

United States Army School of Music

Army Bandmaster Warrant Officer Basic Course STUDENT GUIDE



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Welcome to the Army Bandmaster Warrant Officer Basic Course!

Purpose.

The purpose of the Warrant Officer Basic Course (WOBC) is to certify warrant officers as technically and tactically competent to serve as warrant officers in a designated specialty. WOBC is the first major test a newly appointed officer must pass to continue serving in the Army as a warrant officer, as W01 appointments and award of a Warrant Officer MOS are contingent upon successfully completing WOBC.

WOBC prepares newly appointed officers for their first duty assignments and all subsequent assignments as W01s/CW2s. This course is proponent (Army School of Music) developed and administered to all warrant officers upon completion of Warrant Officer Candidate School. The course must be completed within two years of appointment or an exception to policy must be requested and approved, otherwise, forfeiture of warrant officer status takes place. The primary focus of WOBC is MOS specific, augmented with common-core subjects. The common-core subjects are designated by a Critical Task Site Selection Board and monitored by the Warrant Officer Career College.

Normally, Army Warrant Officer Bandmasters will depart WOBC to immediately assume command of an Army Band. Army Band WOBC will be considered a company-level pre-command Course of Instruction vice an Initial Military Training Course of Instruction and will be heavily focused on unit command issues and tasks. Many of the focus areas are taken from the Captains Career Course.

Scope.

- **Common Core** training including Cultural Awareness, Leadership Topics, Military Justice and Resiliency.
- **Army Band Administration** including budgeting, copyright, recent Army Band history and accomplishments, as well as “Music in Public Diplomacy”.
- **Plan and Produce a Musical Performance.** Partnering with a local theater group, this training will focus on establishing an Army-wide standard for planning, scripting, preparing, sound, light, and stage presence from a theatrical perspective.
- **Assess and Evaluate Army Musicians, Leaders, and Music Performance Teams** including significant training on the new Army Musician Performance Assessment (formally referred to as the “audition”), evaluating Warrant Officer Bandmaster applicants, and evaluating Music Performance Teams.
- **Concert and Ceremonial Band Conducting** will be conducted at the Army School of Music with an AIT Band.
- **Prepare for Command** will include lessons that support tasks an Army Band Commander may be expected to execute on Day 1.

Prerequisites.

Prerequisites for WOBC attendance are found in the ATRRS Course Catalog, AR 350-1 and TRADOC Regulation 350-10. By regulation, there are no other DL prerequisites.

1. Student In-Processing.

a. Reporting Procedures. On the report date, report to the School of Music Quarterdeck and sign in. If after normal duty hours, report to the Officer of the Day (OOD) at the School of Music Quarterdeck to sign in. If reporting after 2200, report to the OOD at Scott Hall. Proceed to your place of lodging (Shields Hall or Dexler) to prepare for the first day of class.

b. First Day Schedule Overview.

0730	Report to room 3B8 in Duty Uniform (ACU)
0800	In-processing
1030	Course Overview
1200	Lunch
1300	Initial Assessment
1400	Incoming Briefs from School Commandant and CSM

An APFT and weigh-in will be administered no later than Week 2 !

c. Arrival Routes. The School of Music is located on Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek - Ft. Story (JEBLC-FS) West, Virginia Beach, VA on Shore Drive (Rt. 60), off Route 13. Students arriving at Norfolk International Airport should secure taxi service to Shields Hall, JEBLC-FS West. (Approximately \$20 one way) You will be reimbursed for the cost when you file your travel settlement. The ASOM does not provide shuttle service to the airport.

d. Billeting. The general rule is to billet all officer students in Shields Hall BEQ. Students will attend the course in a TDY status and will be entitled to \$56.00 per day for lodging. Shields Hall is directly across the street to the east of the School of Music. Students are responsible for making their own billeting arrangements. Contact Central Reservations at 1-877-986-9258 to make a reservation. Rooms at Shields Hall are not guaranteed unless you have a reservation, so reservations must be made as early as possible. Government transportation is not available to students who may have to be billeted off the base. Drexler Hall is available for lodging but may require vehicular transportation.

e. Per Diem. You will not be issued a meal card, but Government Mess is available. Dining Facility rates are as follows: Breakfast: \$2.30, Lunch and Dinner: \$4.25. You will receive \$5 for incidentals per day.

Your orders must reflect Government Meal Rate is authorized or you will be required to get your orders amended as appropriate.

