



# 7<sup>TH</sup> ARMY NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY



3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

## Quarterly Newsletter

Fiscal Year 2024



**“Leaders Training Leaders”**



## Commandant's Corner

We are excited to launch the quarterly NCO Academy Newsletter as a line of communication to highlight our students and cadre. I am excited and humbled to serve as the 36th Commandant of this prestigious and history-laden Institution. Leading this historic organization is a privilege and a constant reminder of why I continue to serve. The mission of this NCO Academy has remained the same for almost 75 years: return well-trained, adaptable leaders to their organizations. We understand our immense responsibility to shape the NCO Corps' future and create interoperability with our international partners in Europe and Africa. For this critical mission, we have a team of dedicated professional Noncommissioned Officers working day in and day out to achieve this mission.

During the third quarter of FY24, the Academy US and Malawian military personnel collaborated to revise the Malawian NCO curriculum, focusing on leadership and logistics for Platoon Sergeants. SFC Thompson and SSG Nevins received the 2024 Volunteer Recognition Service award for dedicating over 1,500 hours to volunteering in Bavaria, strengthening the community, and promoting our values. SFC McElfresh excelled while instructing at the Air Force Leadership School. As we build on the success of this inaugural exchange program, we look forward to future iterations.



## Deputy's Chat

Leaders, as your Soldiers Enter to Train!!! We will assist you in every possible way to ensure they return to your units ready to face leadership challenges. We have some phenomenal instructors who are here to ensure their success. We will assist students and the leadership at the unit level without compromising the standards. When students arrive, we expect 100% of their attention throughout the course.

Leaders must understand the importance of limiting outside distractions. We will ensure that standards and discipline are exercised at all costs. In return, we will ensure that your Soldiers return with the knowledge and education necessary to strengthen the NCO Corps.

There are two things only the Soldier can affect: EFFORT and ATTITUDE. It is incumbent on you as leaders to ensure Soldiers understand this! Be proactive to prepare your Soldiers for BLC. They are entering their first level of PME, and it is vitally important that they understand how it will impact the overall organization.



## Chief of Training

The 7th Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy is a bastion of standards and discipline. As we transition to the fourth quarter after a well-deserved block leave, I want to underscore the pivotal role of the BLC program. The success of our students, particularly when they arrive fully prepared at BLC, is a significant achievement and a testament to our collective efforts. However, we still encounter students arriving late to the first formation, missing packing list items, and proper documentation for enrollment. Your role in preparing these students is indispensable, and I urge you to continue your efforts. Your dedication to the BLC program is crucial to our mission and greatly appreciated.

Furthermore, many students must prepare for the ACFT, height and weight screening such and PRT. Successful outcomes are often seen in units with a BLC program that prepares them comprehensively for the course. At the start of every cycle, we aim to see all 240 students graduate. Having Soldiers prepared before BLC will pave the way for their success, and we are committed to supporting them in every step of their journey.



## Drop Reason & Numbers

REASON	TOTAL
ACFT	1
HT&WT	8
ACADEMIC	8
DISCIPLINARY	9





## Honor Roll-up

### 05-24

Distinguished Honor Graduate  
Honor Graduate  
Distinguished Leadership Graduate  
Commandant's Writing Award  
Iron Soldier Male  
Iron Soldier Female

SGT Berg, Ryan  
SPC Kantor, Daniel  
SGT Richardson, Christina  
SPC Thomas, Katherine  
SGT Parkerson, Cole  
SGT Pina, Olga

1ST CAB, 1ID  
1-91 CAV, 173RD  
FAS SQN, 2CR  
54TH BEB, 173RD  
3RD BCT, 101ST  
7TH BEB, 21 TSC

### 06-24

Distinguished Honor Graduate  
Honor Graduate  
Distinguished Leadership Graduate  
Commandant's Writing Award  
Iron Soldier Male  
Iron Soldier Female

SGT Rivera, Alma  
SGT Zibold, Zachary  
SPC Estep, Alissa  
SPC Martinez, Jonathan  
SGT Boothe, Chandler  
SGT Wells, Jordan

FSC, 12TH CAB  
66TH MI BDE  
66TH MI BDE  
3RD BCT, 101ST  
1ST SQN, 2CR  
54TH BEB, 173RD

### 07-24

Distinguished Honor Graduate  
Honor Graduate  
Distinguished Leadership Graduate  
Commandant's Writing Award  
Iron Soldier Male  
Iron Soldier Female

SPC Davis, Joseph  
SGT Sims, Joshua  
SGT Vegazonzalez, Gensis  
SPC Zanelli, Ashley  
SPC Smith, Jahquon  
SGT Bondar, Kristen

