methods of requesting reimbursement for this program. **The preferred method is a review course offered through the school of nursing.** The cost of the course is listed as an additional fee charged through the university for the semester in which the course takes place. Even if the school offers a NCLEX-RN review course, the nurse Cadet may take one provided by an educational corporation outside of their institution. This review course will be paid for only **ONE** time by ROTC. The nurse Cadet does not have to take the review course prior to graduation but the Cadet must schedule it and it must be paid for prior to graduation. Scholarship nurse Cadet payments are processed through CCIMS/Scholarship Tracking Module. Non-scholarship nurse Cadet payments are processed through usage of the ROTC unit credit card (International Merchant Purchase Agreement Card – IMPAC).

NCLEX-RN Testing Fee – A \$200 processing fee is charged to cover the test center cost of administering the exam. **No earlier than 60 days prior to graduation and no later than 30 days prior to graduation,** the PMS will submit a request to Cadet Command for \$200 to cover the cost of the Cadet taking the NCLEX-RN. This process will allow the Cadet to take advantage of this incentive while meeting the requirement for payment prior to graduation. The testing fee will only be reimbursed for the **first attempt**.

Please note this reimbursement **does not** include the fee charged by each state to process the license application. This fee generally ranges from \$25 to \$75 dependent on state. Each nurse will be required to renew their license through their particular state either annually or biennially (dependent on state law). It is a professional responsibility to obtain and maintain a license to practice nursing. Cadet Command will not reimburse this cost.

Personal Management(Section D)

Orders and Shipment of Household Goods

Orders will not be initiated until official confirmation of passing the NCLEX. The orders must go through multiple levels for processing to include Cadet Command and Army Nurse Corps Human Resources Command (HRC). They will be based primarily on the information you provided on CC Form 218-R discussed above in Section B. Read **ALL** lines of your orders carefully and notify your BNC immediately if there are any mistakes. Ask questions if you do not understand something written in the orders.

Shipment of Household Goods (HHG)

As soon as you have your orders, contact your local Transportation Office (TO) to make arrangements for the shipment of your HHG. This applies whether you plan to have the government move your HHG or whether you plan to move it yourself. The TO you will utilize is located at the military installation that is closest to you (keep in mind that it might not be Army). If you do not know which military installation this is, please ask your cadre.

The general categories of HHG shipments are:

Accompanied baggage: This is the main shipment of your HHG. It is recommended that you have your HHG picked up BEFORE going to OBLC. Your HHG will just wait in storage while you are at OBLC and until you have a place to live at your new duty station. Once you have your new address you will call the TO at your new duty station to schedule a delivery date. If you do not have your HHG picked up before OBLC you will have to leave someone as power-of-attorney to authorize release to the movers, or you will need to make a trip back home after OBLC for the pick-up.

Unaccompanied baggage: This is a small shipment of your HHG (maximum 600 pounds) that arrives faster to your duty station than the accompanied baggage (main shipment). Generally, it is not necessary on your first assignment to use unaccompanied baggage because your HHG are going to arrive faster than you will. If needed, you can have an unaccompanied baggage shipment sent to OBLC. However, if you are driving, this usually is not necessary because it is likely that you will be able to fit everything you need into your car. If you do decide to send an unaccompanied baggage shipment to OBLC, make sure you do not max out the 600# limit because it is likely you will accumulate items at OBLC as well. You may also consider sending unaccompanied baggage to your first duty assignment if you will be reporting there first while waiting to attend OBLC.

Professional books and papers: The items that you ship under this title do not count against the weight allowance of your accompanied baggage shipment. These are items such as nursing textbooks, nursing uniforms, stethoscope, nursing journals etc. Most likely, going to your first duty station you will not have enough HHG to come even close to your maximum weight for shipment so separating professional books and papers probably is not necessary. However, if you are shipping a full household you will want to take advantage of this.

DITY (Do-It-Yourself) Move: There is also the option to move all of your HHG items yourself instead having the government move it for you. The advantage of this is that most people claim that the reimbursement is sometimes greater than the actual cost of the move. The disadvantage obviously is that it is a lot of work to pack and move your HHG yourself. If you opt for a DITY move you still have to contact your local TO before making the move. Do not expect to get reimbursed for the move once you arrive at your new duty station if you do not initiate the proper paperwork with the TO before you left home.

