

## **OCS (Officer Candidate School)**

### **(Prior Service): Currently Serving Guard Members**

To be eligible for the OCS program, applicants must:

- (1) Be a U.S. or Naturalized Citizen **(Applicant must provide original Naturalization Certificate)**
- (2) Achieve a General Technical (GT) score of 110 or higher on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB). **This requirement is non-waiverable.**
- (3) Meet the eligibility criteria for federal recognition in accordance with NGR 600-100
- (4) Be interviewed by the Officer Strength Manager
- (5) Receive a Letter of Recommendation from your Units Company and BN Commanders.
- (5) Have a Bachelor Degree or provide a degree plan towards a Bachelor degree. **(Must have 90 semester hours or 136 quarter hours and the credits must apply toward a B.S. or B.A. Degree)**
- (6) Be medically qualified by going through Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS).
- (7) Complete a personnel security application to receive a secret security clearance or have a secret security clearance. **A Secret clearance is required prior to starting the Phase 1 of the OCS program.**

Additional requirements for State OCS:

- (1) Be at least 18 and not have reached your 35th birthday prior to original enlistment. Must complete the State OCS program prior to 42<sup>nd</sup> birthday.
- (2) Have at least 90 semester hours from an accredited college or university prior to starting the OCS program. Candidates must acquire at least 90 semester hours or 136 quarter hours towards an accredited degree prior to commissioning. Candidates who do not possess a baccalaureate degree must submit an approved degree completion plan prior to commissioning. Applicants will be counseled that completion of an accredited baccalaureate degree is required for promotion to the rank of Captain.
- (3) Meet any applicable State or local requirements.

Additional requirements for Accelerated OCS:

- (1) Be at least 18 and not have reached your 35th birthday prior to original enlistment.
- (2) Have at least 90 semester hours or 136 quarter hours completed toward an accredited degree. Candidates who do not possess a baccalaureate degree must submit an approved degree completion plan prior to commissioning. Applicants will be counseled that completion of an accredited baccalaureate degree is required for promotion to the rank of Captain.

Additional requirements for Federal OCS:

- (1) Be at least 18 and not have reached your 35th birthday prior to original enlistment.
- (2) Be reserved for the school prior to their 35th birthday.
- (3) Possess a Baccalaureate Degree.

After accepted into the Idaho Army National Guard OCS program, OCS Candidate must:

- (1) Complete Phase Zero – This is a 6 month evaluation/training phase **(Minimum 3 month attendance)**

### Three Types OCS Tracks:

#### **Traditional OCS: (18 Month Program) – State Program**

Qualifications:

- Pass Army Physical Fitness Test with 60% in all three events
- Minimum of 90 credit hours to start program (at the start of Phase I)
- Must have 90 credits hours at the time of Commissioning

#### **Accelerated OCS: (8 week Program) – National Guard Bureau Program**

Qualifications:

- Pass Army Physical Fitness Test with 70% in all three events
- Must have a minimum of 90 credit hours to start program (at the start of Phase I)
- Acceptance is based upon a case by case basis

#### **Federal OCS: (12 Week Program) – Federal Program**

Qualifications:

- Pass Army Physical Fitness Test with 70% in all three events
- Must possess a Baccalaureate Degree
- Acceptance is based upon a case by case basis

### SCHOOL DATES:

#### **Accelerated School Dates: (Fast Track) – 8 Week Program. NOT CURRENTLY CONDUCTING THIS PROGRAM IN IDAHO**

- 30 May – 26 Jul 2014 – Ft Meade, SD (Phase I-III)

#### **Traditional School Dates: (State)**

- 10 Jan 2013 – 8 Jun 2014 – Gowen Field, ID (Phase Zero) Conducted 1 weekend a month for 6 months
- 11 Jul – 26 Jul 2014 – Ft Meade, SD (Phase I) – Two weeks
- 1 Aug 2014 – 7 Jun 2015 – Gowen Field (Phase II) Conducted 1 weekend a month for 11 months
- 17 Jul – 1 Aug 2015 – Ft. Lewis, WA (Phase III) – Two weeks
- Aug 2015 – All Phase III Candidates out process, and meet with the State Officer Personnel Manager
- Sep 2015 – **Commissioning**

### BOLC: (Basic Officer Leadership Course)

**BOLC A: (Commissioning Source)**

- Graduate from OCS, ROTC, Federal OCS, or West Point

**BOLC B: (Branch Qualification Course)**

- Length can range from 3-5 months; it depends on your Branch
  - Weigh-in/Tape (if needed), Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT)
  - Basic Rifle Marksmanship (BRM) Range Week/Qualification
  - Advanced Rifle Marksmanship, Land Navigation, Urban Operations
  - Convoy Operations, Combatives
  - Intro. to U.S. Weapons, Buddy-Team Live Fire, Squad Live Fire
  - Forward Operating Base (FOB) Operations

**Combat Arms:**

Armor (AR)  
Field Artillery (FA)  
Engineers (EN)  
Aviation (AV)

**Combat Support:**

Transportation (TC)  
Ordnance (OD)  
Quartermaster (QM)  
Military Police (MP)  
Signal (SC)  
Military Intelligence (MI)

**Combat Service Support:**

Nurse Corps (AN)  
Medical Service (MS)  
Judge Advocate General (JA)  
**(LIMITED)**