Galley hours are as follows:

	Monday to Friday	Saturday, Sunday & Holidays
Breakfast	6 to 10 a.m.	
*Brunch		8 to 11 a.m.
Lunch	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Dinner	2 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.	2 a.m. to 5:30 p.m..
*Note: Breakfast meal rate applies except on Holidays when only two meals are served.		

f. Privately Owned Vehicles.

a. You may bring a privately owned vehicle (POV) to the Army School of Music. Drivers of POVs will be required to present a valid military ID to gain access to JEBLC-FS. Additionally, have a copy of your TDY orders immediately available every time you come on base. You will not need to register your POV on JEBLC-FS. However, as always, you may be expected to present the following documents:

- (1) Valid State Driver’s License
- (2) Current Automobile registration.
- (3) Proof of liability insurance, at least equal to the Virginia minimum. The minimum liability coverage is as follows.

- o Bodily injury/death of one person \$25,000
- o Bodily injury/death of two or more persons \$50,000
- o Property damage \$20,000

(4) Proof of safety inspection if the state in which you POV is registered requires a safety inspection. If the state in which your POV is registered does not require a safety inspection, you are not required to obtain a Virginia Safety inspection.

(5) Motorcycle riders must show proof of attending a motorcycle safety foundation approved safety course before being issued a base sticker.

b. ASOM POV safety inspections will be conducted during in-processing and prior to all 4-day weekend training holidays or out-of-bounds passes.

c. Rental car drivers will be required to present a valid military ID card and the vehicle rental agreement to gain access to JEBLC-FS.

g. Uniform. All officers will bring the required uniforms in accordance with Army Regulation (AR) 670-1, Appendix C. AR 670-1, is attached as Annex A or is available online at

www.usapa.army.mil The uniform for the first day is the Army Combat Uniform (ACU). Throughout the course the ACU will be the duty uniform on Mondays through Thursdays. The seasonal Army Green or ASU uniform will be worn on Fridays; the PRT uniform is the IPFU. Ensure you bring all components of the IPFU, to include summer and winter uniforms. You will be required to bring either your Class “A”, Army Service Uniform or Dress Blue Service Uniform. Business casual civilian attire as well as casual attire will also be required for some training events.

NOTE: IAW Army School of Music Policy the following footwear is unauthorized for wear with the IPFU: light weight track/ road racing flats, racing spikes, toe shoes, or shoes that simulate barefoot running.

h. Physical Fitness: Warrant Officer Basic Course students will participate in supervised personal physical fitness programs daily, as a class. IAW AR 350-1 (Dec 09), Soldiers flagged or APFT failure or weight control will not be selected, scheduled, or attend institutional training. Soldiers are expected to arrive at the school in compliance with height and weight screening standards and body fat standards IAW AR 600-9.

A weigh-in will be administered no later than Week 2.

Soldiers who fail to meet height/weight and body fat standards will be re-screened, which will occur during the final week of the course. Soldiers failing that screening will receive a “Marginally Achieved Course Standards” on their DA Form 1059.

An APFT will be administered no later than Week 2.

One retest is allowed. It will be administered no earlier than seven days after the initial APFT failure. Soldiers who fail to meet the APFT standards will be considered an academic course graduate, but item 11C of their DA Form 1059 will be marked “Marginally Achieved Course Standards” and item 14 will be marked “Failed to Meet APFT Standards”.

i. AR 350-1 Profile Policy. In accordance with AR 350-1, paragraph 3-13:

“3–13. Physical profiles

a. Profiles. Soldiers with medical profiles (temporary or permanent) due to operational deployment will be permitted by their immediate commanders to attend PME within the guidelines of their profile. Soldiers must arrive at the aforementioned courses of instruction with a copy of their current profile and a memorandum signed by their commander stating the profile is a result of injuries sustained due to operational deployment.

b. Soldiers with temporary profiles that are not a result of operational deployment prevent full participation in a course will be removed from school attendance consideration by their immediate commander until the temporary profile is removed.

c. Soldiers with a permanent designator of “2” in the physical profile must include a copy of DA Form 3349 (Physical Profile) as part of the course application. They will be eligible to attend appropriate courses and train within the limits of their profile provided they can meet course graduation requirements. Soldiers with a permanent designator of “3” or “4” in their physical

profile must include a copy of DA Form 3349 and the results of their Military Medical Review Board (MMRB) as part of the course application.

d. Soldiers who have been before an MMRB, awarded medical limitations, and allowed to retain their occupational classification will be eligible to attend appropriate courses (to include PME) and train within the limits of their profile. Commandants will not disenroll nor deny enrollment of Soldiers into training based on physical profiles in accordance with MMRB rulings.

e. Soldiers receiving temporary or permanent physical profiles limitations after enrolling in resident training courses will be evaluated by school commandants and commanders for continued enrollment. Soldiers who:

(1) Have met, or will be able to meet graduation requirements, will continue to be trained within the limits of their profile.