Partial DITY: This is when you move part of your HHG and the government moves the rest of it. If you are planning to drive to OBLC with a full car load, but will have the bulk of your HHG moved by the government in accompanied baggage, you probably will want to take advantage of this. Tell the TO that you would like to do a partial DITY to and from OBLC, and they will initiate the paperwork needed to accurately document the move.

Officer Basic Leadership Course (Section E)

NURSE CORPS OFFICER BASIC (OBLC)

ATTRS Code: 6-8-C20 (AN66)

Length: 9 weeks

Course Location: AMEDD Center & School, Fort Sam Houston, TX

Description: AMEDD Officer Basic Course has been redesigned to reflect the applicable portions of Army Basic Officer Leaders Course (BOLC) and is now called AMEDD Officer Basic Leaders Course (OBLC). AMEDD OBLC trains officers to develop: competency to perform officer/Soldier skills to standard; an understanding of Army organizations, operations and procedures; an ability to apply the concepts of Force Health Protection and leader skills, to include an ability to analyze and solve military problems; an ability to communicate, interact and coordinate as a staff member; military survival skills for the contemporary operating environment; and AMEDD-specific training which culminates in a Force Health Protection field training exercise. This course is required for all Active Duty Nurse Corps Officers (AN 66). The first 7 weeks of this 9-week course are AMEDD common corps training. The remaining 2 weeks are AOC specific training.

FY11 Schedule. [https://www.atrrs.army.mil/atrrscc/courseInfo.aspx?fy=2011&sch=081&crs=6-8-C20B+\(AN66\)&crstitle=AN-BASIC+OFFICER+LEADER&phase=2](https://www.atrrs.army.mil/atrrscc/courseInfo.aspx?fy=2011&sch=081&crs=6-8-C20B+(AN66)&crstitle=AN-BASIC+OFFICER+LEADER&phase=2)

FY12 Schedule. [https://www.atrrs.army.mil/atrrscc/courseInfo.aspx?fy=2012&sch=081&crs=6-8-C20B+\(AN66\)&crstitle=AN-BASIC+OFFICER+LEADER&phase=2](https://www.atrrs.army.mil/atrrscc/courseInfo.aspx?fy=2012&sch=081&crs=6-8-C20B+(AN66)&crstitle=AN-BASIC+OFFICER+LEADER&phase=2)

BOLC-B AN Track AKO Site: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/629193>

Nurse Liaison:

nurseliasion@amedd.army.mil

210-386-0143 (nurse liaison blackberry)

210-295-4798 (nurse liaison office)

You will receive a welcome letter from OBLC shortly after receiving your orders. To obtain further information about the AMEDD Basic Officer Leader Course, go to <http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/obc/index.htm>. This web site contains key information for students to be successful at OBLC, to include: frequently asked questions (FAQ) page, field packing lists, recommended uniform items, and key dates during the course.

Officers will be assigned to Alpha Company, 187th Medical Battalion, 32nd Medical Brigade, US Army Medical Department Center and School (AMEDDC&S), Fort Sam Houston, Texas. See Alpha Company's website:

<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/32medbde/32m/A187TH/Website2/alphacompany187.html>.

This website contains the Commander's welcome letter, frequently asked questions, and command policy letters. Check it frequently since the information often changes.

It is highly recommended that officers bring computer/laptop and printer as the majority of homework assignments will require the use of a computer and printer. There are computer labs in the AMEDD Center and School, but the hours and the number of computers available are limited.

If you are driving and you do not have an installation vehicle sticker, you will have to go to the Visitor's Center upon arrival to Fort Sam Houston. You will need a copy of your orders, driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance to get a vehicle pass. You will report to Building 592 to receive the rest of your instructions and billeting assignment.

OBLC Welcome Letter

MCCS-HHS

18 May 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR 6-8-C20 Class 09-905, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6100

SUBJECT: Army Medical Department Officer Basic Leader's Course (OBLC) Information Packet

1. Congratulations on joining the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) and welcome to the AMEDD Officer Basic Leader's Course (OBLC) Class 09-905. Students will report to Building 592 at Fort Sam Houston, Texas no later than 1500 hours on 14 July 2009. In-processing will begin at Building 2841, Blesse Auditorium, Willis Hall BLDG 2841 at 0530 on 15 July 2008.

