



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS
WILLIAM F. NICHOLS CENTER
AUBURN UNIVERSITY, ALABAMA 36849-5512

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Ser 80/449
8 June 09

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Unit, Auburn University
To: Incoming Naval ROTC Freshman

Subj: NROTC FRESHMAN ORIENTATION INFORMATION

1. Welcome aboard! We are excited to have you join us this fall to start your NROTC experience. This letter is intended to provide you with preliminary information to assist in this transition. Please visit the Freshman Orientation website listed below and complete the Uniform Size Form, Direct Deposit Sign-up forms (scholarship recipients only), the Challenge Course waiver, and Personal Data Forms:

<http://www.auburn.edu/academic/rotc/nrotc/FreshmanO.htm>

Using the following postal address, please return the required forms, **along with a certified copy** of your birth certificate, prior to 20 July.

Commanding Officer
Naval ROTC Unit
W. F. Nichols Center
Auburn University, AL 36849

Additionally, prior to arriving for Freshman Orientation, become very familiar with the Freshman Orientation Knowledge Pack located on the website. Your knowledge is tested the first day of Freshman Orientation in a stressful environment, and it is in your best interest to have a clear understanding of this information prior to reporting.

2. The five-day NROTC Freshman Orientation is held on the Auburn University campus 11-15 August. Attendance at this Orientation is mandatory for all incoming NROTC midshipmen. Please report to the Haley Center, Thach Street entrance, no later than 0730 on Tuesday, 11 August. Be sure to arrive in appropriate Freshman Orientation attire and within grooming standards as prescribed in paragraph 5.

3. **Due to the rigorous schedule, it is imperative that you secure housing arrangements for yourself and any accompanying family members prior to Freshman Orientation.** The NROTC Unit **does not** provide housing. If you are living on-campus this fall, early check-in is available. Visit <https://fp.auburn.edu/housing/> or call The Office of Housing and Residence Life at (334)844-4580 for assistance.

4. Midshipmen are assessed a \$50 per year charge (payable to "TUFF" [The Unit Financial Fund]) collected upon arrival at Freshman Orientation. This fee finances Battalion formal and informal social functions, picnics, and other Unit activities. You will also need to bring enough

additional money to cover any financial needs arising during Freshman Orientation (i.e. food). No other NROTC fees or uniform deposits are required during the year.

5. Appropriate dress for both men and women is a white short-sleeved polo style shirt, belt, running shoes, and khaki slacks. Required grooming standards are listed in the Midshipman Regulations, Appendix B, Section 15.

6. The following items are required for Freshman Orientation:

- (2) White, short sleeve, collared, pull-over shirts
- (2) Khaki trousers
- (1) Belt
- (1) Running shoes
- (4) Pair white athletic socks
- (1) Swimsuit (One-piece suit for females)
- (1) Swimming goggles
- (1) Towel
- (1) Sunscreen

7. A Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) is scheduled for the morning of 14 August. All Midshipmen are required to pass the PFA twice each year. The PFA is comprised of the following events (average freshman scores are included in parentheses):

<u>Navy Option</u> (men/women)	<u>Marine Option</u> (men/women)
Push-ups (48/32)	Pull-ups/flexed arm hang (12/45 sec)
Sit-ups (69/69)	Sit-ups (69/69)
1 ½ mile run (10:45/12:45)	3 mile run (22:30/26:30)

We **strongly** encourage you to prepare yourself physically prior to your arrival. A sample work-out regimen is located on the Freshman Orientation website. Midshipmen not meeting the minimum standards during the semi-annual PFA given in November are required to attend remedial physical training sessions three times per week.

8. **ALL midshipmen SHALL REGISTER for NAVS 1010 (Introduction to Naval Science) and NAVS 1011 (Naval Science Laboratory). Additionally, all students in the NROTC Program must carry a minimum of 15 hours of course work per semester, but no more than 18.**

9. Midshipmen are not allowed to participate in the Challenge Course unless the Auburn University waiver form is signed and returned by a parent or guardian.

10. At Freshman Orientation check-in, you are assigned to one of two platoons. Throughout the week, each platoon is evaluated and then ranked based on academic performance, physical training, personnel inspections, close order drill competition, and motivation. At the conclusion of Freshman Orientation, the highest ranked platoon is awarded the highly coveted "Golden Boot Award."

11. In addition to the platoon competition, the Midshipman who completes Freshman Orientation with the highest combined score in the aforementioned categories is recognized as the *Honor Graduate*.
12. Orientation provides a time for you to work out many of the details of the transition to college life. Additionally, you meet the Staff and other students with whom you will share many future experiences. The Orientation officially concludes with a Battalion Picnic on Saturday, 15 August. Parents, family, and friends are encouraged to attend.
13. Officer Candidate Marcus Caldwell is your Freshman Orientation point of contact and can be reached by email at MEC0013@Auburn.edu, or by phone at (228) 343-1974. He is available to answer any question you may have regarding Freshman Orientation as well as moving to the Auburn area. If Officer Candidate Caldwell cannot be reached, please contact Lieutenant Aja via email at TSA0005@Auburn.edu, or call (334) 844-3432.
14. If you have decided not to join the Auburn NROTC Unit, please notify Lieutenant Aja as soon as possible. We look forward to having you in the Auburn NROTC Program.



D. W. Epperson
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer
Professor of Naval Science