(2) Are unable to meet graduation requirements will return to their unit or proceed to their PCS unit, and may, if eligible, be enrolled in a later course.”

j. Technical Expertise. This course will broaden and reinforce your technical knowledge about Army Band Leadership. Some of the topics that the school emphasizes are Entertainment Concepts, Advanced Production Techniques, Ceremonial and Advanced Concert Conducting, and Assessments (Army Music Proficiency Assessment) training.

k. Academic Evaluation Report: The Course Manager assesses the abilities of each officer through use of an evaluation worksheet or DA Form 1059. The three categories they use are demonstrated abilities, academics, and professionalism.

(1) Demonstrated Abilities. The Course Manager grades officers on written and verbal communications, leadership skills, group work, and research ability. Officers will conduct research, plan a music production, conduct a band in performance, and prepare and conduct briefings to inform and to persuade.

(2) Academics. The minimum standard to achieve is a GO on all assessments and practical exercises.

(3) Professionalism. As officers, WOBC students must set the appropriate example for others to follow. The Course Manager expects you to demonstrate a set of values consistent with the professional Army ethic.

l. Army Regulations. If possible, you should review FM 6-22 (Army Leadership), FM 3-0 (Operations), FM 7-0 (Training the Force) FM 7-1 (Battle Focused Training), AR 600-20 (Army Command Policy), AR 220-90 (Army Bands), AR 360-1 (Army Public Affairs Program), ATTP 1-19 (U.S. Army Bands), TC 12-45 (The Marching Band) and AR 27-10 (Military Justice) prior to your arrival.

m. DTS/GOVCC. This Program of Instruction will include “TDY In-place” trips. These trips are funded by the School of Music. All officer students will ensure their routing and personal information is up to date for both DTS and their GOVCCs. Reserve Component Officers will need DTS accounts and active GOVCCs. Losing units of Active Army Officers will

NOT release them from DTS and their GOVCC must remain active. Gaining units cannot pick them up until they arrive at new permanent duty station.

n. Appointments. Appointments take the student out of the classroom. HIV tests, annual dental exams, ID card renewal, etc., should be done before arriving at WOBC. When appointments are necessary, they will be scheduled through the Course NCOIC in order to minimize the amount of training missed.

o. Leave/TDY Enroute. Soldiers taking leave before or after course dates must hand-carry an approved DA 31 from their home station to the WOBC. Soldiers attending the course TDY enroute must also follow these guidelines.

p. Mailing Address:

WO1/CW2 Your Name
HQ, U.S. Army School of Music
Warrant Officer Basic Course
1420 Gator Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23459

2. Distance Learning Requirements. There are no DL requirements for the Warrant Officer Basic Course. However, in order to gain access to computer systems you must have a valid Information Assurance Training Certificate when you arrive.

- **Information Assurance (IA) Certificate.** This is a yearly requirement for all Active and Reserve Component Soldiers. This must be completed prior to attending WOBC and should not be more than one year old on the date of graduation from the course. You must have your IA Certificate on Day 1 of the course.

3. Graduation. The time of your graduation will be announced during the course. Graduations are normally conducted at 0800 on the last scheduled day of training. Uniform for graduation will be ASU. Spouses, family members, friends, and representatives from the parent unit are cordially invited to attend. When making travel arrangements, ensure return flights are scheduled no earlier than 1300 on the graduation date.

4. Policies.

a. Fraternization. Army command policy (AR 600-20) prohibits fraternization between WOBC students and AIT students. WOBC students are prohibited from having social relationships with members of the School of Music Staff and Faculty. The rule of thumb for interaction between WOBC students and AIT Soldiers and ASOM Cadre is only that conduct which is required in the performance of duties and training prescribed by the Commandant of the Army School of Music. All conduct between cadre and students will be professional and lead no one to question the conduct or integrity of cadre and students. Perception of misconduct will be addressed immediately by the chain of command who will counsel all involved Soldiers on the

perception. While attending WOBC, students are not authorized to perform for pay outside of the duty day (i.e. Pay gigs at the beach, etc). It is the responsibility of each Officer to remember that relationships between Soldiers of different rank that involve, or give the appearance of, partiality, preferential treatment, or the improper use of rank or position for personal gain, are prejudicial to good order, discipline, and high unit morale.