2. This course is designed to instruct you in the "basics" of being an Army and AMEDD officer. It will greatly assist you in making your transition into the Army a smooth one. This course will provide you with an increased understanding of the U.S. Army, its various missions and most importantly, how you contribute to the success of those missions. Your focus here at the AMEDD Center & School will be discipline, teamwork, basic Soldier skills, tactical medical doctrine, and learning the principles behind becoming an effective leader.

3. Please explore the AMEDD OBLC webpage (<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/obc/>) for information that will help you prepare for your time here at Fort Sam Houston. Documents and items to which I want to draw your attention are:

a. Uniform Suppliers: It is imperative that you arrive at Fort Sam Houston with as many of your required uniform items on-hand as possible. Some uniform items, **particularly Army black berets, Army physical fitness uniforms (APFUs), and some Army Combat Uniform (ACU) items may not be available in all sizes or are in extremely limited supplies.** It is your responsibility to ensure that you obtain the correct uniform items so that you can be in the correct uniform throughout the course. Please look at the Class 09-905 Packing List on the OBLC webpage, as well as the list of internet uniform providers and get as many of your uniform requirements filled as possible prior to your arrival at Fort Sam Houston. **There will be a Dress Blue (for Active Duty) and Class A (for National Guard and Reserve) inspection during the course. Also, note the message at the end of this memorandum referencing wear out dates for certain uniform items. Once an item reaches its wear out date it can no longer be worn. Take these dates into consideration when making your uniform purchases.**

b. Eyeglasses/contact lenses: You will spend three weeks living and working in tactical field conditions, and contact lenses will not be worn during the field phase. Dirt and dust particles may become trapped between contact lenses and the eye and cause damage to the retina and cornea. Anyone that requires contact lenses should ensure they arrive with a pair of current prescription eyeglasses for use during the field phases of the course.

c. Cold Weather gear: Temperatures at night can reach to lower levels. When purchasing uniform items, be sure to purchase the required and recommended cold weather gear items, to include black field gloves with inserts, grey fleece cap, Gore-Tex (one will be issued at CIF) or field jacket (woodland or ACU), and polypropylene undergarments. Camelbacks are not required but are strongly recommended for hydration, as the course will involve a significant amount of walking, marching, and running, both with and without combat loads.

d. Physical profiles/limitations: Students with any sort of limitation that prevents them from fully taking part in the Army Physical Fitness test (push-ups, sit-ups, and two-mile run) or from wearing tactical equipment and carrying a 48-lb combat load, to include wearing a Kevlar helmet and carrying a weapon, must identify themselves to the Alpha Company Commander and the Class Advisor prior to beginning inprocessing on 15 July 2009. Students that cannot meet minimum physical requirements for the course may be disenrolled from the course, recycled to the next scheduled course after they are able to meet the minimum physical requirements, or recommended for separation from the Army. Please contact the Class Advisor, MAJ Shawn Pecinovsky, at 210-221-6521 or shawn.pecinovsky@us.army.mil with any questions.

e. Pre-Arrival Briefings. Please review the pre-arrival briefings on the AMEDD OBLC webpage, particularly the briefings on Customs and Courtesies and Wear of the Army Uniform. All OBLC students are responsible for the content of these briefs and being able to recognize rank, extend proper honors to those of senior rank, and wear the Army uniform upon arrival.

f. Army Grooming Standards: As an Army officer, you will be expected to adhere to Army grooming and hair standards upon arrival and throughout the course. Males will not be permitted to have any facial hair that extends past the edges of the upper lip. Females will not have any hairstyle that is considered faddish (dreadlocks, etc.). You may learn more in Army Regulation 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia, dated 3 February 2005, which can be found at <http://www.usapa.army.mil/>

3. During the course, information will be provided by the cadre and disseminated through your student chain of command. The student chain of command and staff positions will be established shortly after the beginning of the course. I encourage you to seek out these valuable leadership opportunities. Come with an attitude to learn, share, and excel. As officers and leaders, you must actively participate and make a positive impact in your class.

