

**Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS)  
Request for Information for Sept. 13-14 Sep 2016 Meeting  
RFI #4**

**IBOLC Curriculum Standards.**

**General.** The Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course (IBOLC) is a 17 week course, 11 weeks of which are conducted in a field environment or on a range. Course graduation requirements are outlined below.

**Graduation Requirements.** Students must earn a minimum of 700 points out of a possible 1,000 to graduate. These points are earned during the course in five areas:

- Academics (240 Points).
- Leadership (280 Points).
- Communications (225 Points).
- Physical Fitness and Endurance (170 Points).
- Tactical and Technical Competence (85 Points).

**Critical Requirements:** In addition to their point total, students must pass 9 Critical Requirements in order to graduate from the course:

- Comprehensive Final Exam.
- Tactical Leadership Assessment.
- Communicating a Tactical Plan.
- Final Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT).
- 5 Mile Run.
- 12 Mile Foot March.
- High Physical Demand Tasks (Evaluated as a 'go/no-go (pass/fail) event').
- Land Navigation.
- Rifle Marksmanship.

**Academic Exams (240 Points).** Students must pass a total of 4 academic exams to include a comprehensive final exam covering a variety of topics (**Critical Requirement**):

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| • Doctrine.                         | • Unit Supply and maintenance.          |
| • Operational terms and graphics.   | • Small unit operations.                |
| • Weapons capabilities.             | • Troop leading procedures.             |
| • Tactical concepts.                | • Defensive operations.                 |
| • Training management.              | • Urban Operations.                     |
| • Machine gun theory.               | • Combined Arms Maneuver.               |
| • Formations and order of movement. | • Equipment and vehicle identification. |
| • Range cards.                      |   |

**Leadership (180 Points).**

- Leader Performance Assessment (**Critical Requirement**). Students are assessed on leadership in graded leadership positions throughout the course, to include leadership positions in a tactical environment.
- Leader Attribute Assessment. Students are will be evaluated on Character, Presence, and Intellect as defined in Army Doctrine Reference Publication 6-22.

### **Communications (225 Points)**

- Writing Program. Students will be evaluated on 3 mandatory written assignments as well as other writing requirements throughout the course.
- Communicating a Tactical Plan (**Critical Requirement**). Students will be evaluated on their ability to prepare and brief an Operations Order during the course.

### **Physical Fitness and Endurance (170 Points)**

- Army Physical Fitness Test (**Critical Requirement**). Students must pass the Army Physical Fitness test for their age and gender.
- 5 Mile Run (**Critical Requirement**). Students must complete a 5 mile run in 40 minutes.
- 12 Mile Foot March (**Critical Requirement**). Students must complete a 12 mile foot march in 3 hours carrying the Infantry School proscribed packing list.
- High Physical Demand Tasks (**Critical Requirement**).
  - Move over a 2 meter wall.
  - Move under direct fire.
  - Employ hand grenades.
  - Drag a casualty to safety.
  - Remove a casualty from a vehicle.
  - Prepare a 2 Soldier fighting position.
- Height and Weight Standards. Officers must meet height and weight standards in accordance with Army Regulation 600-9.

### **Tactical and Technical Competence (85 Points)**

- Marksmanship (**Critical Requirement**). Students must qualify (23/40 targets) on the M4 carbine with both iron sites and optics. Students must also demonstrate the fundamentals of marksmanship and safety, and be able to identify targets at various ranges, select the appropriate firing position, correct weapons malfunctions, change magazines, and zero platoon weapons systems.
- Land Navigation (**Critical Requirement**). Students must navigate to and record 4 out of 5 points and return to a starting point in under five hours under day and night conditions.



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INFORMATION PAPER

1. Purpose. The purpose of this paper is to articulate the nature of the curriculum at the Marine Corps' Infantry Officer Course (IOC) and explain the school's level of difficulty, standards, or methodologies.

2. Key Points.

- The IOC program of instruction (POI) is standards and performance-based in response to both the timeless and evolving requirements of the MAGTF.
- The leading factor for all students (male and female) dropping out of IOC is falling out of more than one hike during the POI.
- The POI's hikes are not about individual physical performance; rather cultivating the ability to lead Marines under load.
- The IOC hike program formalized in 2010 was not to inflate standards, but to respond to the operational demands of Marine infantry battalions deployed to Afghanistan and countries with similar terrain. The canals and farmland in and around the Helmand River in Afghanistan required increased foot movements under load, across rugged terrain, and in extreme temperatures.
- The hike weights, times, and distances were developed in line with TECOM-directed standards in 2015. The result was six tactical movements under load, of which a student must successfully complete five. The distances range from 7.2 to 9.3 miles with weights ranging from 95lbs to 150lbs.
- IOC also requires successful completion of MOS specific physical standards, six field exercises totaling 40 days, academic performance, and leadership performance while serving in billets ranging from the Fire Team to Company Commander.
- Unlike the Army's Infantry Officer Leader Basic Course (IBLOC), there is not follow-on school after IOC before Marine Officers become Platoon Commanders in the operating force. To meet the requirements and dynamic nature of the Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF), IOC trains all infantry officers to the highest common denominator of Marine Corps infantry.

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