



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



4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

## Quarterly Newsletter

Fiscal Year 2024



**"Leaders Training Leaders"**





## Commandant's Corner

The 7th Army NCO Academy continues to excel in training and developing highly skilled noncommissioned officers. This commitment to excellence is evident in the Academy's dedication to providing top-tier training and active participation in international engagements. During the 4th quarter, Soldiers from the Academy shared expertise with the Malawi Defense Force and the Armenian Armed Forces, strengthening partnerships and enhancing interoperability among our allies. Additionally, the Academy focused on internal improvements, such as faculty development, the guest instructor program with ARSOF, and a new class writing project each cycle to encourage BLC students to think critically and improve communication skills.

As a critical component of Army leadership development, the NCOA recently conducted an AEAS evaluation to ensure our training programs align with Army objectives and foster innovation. By achieving an AEAS score of 96%, we strengthen the Army's readiness and equip leaders to adapt to a changing environment.

The NCO Academy's dedication to excellence and adaptability ensures it remains a leader in NCO development, producing technically and tactically proficient leaders capable of meeting future challenges.



## Deputy's Chat

We are strengthening our partnership with the Unteroffizierschule des Heeres (Bundeswehr) from Delitzsch, Germany. We continue to host them and send twenty of our students to Delitzsch on a rotational basis. This partnership provides an excellent opportunity for students to learn and share their experiences while exercising interoperability. It also offers a unique opportunity for Soldiers to earn the German Army Proficiency Badge or the Schützenschnur. Additionally, we are focusing on our community outreach partnerships with the USO and DECA, which allows students to give back to their communities and teaches them selfless service, one of the seven Army Values. We aim to develop leaders of character who are creative, critical thinkers capable of solving complex problems in the operational environment. We will also be conducting the 75th Anniversary and 7th NCOA graduation ceremonies. Lastly, we have the holidays coming up, so please, everyone, have safe holidays and travels.



# Chief of Training

First, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the cadre and staff for their unwavering support and dedication throughout another successful year as we close out fiscal year 2024. I also extend my thanks to all the supporting agencies and organizations across Europe that have been instrumental in the success of the 7th Army NCO Academy.

This past year, we graduated 2,282 students, and our goal for FY25 is 2,400. To achieve this, Soldiers need to be well-prepared, as this is their first Professional Military Education experience. Most students arrive here without knowing what to expect. However, if Soldiers prepare by ensuring all the required paperwork is complete, conducting an ACFT and height & weight assessments, rehearsing PRT and D&C, and understanding the importance of standards and discipline, they will be successful. I aim to graduate every Soldier who walks through our arches on day zero!

It is with regret that I inform everyone that class 02-25 will be my last cycle, as I will be transitioning from 23 years of military service. I want to express my gratitude to CSM Holmes and CSM Brooks for all the opportunities they provided me during my three-year tenure at the Academy. It has been an honor to spend my final tour of duty strengthening our NCO Corps.

Lastly, I would like to introduce SFC Daniel Pureco, who has served in nearly every position here at the Academy and will soon take on the role of Chief of Training. I have full confidence that he will make the Academy even better than I left it.

DEPART TO LEAD!

## Drop Reason & Numbers

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



## BLC Graduates

FY24 TOTAL
2,282





## Honor Roll-up

### 08-24

Distinguished Honor Graduate	SGT Ruiz, Samantha	4ID
Honor Graduate	SGT Woods, Andrew	66TH MI BDE
Distinguished Leadership Graduate	SPC Huaman, William	2CR
Commandant's Writing Award	SPC Morada, Eugene	4ID
Iron Soldier Male	SPC Pierce, Malik	USAEUR-AF
Iron Soldier Female	SPC Bradshaw, Erica-Janelle	JMTG-U

### 09-24

Distinguished Honor Graduate	SGT Knight, Morgan	30TH MED BDE
Honor Graduate	SPC Thompson, Jordan	16TH SUST BDE
Distinguished Leadership Graduate	SPC Morrison, Kaleb	2CR
Commandant's Writing Award	SPC McBride, Svitlana	66TH MI BDE
Iron Soldier Male	SPC Noe, Mason	2CR
Iron Soldier Female	CPL Kim, Eunice	4ID

### 10-24

Distinguished Honor Graduate	SPC Melo, Alani	EUCOM
Honor Graduate	SPC Chesser Taylor	173RD
Distinguished Leadership Graduate	SPC Sami, Samantha	10TH SFG
Commandant's Writing Award	SPC Medina, Christopher	56TH AR
Iron Soldier Male	SGT Peterson, Derek	2CR
Iron Soldier Female	SPC Melo, Alani	EUCOM