4. Again, welcome to the Officer Basic Leaders Course. You have several exciting, challenging, and rewarding weeks ahead of you. My telephone number is 210-221-6521, DSN 471-6521. I am located in the Leader Development Branch, room 1135, building 2841 (Willis Hall), AMEDD Center & School. My email address is shawn.pecinovsky@us.army.mil. Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

// Original Signed//
SHAWN M. PECINOVSKY
MAJ, MS
Class Advisor, OBLC 09-905

Duty Assignment Information

Within a few weeks of arrival at OBLC you will receive a Welcome Packet and Sponsorship Letter from your gaining unit. A sponsor is someone who will answer your questions and provide advice to help you with the transition into your new unit. When you know who your sponsor is, get in contact with him/her right away. If you do not get a Welcome Packet and Sponsorship Letter from your gaining unit within the first 3-4 weeks of OBLC, notify your OBLC nurse liaison and they will contact the hospital to track it down for you.

Arrival to your first duty station

Once you get settled in at OBLC you should call ahead to your new duty station and make a reservation at guest lodging (also called transient lodging or guest house) for your expected date of arrival. You will have to pay for your stay out-of-pocket but you will be authorized to have up to 10 nights reimbursed when you file your travel voucher. If you do not call early it is likely that guest lodging will be full on your expected date of arrival. In this case they will provide you with a list of off-post hotels that you can make a reservation at and still be fully reimbursed. If you stay off-post, be sure to get a "Statement of Non-Availability" from the guest lodging for filing your travel voucher.

Your unit Welcome Packet and Sponsorship Letter will likely have information on the installation check-in procedures once you arrive at your first duty station. However, you can read ahead by going to the Military One Source website (<http://www.militaryonesource.com>). Click on "Military Members, Army – Active Duty". There is information available here on a wide range of topics and may give you answers to questions you haven't even thought of yet.

Then select "Military Installations". This will take you to Military HomeFront (you can also go here directly at <http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil/pls/psgprod/f?p=MI:ENTRY:3324527410017771>). Enter the installation you want more information about and hit "GO".

Relocation tools are also available on the Military HomeFront page by selecting "Plan My Move" (<http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/pls/psgprod/f?p=MHF:RELO:2450570330548391>). Answer the step by step questions and it will definitely get you started.

Upon arrival to your duty station you will also need to check-in at the Department of Nursing (DON) at the hospital so that they know you have arrived safely (they will be expecting you). If you arrive on station after normal business hours, wait to check-in at the DON until the next day. Once your installation in-processing is complete (usually takes 2-3 days) you will report back to the hospital for your unit-level (hospital) in-processing (also takes about 2-3 days). The DON personnel will give you instructions on where to report to for your unit-level in-processing; it is usually at the Company.

Permissive TDY

In addition to the time you spend with installation and unit in-processing, you are usually given ten (10) days of Permissive Temporary Duty (PTDY) at your new installation to look for a place to live, receive your HHG from the TO, and get unpacked. This does NOT count against your regular leave. Let the DON know that you need your PTDY for house hunting when you

check-in. You can expect that between installation and unit in-processing and PTDY, you will not be getting started on your assigned nursing ward until close to two weeks after you arrive.

Most people get started early with house hunting by internet and telephone during OBLC. It is a good idea to already have a few places lined up for viewing once you arrive at your duty station. You will likely be meeting several other 2LTs going to your same assignment and it is not uncommon to find roommates at OBLC.

OCONUS (Outside Continental US)

For those of you going OCONUS, your arrival, in-processing, and house-hunting will be different than noted above for the stateside Lieutenants. See the document provided for specific details. Your sponsor will help you with answers to your questions.

Deployments (Section F)

Many new officers would like to deploy as soon as they come on active duty. The Army Nurse Corps has determined that novice nurses that enter the military require additional clinical training before providing care in a combat environment. This was evident when new graduates were deployed early on in Operations Iraqi Freedom and we not fully prepared for the experience.

No 2LT Nurse graduating from ROTC will deploy during their first year on active duty. This is the time that you will be developing the essential clinical and leadership skills you will need to provide care in any environment. This is your opportunity to take additional courses such as Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC), and others. This is also your opportunity to cross train into other areas for additional skills and to determine if you would like to specialize. Once you complete the clinical training period, you will be better equipped to provide care in the deployed environment and have the additional leadership tools that you will need to face the unique challenges of deployments.