1-4 INF, 7TH ATC  
66TH MI BDE  
66TH MI BDE  
1ST BN, 10TH SFG  
A Co. LRMC  
4TH SQN, 2CR

# Class Stats

Class	Enrolled	Graduated	CMDT's list
05-24	240	229	46
06-24	232	220	45
07-24	237	218	46



# Upcoming Dates

Class	Report Date	Graduation
08-24	08JUL24	02AUG24
09-24	05AUG24	30AUG24
10-24	03SEP24	27SEP24



## NCOA Story

SFC Sonia McElfresh from the 7th Army NCO Academy traveled to Ramstein Airmen Leadership School to instruct the future leaders of the Air Force. This was the first Army and Airmen Leadership Schools (ALS) across the Air Force. The class started on April 15th, 2024, but SFC McElfresh was there a week before to prepare for the cycle, and it ended on May 16th, 2024. On May 16th, 2024, ALS held its graduation with 53 graduates. She had two students receive awards. Senior Airmen (SrA) Agostinelli received the highest award in any Performance Military Education in the Air Force, the John Levitow Award and SrA Huggins won both the Academic Achievement and Distinguished Graduate award. SFC McElfresh and SSgt Flores started with 10 students and graduated 10 students. Prior to graduation, SFC McElfresh was awarded the Air and Space Achievement Medal for her time at the Ramstein Airmen Leadership School.



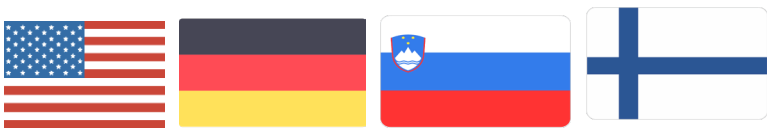
## IOQ Remarks

We recognized SSG Johnny Oliva of Bravo Company for winning Instructor of the Quarter honors at the 07-24 graduation. SSG Oliva stood out among his peers, demonstrating exceptional professionalism and demanding the highest standards from his students. His ability to coach, teach, train, and mentor his platoon effectively earned him the award. As recognition of his achievement, SSG Oliva received an Army Achievement Medal and a \$100 gift certificate from AAFES. He will now compete for Instructor of the Year.



## SGT Morales

The Sergeant Morales Club was sparked by its members' commitment and community service. SSG Folkes, a Platoon Sergeant, transitioned to the 7th Army NCO Academy (NCOA) Alpha company and found a board featuring SFC Jones, a Non-Commissioned Officer, sparking interest. The journey as a Small Group Leader was challenging, but motivated by 1SG Sharpe and 1SG Waelty, the former Deputy Commandant, and the support of the academy leadership. SSG Folkes completed the mock boards and Battalion and Brigade level boards. SSG Folkes credits her success to a supportive family and chain of command. SSG Folkes continues influencing others to strive for excellence, especially as Non-Commissioned Officers, emphasizing the importance of starting somewhere.



## International Students

**05-24**

**SLOVENIA**

LCPL Preradociv, Bozic  
LCPL Bozic, Alen

**06-24**

**SLOVENIA**

LCPL Rakusa, Rok  
LCPL Begus, Matic

**07-24**

**SLOVENIA**

LCPL Kiric, Lino  
LCPL Koman, Bor

**FINLAND**

SSG Makinen, visa





## Become an Instructor

Join the 7th Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy team by submitting your completed packet to the Chief of Training and Deputy Commandant. Once your packet has been reviewed, the NCOA team will set up a date and time to conduct a follow-on interview to ensure that you would make a great member of the team.



## Instructor Packet

Latest Soldier Talent Profile (STP)

Recent ACFT scorecard

Recent 5500/01

Last 3 NCOERs



## Requirements

Possesses mature judgement, military bearing and initiative

Have 18 months remaining in Germany

Meets AR 600-9 Standards

Be able to pass the ACFT

Holds the ranks of SSG – SFC

Be able to pass a background check

## Promotion and Schools

90% Promotion rate from Staff Sergeant to Sergeant First Class as a Small Group Leader

Common Faculty Development – Instructor Course (CFD-IC)

Receive SQI – 8

Instructor Observation Course

Instructor Writer Course

Three levels of Army Instructor Badges (Basic, Senior, and Master)





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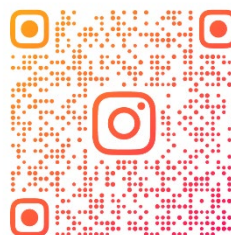
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## NCO Academy Website

<https://www.7atc.army.mil/NCOA/>

## Follow us on Social Media



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