# Class Stats

Class	Enrolled	Graduated	CMDT's list
08-24	237	227	46
09-24	230	228	45
10-24	237	219	47



# Upcoming Dates

Class	Report Date	Graduation
02-25	12NOV24	06DEC24
03-25	06JAN25	31JAN25
04-25	11FEB25	07MAR25





## NCOA Story

SSG Tyler R. Chenault shared, "I have always wanted the prestigious opportunity to play for the All-Army softball team and represent the Army against the other armed forces. It's a chance to bond with fellow service members from various units and backgrounds, fostering camaraderie and a sense of unity through a shared love of softball. This experience would offer a unique break from the everyday responsibilities of military life, providing a way to stay physically fit, mentally sharp, and motivated through healthy competition. Being part of the team can elevate a Soldier's military career by highlighting their leadership, discipline, and ability to perform under pressure; qualities that are directly transferable to their primary duties. My passion for softball has given me a platform to continue playing the sport I love while also representing the pride and honor of serving my country."



## IOO Remarks



SSG Shkendra L. Hightower, recently named Instructor of the Quarter, stands out for her dedication to facilitating and inspiring Soldiers. Her passion for instruction is clear as she reflects on her journey: "I became a facilitator because I enjoy teaching and helping Soldiers. My motivation to compete for Instructor of the Cycle and Instructor of the Quarter came primarily from observing the accomplishments of previous recipients and the positive impact that they had on the students and the Academy. It made me proud to be part of the 7th Army NCO Academy and to contribute to the development of students across USAREUR-AF. My focus in the classroom is on creating an engaging and supportive environment. I have also learned to balance my own growth with my teaching role, finding time for college courses all while still being prepared to teach lessons. This experience has taught me the value of effective time management."



## SGT Morales

SSG David J. Galkin's journey in the Army has been guided by his commitment to leadership and excellence, which has inspired him to seek membership in the Sergeant Morales Club. For SSG Galkin, joining the club represents more than just a career milestone, it is an opportunity to grow as a leader and to make a lasting impact on those around him. SSG Galkin explained, "Joining the Sergeant Morales Club represents an opportunity to challenge and enhance my leadership skills while reaffirming my commitment to excellence within the Army. Through my experiences, I have come to understand the importance of having strong role models who develop those around them by embodying the Non-Commissioned Officer core tenets of 'Be, Know, Do.' My desire to join the Club comes from wanting to be surrounded by like-minded individuals dedicated to fostering a culture of excellence among leaders and Soldiers."

Additionally, SSG Galkin sees the Sergeant Morales Club as a way to give back to his community and fellow Soldiers through mentorship and outreach. "I have a passion for giving back, and I believe the Club provides a platform to further this passion. My aspiration to join is rooted in a deep commitment to personal growth, professional excellence, and a desire to inspire others as we collectively uphold the standards of our institution."



## International Students

08-24

No Attendance

09-24

No Attendance

10-24

SLOVENIA

LCPL Svetina, Matic

CPL Fekonja, Matic





## Staff Promotions

Promotions in the Army are more than just a recognition of past accomplishments; they are a reflection of the trust and confidence the organization places in a Soldier's ability to take on greater responsibility. With each rank comes new challenges and the opportunity to lead and mentor others, ensuring the continued success of the unit and the Army as a whole. Recently, Sgt. Albano was promoted to Staff Sgt., a role that requires increased leadership and the ability to manage and develop junior Soldiers. Additionally, both Staff Sgt. Garza and Staff Sgt. Nevins were promoted to Sgt. First Class, stepping into positions where they will not only guide their squads but also help shape future leaders. Their promotions are a testament to their hard work, dedication, and the leadership qualities they have demonstrated throughout their careers.

### SSG Albano



### SFC Garza



### SFC Nevins







## Become an Instructor

Join the 7th Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy team by submitting your completed packet to the point of contact listed below. 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

[usarmy.grafenwoehr.7atc.list.jmtc-ncoa--academy-1sgs@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.grafenwoehr.7atc.list.jmtc-ncoa--academy-1sgs@army.mil)

## Promotion and Schools

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

Common Faculty Development – Instructor Course (CFD-C)

Receive SQI – 8

Instructor Observation Course

Instructor Writer Course

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



## Contact Us

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## NCO Academy Website

[NCOA \(army.mil\)](https://army.mil/ncoa)

## NCO Academy Packing List

[NCOA Packing List.pdf \(army.mil\)](https://army.mil/ncoa/packing-list)

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