There are several ways that nurses can be deployed. The first is assignment to a unit in Forces Command (FORSCOM). This means that your unit is deployable such as a Combat Support Hospital or Forward Surgical Team. You are assigned to this unit and will do all administrative duties (APFT, leave forms, process evaluations) from the FORSCOM unit. You will also work in the local Military Treatment Facility (MTF). Basically you will spend most of your time in the MTF with some training or field exercise with the FORSCOM unit each month. When the unit deploys, most likely you will also deploy for the entire length of the deployment.

The second opportunity to deploy is through PROFIS (Professional Officer Filler System). This where you are assigned to a MTF (Medical Center or MEDDAC) and are on a PROFIS list. You may complete some training and field exercises with your assigned PROFIS unit but you are borrowed manpower. If this unit or another unit deploys that requires nurses, they will go to the PROFIS list and pull nurses from the MTF to deploy. Most of the deployments are limited to 180 days as described in the following ALARACT.

As you progress in rank and experience, other opportunities for field/deployment experience are available. There are MIT (Military Transition Teams), division nurse slots, and opportunities with Special Operations.

UNCLASSIFIED// <NULL>

Subject: ALARACT 005/2008
Originator: ALARACT RELEASE AUTHORITY(UC)
DTG: 151845Z Jan 08 **Precedence:** IMMEDIATE **DAC:** General
To: AL ALARACT(UC), ALARACT

UNCLASSIFIED//

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT BY THE PENTAGON TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER ON BEHALF OF DA WASHINGTON DC//DASG-HR//DAMO-DASG//

THIS ALARACT MESSAGE IS BEING SENT OUT ON BEHALF OF THE ACTING SURGEON GENERAL.

SUBJECT: 180-DAY PROFESSIONAL FILLER SYSTEM (PROFIS) DEPLOYMENT POLICY ISO OIF/OEF

REF/A/(U) PERSONNEL POLICY GUIDANCE OF OPERATIONS IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF), ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF) AND NOBLE EAGLE (ONE)//
 REF/B/18JUN04/(U) ALARACT MESSAGE 108: THE 180-DAY ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT (AMEDD) PROFESSIONAL FILLER SYSTEM (PROFIS)/INDIVIDUAL AUGMENTEE (IA) POLICY//
 RED/C/22FEB05/(U) ADDENDUM TO ALARACT MESSAGE 108 - THE 180-DAY AMEDD PROFIS/IA POLICY//
 REF/D/22AUG06/(U) MILPER MESSAGE 06-232/ACTIVE ARMY (AA) STOP LOSS / STOP MOVEMENT (SL/SM) POLICY//
 REF/E/16JAN07/(U) ALARACT MESSAGE: NOTIFICATION OF LIMITED CHANGE TO CURRENT ACTIVE ARMY UNIT STOP LOSS/STOP MOVEMENT (SL/SM) POLICY//
 REF/F/02OCT03/(U) ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT RESERVE COMPONENTS 90-DAY ROTATION POLICY//

