

FAQ's for Optimized Intermediate Level Education

1. What year groups will attend resident courses until Optimized ILE begins?

A: Based on the specific number of seats available from November 2012-November 2013, the priority for resident seats will be afforded to officers within YG's 01-03 to provide equity for those year groups to get a resident experience. The majority of YG 94-03 officers without ILE will complete their professional military education through distributed learning. Officers from these year groups may also be eligible for constructive credit for the Advanced Operations Course (AOC) portion based on specific criteria.

2. How were YG 01-03 officers selected for resident seats?

A: Officers from these year groups were slated to seats based on availability due to a large population of officers that need ILE, the small number of existing seats and specific course dates required to fill.

3. Will not going to the resident course at Fort Leavenworth be a discriminator for the future?

A: The manner in which you complete your ILE will not be a discriminator. Currently, promotions are not tied to completion of ILE. What will matter in the future is whether an officer has completed their education or not. Officers that complete ILE, regardless of how, will still remain competitive for command selection and other centralized selection processes. Future promotion board guidance will further codify that education is not a discriminator and ORB entries will not discriminate between resident or distributed learning attendance. A standard entry of ILE Qualification will be used for the Optimized population.

4. Is ILE required for promotion?

A: Completion of ILE is not currently required for promotion but it is a slating consideration for Centralized Selection List (CSL) positions.

5. What is the criteria for constructive credit?

A: Constructive credit is granted to officers:

- who completed 18 months of key developmental (KD) time at the battalion/brigade level as a Major or
- who deployed for 12 months as a Major either in a battalion/brigade level KD position or in a Major's position at the assistant brigade/division/corps level.

FAQ's for Optimized Intermediate Level Education

6. What is the process to request constructive credit and can I still receive constructive credit even though I was not KD complete when the first list was approved?

A: Constructive credit has always been an option and will continue to be in the future. The DCS, G-3/5/7 approves all requests for constructive credit IAW AR 350-1. Assignment officers conducted an initial scrub of eligible officer files for the first iteration of constructive credit. There will be future file reviews for officers that later complete the criteria. Officers can also submit individual packets through their assignment officer that correlates their experience to specific training and required learning outcomes that are part of the ILE-AOC curriculum. Constructive credit is only good for the ILE-AOC portion, all officers who receive constructive credit must still complete the ILE-Common Core.

7. How do I enroll in Distributed Learning (DL)?

A: Officers can enroll in DL through their assignment officer. All officers enrolling in DL must still meet the appropriate height/weight screening, pass the Army Physical Fitness Test and have no other unfavorable actions taken against them IAW AR 350-1. These enrollment standards are the same as those attending the resident course. Officer must submit a 4187 through chain of command to their assignment officer (HRC) to get enrolled.

8. What happens if I fail to complete Distributed Learning (DL) in 18 months?

A: It is recommended that officers complete their ILE coursework within the allotted time. Any extensions to that timeline must be granted by the Command and General Staff College Department of Distance Education faculty on a case-by-case basis.

9. Is the ADSO the same for Distributed Learning as for Residency?

A: Army Regulation 350-100 states that officers who attend an Intermediate Level Education level schooling incur a two-year active duty service. DL is considered attending an ILE school. The ADSO for ILE is not based on number of days attending the course, it is only based on course completion regardless of venue.

FAQ's for Optimized Intermediate Level Education

10. What is the process to get a deferment for ILE?

A: The new Army Directive addresses this topic. Requests for deferment of attendance into a later academic year are highly discouraged but may be approved on a case by case basis. The VCSA is the approval authority for such requests. Deferral requests must be endorsed by the first General Officer in the chain of command and submitted to the HRC Leader Development Division. This deferral policy only applies to YG04 officers and later, not for YG94-03 officers.

11. Will an officer have a better chance to get a resident seat if they are stationed local to where a course is offered?

A: Officers will be slated to an ILE course through their assignment officer only. Every effort will be made to allow an officer to attend a local course but merely being stationed at a post that offers ILE does not guarantee an automatic seat.

12. If an officer was previously slated to attend a resident course within the next year, will that still be honored?

A: Having a reservation does not guarantee an officer an ILE seat. Due to the limited number of seats available and the large population of officers that still need ILE, only available officers from YGs 01-03 will be slated to resident seats until the start of Optimized ILE in January 2014. Prioritizing YG 01-03 officers into these available seats provides all cohorts the best balance for a resident ILE experience.

13. Can YG 94-00 officers ask for an exception to policy to attend a resident course in FY13?

A: Exceptions to policy are extremely rare and considered on a case-by-case basis only. Requests for ETP will be directed through the assignment officer to senior HRC leadership for approval.

14. If an officer is selected for a resident course, can they decline and complete ILE through DL?

A: Officers who desire to complete ILE by DL for compelling reasons may request a waiver. To request a waiver, the officer will submit a DA Form 4187 through the first general officer or equivalent in their chain of command for endorsement, the most recent Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) and height/weight screening if required to their assignment officer for Director, Officer Personnel Management Directorate (OPMD) decision.