**GT Score:** General Technical score (VE+AR) Word Knowledge/Paragraph Comprehension and Arithmetic Reasoning

**BOLC SCHOOL LENGTHS AND LOCATIONS:**

**(CM)** 74A Chemical Officer – 16 Weeks, Ft. Lenard Wood, MO

**(EN)** 12A Engineer Officer – 17 Weeks, 1 Day, Ft. Lenard Wood, MO

**(MP)** 31A Military Police Officer – 17 Weeks, 1 Day, Ft. Lenard Wood, MO

**(IN)** 11A Infantry Officers – 16 Weeks, Ft. Benning, GA

**(FA)** 13A Field Artillery Officer – 18 Weeks, 4 Days, Ft. Sill, OK

**(AV)** 15A Aviation Officer – 15 to 18 Months, Ft. Rucker, AL

**(AR)** 19A Armor Officer – 19 Weeks, Ft. Campbell, KY

**(SC)** 25A Signal Officer – 16 Weeks, Ft. Gorgon, GA

**(MI)** 35D Military Intelligence Officer – 16 Weeks, 4 Days, Ft. Huachuca, AZ

(MS) 70B Medical Service Corps Officer – 7 Weeks, 2 Days, Ft. Sam Huston, TX

**LOGISTICS BRANCH:**

(TC) 88A Transportation Officer – 15 Weeks, 3 Days, Ft. Lee, VA

(OD) 91A Ordnance Officer – 16 Weeks, 4 Days, Ft. Lee, VA

(QM) 92A Quartermaster Corps Officer – 15 Weeks, 2 Days, Ft. Lee, VA

**BENEFITS:**

**Program Benefits:**

- OCS candidates are fully covered medically for injuries while on duty for Drill or for Annual Training
- OCS candidates and dependants qualify for Tri-Care Reserve Select health insurance upon enlistment
- Enter the Idaho Army National Guard as an Officer before completing Bachelors degree

**Tri-Care Reserve Select Health Care Insurance: (2014 Premiums)**

- \$51.62 month (Single)
- \$195.81 month (Family)
- (80-20 coverage)

**Pay: (Once OCS Packet is complete and enrolled into the OCS Phase I Program)**

- E-6 over 4 Years of Service Drill Pay (2013)                      4 Drills - \$375.92                      1 Drill – \$93.98
- E-6 over 6 Years of Service Drill Pay (2013)                      4 Drills - \$391.40                      1 Drill – \$97.85

**GI Bill: (MGIB and MGIBK 1606)**

- Soldiers that have completed Basic Training & MOS School qualify for the Montgomery GI Bill
- Once Candidates Complete Phase I of the OCS program will qualify for OCS Montgomery GI Bill Kicker *(The purpose of the Montgomery GI Bill Kicker Program is to encourage enlistment and retention of soldiers in the Idaho Army National Guard and create an additional incentive for participation in commissioning programs. The Kicker is an incentive not an entitlement; therefore soldiers must apply for and be approved to receive this incentive).*
- MGIB **\$356.00 (Full Time) \$266.00 (¾ Time) \$176.00 (½ Time) \$89.00 (less than half)**
  
- MGIB OCS Kicker **\$350.00(Full Time) = 12 Semester Credit Hours or more.** A **\$350** monthly rate is available for Officer Candidates, Simultaneous Members, and Newly appointed Second Lieutenants who meet the following criteria:

- **Officer Candidate School (OCS).** State OCS candidates are eligible to extend their enlistment and sign a MGIB Kicker contract after completing Phase I (the first 2 week training period) of the State OCS Program. Newly appointed Second Lieutenants are eligible to sign a \$350 MGIB Kicker contract up to 90 days after accepting their commission in the ARNG. OCS graduates who apply for the MGIB Kicker after 90 days from course completion will be categorized as a 'Current ARNG Soldier'.

**To be eligible for the Kicker Program, soldiers must:**

Be eligible to receive educational assistance under either the Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606) or Active Duty (Chapter 30) Montgomery GI Bill programs, Be attending a VA-Approved training program, and Meet the specific eligibility criteria published in the Montgomery GI Bill, Policy set forth by National Guard Bureau. Recruiting and Retention NCOs and Unit Readiness NCOs have a hard copy of this document and can assist you in determining your eligibility for the program.

**Tuition Assistance:** (Available to the Soldier once they have enlisted in the Guard)

- up to **\$2,250.00** (Semester) – Full time attendance
- up to **\$4,500.00** (Year)

**Bonuses:** (Officers will **ONLY** qualify for SRIP Bonus if it is available and if the Officer is not excess in a Unit)

- (SRIP) Selected Reserve Incentive Program for Officers is \$10,000. This Officer Accession Bonus is for Candidates that fill a certain critical (AOC) Area of Concentration. This bonus must be contracted at the day of commissioning and will be paid after attending the Basic Officer Leadership Course.
- Officers have 36 months after commissioning to complete BLOC-B to receive Bonus.

**CAREER PROMOTIONS W/ DEGREE COMPLETION PLAN:**

1. **Phase Zero:** Applicant must have **(90 College Credits)** to Start OCS Program.
2. **Start OCS Phase I:** **MUST** have 90 College Credits
3. **End OCS Phase III:** **MUST** have 90 College Credits toward Bachelors Degree for Commissioning
4. **Commissioning Day:** 90 Credits / 2LT has 4 Years to complete Bachelor Degree
5. **Promotion to 1LT:** 1½ - 2 Years after being Promotion to 2LT
6. **Promotion to CPT:** 1½ - 2 Years after being Promotion to 1LT
  1. **REQUIREMENT:** (B.A. or B.S. Program has to be Complete for Promotion to CPT)
  2. **Be assigned to an 0-3 Position (or)**
  3. **Be assigned to Company Command position**

**IDAHO ARNG OFFICER STRENGTH MANAGEMENT FORCE:**

**State OSM**

**AMEDD Recruiter**