1. (U) MEDCOM PROFIS/IA SOLDIERS (COMPO 1) ASSIGNED TO ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE (EAB) UNITS DEPLOYED IN THE CENTCOM AOR IN SUPPORT OF OIF/OEF ARE EXPERIENCING SKILL DEGRADATION, COMPASSION FATIGUE, AND RETENTION ISSUES.
 - 1.A. (U) THIS POLICY APPLIES TO ALL COMPO 1 MEDICAL CORPS (MC), DENTAL CORPS (DC) AND NURSE CORPS (AN) SPECIALTIES SERVING IN PROFIS ASSIGNMENTS OR MEDICAL AUGMENTEE ASSIGNMENTS WITH EAB UNITS, LEVEL 3 MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES (MTF) AND FORWARD SURGICAL TEAMS (FST) WHO DEPLOY AFTER 08 JAN 08.
 - 1.B. (U) THIS POLICY DOES NOT CHANGE THE AMEDD RESERVE COMPONENTS 90-DAY ROTATION POLICY DTD 02 OCT 03.
 - 1.C. (U) THIS POLICY DOES NOT CHANGE THE AMEDD POLICY TO ALLOW THE DEPLOYMENT OF ARMY GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION (GME) PROGRAM DIRECTORS (MC ONLY) FOR 90 DAYS IAW ADDENDUM TO ALARACT MESSAGE 108 DTD 22 FEB 05.
 - 1.D. (U) COMMANDERS AND ALL DEPUTY COMMANDERS WILL REMAIN DEPLOYED WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE UNIT FOR THE DURATION OF THE UNIT'S DEPLOYMENT.
 - 1.E. (U) THIS POLICY WILL MITIGATE DEGRADATION OF COMPLEX SKILLS NOT PRACTICED IN A COMBAT THEATER FOR ALL MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND NURSING HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS. IT WILL REDUCE COMPASSION FATIGUE, PROMOTE RETENTION AND ENHANCE READINESS TO THE OPERATIONAL FORCE. IT WILL ENSURE THAT PROVIDERS EXPERIENCE A DECREASE IN COMPASSION FATIGUE RESULTING FROM THE INTENSE LEVELS OF CARE PRACTICED IN THEATER WHICH RIVAL THE BUSIEST NONCOMBAT TRAUMA CENTERS IN THE WORLD. IT WILL ALLOW THE ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT TO MEET BOTH THE COMBAT HEALTH SUPPORT (CHS) TO THE OPERATIONAL FORCE AND DEFINITIVE CARE OF AMEDD BENEFICIARIES IN FIXED MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES. BY ESTABLISHING A ROTATIONAL BALANCE FROM TDA TO TOE IT WILL OPTIMALLY SUPPORT THE HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM AND DEEPEN THE BENCH OF GO-TO-WAR SPECIALTIES. BY REDUCING THE LENGTH OF DEPLOYMENT WE MINIMIZE SKILL DEGRADATION AND ENSURE THAT OUR WOUNDED SOLDIERS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE HIGH LEVEL OF CARE THAT HAS RESULTED IN THE HIGHEST SURVIVAL RATE FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN THE HISTORY OF WARFARE.
 - 1.F. (U) PROFIS/IAS WHO ARE PROJECTED TO DEPLOY IN A TCS/TDY STATUS OR WHO WILL

DEPLOY AS REPLACEMENTS WITH OIF OR OEF UNITS ARE SUBJECT TO STOP LOSS/STOP MOVE IAW MILPER MESSAGE 06-232 DTD 22 AUG 06 AND ALARACT MESSAGE: NOTIFICATION OF LIMITED CHANGE TO CURRENT ACTIVE ARMY UNIT STOP LOSS/STOP MOVEMENT (SL/SM) POLICY DTD 16 JAN 07.

1.G. (U) A SOLDIER SCHEDULED FOR A 180-DAY DEPLOYMENT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN, FOR THE PURPOSE OF TAKING A BOARD EXAMINATION, DURING THEIR DEPLOYMENT WHETHER AS A PROFIS OR AN IA. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO SCHEDULE A PROVIDER'S DEPLOYMENT SO THAT IT DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH TAKING THE BOARD EXAMINATION.

2. (U) CDR MEDCOM WILL PROVIDE NOTIFICATION TO INDIVIDUAL REPLACEMENTS NLT 30 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPLOYMENT. THEY WILL BE REPLACED AT/AROUND 180 DAYS IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN CLINICAL PROFICIENCY AND BOARD CERTIFICATION.

3. (U) WITH THE EXCEPTION OF EUROPE REGIONAL MEDICAL COMMAND (ERMC), ALL INDIVIDUAL REPLACEMENTS WILL REPORT TO THE CRC AT FORT BENNING, GA IAW COORDINATION INSTRUCTIONS IN AMEDD RESOURCE TASKING SYSTEM (ARTS).

3.A. (U) ERMIC INDIVIDUAL REPLACEMENTS WILL BE PROCESSED THROUGH USAREUR REPLACEMENT CENTERS AS REQUIRED.

3.B. (U) REDEPLOYING PERSONNEL WITH LESS THAN 90 DAYS REMAINING PCS/ETS MAY BE STABILIZED 90 DAYS, UNLESS VOLUNTARILY WAIVED.

4. (U) POC: MAJ JACOB, COM: 210-221-7265, DSN: 471-7265, JACOB.GIN@AMEDD.ARMY.MIL.

5. (U) EXPIRATION DATE CANNOT BE DETERMINED.