b. Pass/Leave Policy. If you would like to travel outside of a 100 mile radius of the ASOM during your off-duty time, you will be required to fill out a pass request form. Leave/pass requests that include duty time will not be granted except for emergencies. Emergencies will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

c. Smoking Policy. Smoking is permitted only in designated areas at the ASOM and the barracks. After duty hours, there is no smoking on the School of Music grounds. Smokers are expected to be back in class on time after breaks. All WOBC students are prohibited from using tobacco products where AIT Soldiers are likely to observe use. (For example, near training areas or billeting.)

d. Conduct. Each student will maintain high personal and professional standards. Strict adherence to standards as prescribed in existing Army Regulations will be constantly enforced. ACU-pattern or Commercial black, logo-free backpacks, gym bags or like items may be worn over the shoulder while in uniform. They may not be worn while in formation.

e. Sexual Harassment/Equal Opportunity.

(1) Sexual harassment or unfair treatment of soldiers will not be tolerated in any form within this command. This includes any offensive behavior that emphasizes sexuality over a person's role as a soldier/student/worker. Acts prohibited by this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Verbal abuse (sexually degrading language)
- (b) Visual abuse (obscene gestures)
- (c) Requests or demands for sexual contact
- (d) Offers of benefits or privileges for sexual contact
- (e) Physical abuse (nonconsenting touch or grab)

(2) All leaders are responsible for ensuring that complaints of sexual harassment and sexual blackmail are addressed and resolved immediately and completely.

(3) The entire chain of command must be aware that sexual harassment is not merely an EO or environmental problem. It is punishable under many articles of the UCMJ.

(4) Equal opportunity and fair treatment will be provided to all soldiers, civilian employees, and their families without regard to race, color, religion, gender, or national origin. This policy applies:

- (a) Both on and off post, during duty and non-duty hours
- (b) To working, living and recreational environments

(5) Soldiers will not be accessed, classified, trained, assigned, promoted, or otherwise managed on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

(6) Leaders at all levels are responsible for ensuring that EO complaints are addressed and resolved immediately and completely utilizing both the chain of command and appointed Equal Opportunity Representatives.

5. Contact Information.

Army Band WOBC
DSN 253-5671
COM (757) 462-5671

Officer of the Day (1530-0700 hours)
401-378-3756

Any Questions concerning these policies should be addressed to CW5 John S. Fraser at john.fraser@us.army.mil or SFC Shelby Barber at shelby.w.barber@us.army.mil.



ANNEX A

Appendix C Officer Uniform Requirements

C-1. General

Officers are responsible for procuring and maintaining uniforms appropriate to their assigned duties. Officers will procure and maintain sufficient quantities of personal items necessary to ensure acceptable standards of personal hygiene and appearance. It is mandatory that all officers dress in accordance with their position as an officer of the United States Army, and in accordance with the traditions and customs of the service.

C-2. List of major components

The major items of uniform clothing that are normally prescribed by commanders, with the minimum quantities that all officers should have in their possession, are shown in table C-1 (see note 1).

Table C-1
List of major components

Item ¹	Male Minimum No.	Female Minimum No.
Coat, black, all weather	1	1
Uniform, Army green	1	1 ²
Uniform, Army blue ^{3, 6}	1	1
Uniform, Army green maternity ⁴	NA	2
Uniform, battle dress ⁵	4	4
Coat, cold weather, woodland pattern, camouflage (field jacket)	1	1
Uniform, improved physical fitness		
SS T-shirt	2	2
LS T-shirt	1	1
Trunks	2	2
Jacket	1	1
Pants	1	1

Notes:

¹ Commanders may prescribe items not on this list for the performance of duties.

² Three-piece ensemble (coat, skirt, and slacks).

³ The Army blue uniform is required for all officers on extended active duty for periods of 6 months or more.

⁴ As required by AR 600-8-24 and chapter 17, AR 670-1.

⁵ Officers will have four utility uniforms—two temperate and two hot-weather uniforms.

⁶ Additional quantities are authorized as organizational issue by CTA 50-900 when required by officers for performance of official duties while assigned to units with missions that include band formations, reviews, parades, ceremonial events, and other similar events.

C-3. Accessories

Officers also are responsible for procuring and maintaining adequate quantities of appropriate accessories, insignia, footwear, undergarments, headgear, and gloves for use with the above uniforms.

ANNEX B

To complete Information Assurance (IA) Training follow these steps:

1. Go to <https://ia.signal.army.mil/>
2. Click the Information Assurance Awareness icon in the middle of the screen.
3. Complete the training and print the certificate.