



## OCS FAQ's

### USCG Prior Enlisted coming to OCS

*1Q. I don't have dependents. What am I entitled to with respect to travel to OCS?*

1A. Members without dependents will travel to OCS on PCS travel orders. These members are authorized PCS entitlements dependent on mode of travel. We highly recommend that members in this situation drive to OCS, for the reason that upon graduation from OCS you are only entitled to travel from the CG Academy, New London, CT to your new duty station and will be reimbursed for travel accordingly. Members are entitled to utilize other forms of transportation, however, members will be reimbursed in whatever way that is most advantageous to the government.

*2Q. I have dependents. What am I entitled to with respect to travel to OCS?*

2A. Members with dependents will be issued TDY travel orders to OCS from their permanent duty station. Members will return to their PDS upon completion of OCS and complete PCS travel from their PDS to their new duty station as an officer.

*3Q. I have dependents and have been issued TDY orders to OCS. Can I have my orders amended to PCS travel orders?*

3A. We highly encourage members with dependents to travel to OCS on their original TDY orders in order to be granted the correct entitlements upon graduation from OCS and promotion to officer. Remember, entitlements will change at that point.

*4Q. Am I entitled to move my dependents and/or HHG's prior to reporting to OCS?*

4A. No. Dependents are not entitled a PCS move until member has successfully completed OCS. Upon graduation from OCS, dependents will be entitled to a PCS move from members PDS to new duty station. Members who are PCS'd to OCS are entitled to place HHG's in temporary storage. Members who are TDY to OCS are not entitled to move HHG's.

*5Q. I have been issued PCS orders to OCS. Am I entitled to DLA?*

5A. No. You will be entitled to DLA at the officer rate upon graduation from OCS when you PCS to your new PDS.

*6Q. Can I use my government travel card for travel to OCS?*

6A. No. In accordance with COMDINST 4600.14A regarding the travel card program, the card should be used for all TAD/TDY travel not exceeding 21 days. OCS is 17 weeks, approximately 119 days. Your unit should advance you monies for travel to OCS (i.e. per diem, malt, etc).

## Civilians coming to OCS

*7Q. What is the recommended method of travel for civilians reporting to OCS?*

7A. It is recommended that civilians drive their personally owned vehicle (POV) to OCS. Upon graduation from OCS, civilians will only be authorized travel entitlements (reimbursement for costs associated with travel) from CG Academy, New London, CT to the new permanent duty station (PDS). By driving to OCS, the member is able to travel to their home prior to reporting to the new PDS.

*8Q. What expenses will be reimbursed for travel to OCS?*

8A. You will be reimbursed a set dollar amount for every day of authorized travel, which varies depending on the mode chosen, mileage and toll-booth charges if a POV is used for travel, or airfare at the government procured rate if air travel is the chosen method. Your recruiter will set up air travel for you. Speak to him or her for additional information.

*9Q. What should I do with my household goods (HHG's)?*

9A. You have the option to place your HHG's into temporary storage for the duration of OCS. Likewise, you may leave your HHG's at your home of record and they will be moved upon completion of OCS. Your recruiter will help you arrange storage and for government contracted movers to pack and ship your HHG's. Speak to him or her for additional information.

*10Q. Do I get any special monetary allowances while in OCS?*

10A. People with dependents will be authorized a Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) based on where your dependents reside while you are at OCS. People without dependents will not receive an allowance for housing since you do not have any dependents that depend on you to pay rent/mortgage/etc. People with dependents are also entitled to a Family Separation Allowance (FSA), which is to compensate for the additional expenses incurred because of a family separation. The course must be 30 days or more to receive FSA, so DCO's will not be authorized this allowance.

*11Q. In case some of my information gets lost between the recruiter and OCS, what do I need to bring copies of?*

11A. Enlistment/reenlistment documentation (DD-4); copy of Officer Candidate School Agreement (CG-3211 or CG-3211A, as applicable); copy of Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty (DD Form 214), if applicable; Request for Conditional Release (DD Form 368) or a Letter of Separation/Discharge from the Reserves (if applicable); certified copies of documentary evidence of dependents (marriage certificate, birth certificates, dependent social security cards), if applicable; Chronological Record of

Service (CG-4057), if applicable; original orders; copy of Social Security Card; copy of Drivers License; copy of Birth Certificate; voided check or Direct Deposit Form (SF 1199A).

*12Q. I am prior enlisted. What entitles me to O-1E pay upon graduation?*

12A. A commissioned officer in pay grade O-1, O-2, or O-3, is entitled to the special rate of pay for O-1E, O-2E, or O-3E, if the officer has had over four years of active service as a Warrant Officer or an enlisted member (combination of the two may be used). These special rates of pay are payable to a commissioned officer who has earned 1,460 retirement points while in an enlisted or Warrant Officer status. (COMDINST M7220.29A Chapter 2.A.1.j.)