Continuing Education (Section G)

Specialty Courses

Earning your BSN is an achievement for which you can be proud. Since nursing is a dynamic profession, your skills and professional knowledge must be constantly updated. The Army Nurse Corps is committed to providing opportunities that will enhance your abilities, interests, and knowledge. As an Army Nurse, you may apply for specialty courses such as:

66H8A: Critical Care Nursing: This 16-week course prepares nurses to take care of critically ill patients in a variety of critical care settings. Course content includes the necessary knowledge and clinical skills, teaching techniques, and the principles of management of the critical care setting. This course is offered at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), and Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC).

66HM5: Emergency Nursing Course: This 16-week course prepares nurses to function as entry-level emergency nurses. The course will focus on responsibilities, nursing care, teaching role, principles and techniques of staff supervision and management of patients across the life span in an emergency setting. Portions of this course are jointly instructed with the Critical Care Nursing Course. This course is offered at BAMC and MAMC.

66E: Preoperative Nursing: This 16-week course will prepare you to function as first-level staff nurses in the operating room (OR). It also focuses on the OR nurse's responsibilities in the preparation and sterilization of supplies/equipment; special fields of surgery; and the principles and techniques of management of the operating room. This course is offered at BAMC, WRAMC, and MAMC.

66G: Obstetrical and Gynecological Nursing: This 16-week course is designed to provide the necessary knowledge and clinical skills to deliver inpatient and ambulatory nursing care to pregnant women, newborn infants and patients with gynecological problems. This course is offered at Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC).

66C: Psychiatric & Mental Health Nursing: This 22-week course will prepare you with the necessary knowledge and clinical skills to deliver care and treatment to psychiatric patients. This course is offered at WRAMC.

66B: Public Health Nursing: The 9-week Principles of Military Preventive Medicine course is designed to provide the entry-level skills and knowledge in preventive medicine specialty areas. Content includes community health practices, communicable and infectious diseases, epidemiology, statistics, medical entomology, industrial hygiene, health physics, sanitary engineering, and environmental science as well as various specialty modules. This course is offered at the AMEDD Center and School in San Antonio, TX.

Each new nurse will typically begin their career on a Medical-Surgical unit, to gain basic nursing skills and experience. If you receive a specialty course guarantee and want to take advantage of it, requests must be submitted to HRC-ANC Branch no earlier than six months on active duty following your OBLC start date and no later than 12 months of accession on active duty date. If you miss the window of opportunity, you may submit an active duty application. It is

recommended that you spend some time researching these fields and shadow another nurse currently working in that area to ensure that the specialty you choose is the right one for you.

Long Term Health Education and Training

In addition to the specialty courses listed, Army Nurse Corps officers can apply for a graduate education program of their choice through the Long Term Health Education and Training (LTHET) program.

Army Nurse Corps officers interested in furthering their professional education may apply for selection to attend Long Term Health Education and Training (LTHET) graduate programs. If selected by the LTHET Board and qualified academically for admission, AN officers will be given the opportunity to be fully funded to attend graduate school as full-time students. All officers attending LTHET will receive all pay and benefits while in school, regardless of the program.

The following is a list of all currently accepted graduate nursing degrees along with their ADSO for participating in the LTHET program. If accepted to the Anesthesia Nursing program, the applicant must attend the Army sponsored program at either the AMEDD Human Resource Command, Army Nurse Corps (ANC) Branch Center and School in San Antonio, or the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (USUHS) in Bethesda, MD. All Nurse Practitioner applicants will attend USUHS.

Specialty	Length of Program	ADSO
DNP (CRNA Only)	18 months	3.5 years
Critical Care CNS	21 months	4 years
Emergency/Trauma CNS	21 months	4 years
Maternal Child CNS	21 months	4 years
Medical Surgical CNS	21 months	4 years
Nursing Informatics	21 months	4 years
Nursing Education	21 months	4 years
Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner*	24 months	4 years
Midwifery	24 months	4 years
Public Health/Community Health	24 months	4 years
Family Nurse Practitioner*	24 months	4 years
Perioperative CNS*	24 months	4 years
Baylor Health and Business Administration	24 months	4 years
Anesthesia Nursing**	30 months	4.5 years
Ph.D. Nursing	36 months	5 years
Ph.D. Sciences (CRNAs Only)	48 months	6 years

- Officers selected for this specialty will be directed to graduate program located at Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (USUHS).

** Eligible Anesthesia programs are USAGPAN and USUHS.

- For further information on the LTHET program, visit <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/Active/ophsdan/lthetMain.htm>. AKO access required.