The Graduate March Back is only open to USMA Graduates!

You should not participate in the Graduate March Back if you are not physically fit. If you are out of shape or if you have medical concerns do not register for this event!

Concept of Operation  Graduates can march back from Camp Buckner or the Ski Slope.

Camp Buckner Marchers  – There is a limited number of slots. Total Distance is approximately 12 Miles; 10 miles from Camp Buckner to the Ski Slope and 2 miles from the Ski Slope to the Superintendent’s Quarters. Graduates march side-by-side with the New Cadets from Camp Buckner to the Ski Slope. The route will be posted in Herbert Hall at registration. For the last two miles of the march, Graduates march in formation behind all the New Cadet Companies. There are two options for lodging on Sunday night, 7 August.

1. Lodging at Camp Buckner – Graduates sleep in Barth Hall. We will provide an Army cot and a sleeping bag. You must sign-up to stay at Barth Hall when you register online. Slots are limited!
2. Lodging on your own – Graduates assemble at Buffalo Soldier Field early Monday morning, 8 August and bus to Camp Buckner. Note, if you choose this option you can still attend the events on Sunday night at Camp Buckner.

Ski Slope Marchers  – No limit on the number of Grads. You will join the Camp Buckner marchers and New Cadets at the Ski Slope for the last two miles of the march. Graduates march in formation behind all the New Cadet Companies from the Ski Slope to the Superintendent’s Quarters.

Cost

Graduates - $250 (Camp Buckner Marchers) or $236 (Ski Slope Marchers), which covers the following:

- Grad March Back Uniform – Polo shirt, hat, and lanyard with name tag
- Old Grad T-shirt (Suggested attire for Sunday Evening)
- Duffle bag (for your change of clothes after the march)
- Water Bottle (to use during the march)
- Meals and Snacks (see meals and snacks below)
- Commemorative Pin
- Grad March Back DVD (Mailed after the event)

Click here to see the Issue Items

Graduates, Optional Events on Sunday night:

- Attend the BBQ Dinner and return to Herbert Hall - $19
- Attend the BBQ Dinner and remain overnight in Barth Hall (Only for grads marching from Camp Buckner Marchers, slots are limited) - $27

Family Members and Guests Package - $59, which covers the following:

- BBQ Dinner (Sunday) at Camp Buckner
- Luncheon (Monday) at Ike Hall
- Lanyard with name tag
- Children ages 4-10 are $37. Children under 4 are free.

Family Members and Guests, Lunch on Monday in Ike Hall - $35

- For guests only attending the luncheon
- Children ages 4-10 are $22.50. Children under 4 are free
2016 Graduate March Back
Poop Sheet, FAQs, and Schedule of Events (As of 27 June 16)

Schedule of events

Schedule is on the last page of this document. There is no Talent Show this year!

Check our website frequently for updates -- http://www.usma.edu/daa

Optional Events on Sunday Night at Camp Buckner
For Graduates and paid guests. You must register for this online.
Includes a briefing from USCC on Cadet Summer Training, BBQ Dinner, and the Cadet Basic Training Awards Ceremony. There is no talent show this year
Buses will shuttle graduates and paid guests from Herbert Hall to Camp Buckner and back. No POVs at Camp Buckner.
Attire is civilian casual. Grads are encouraged to wear their “Old Grad” t-shirt. There is limited seating in the bleachers for the Awards Ceremony.
Graduates and guests CANNOT visit with the New Cadets on Sunday.

Meals/Snacks

Sunday, 7 August
Dinner – For Graduates and paid guests, BBQ in Barth Hall. Optional event, you must register on-line to attend.
Ice Cream Social – Only for graduates marching from Camp Buckner and if you signed-up to remain overnight in Barth Hall.

Monday, 8 August
Breakfast – Only for Graduates marching from Camp Buckner, to include those who did not stay overnight in Barth Hall.
Snacks – For Graduates marching from Camp Buckner receive the same snacks and drinks as the New Cadets during the march. Additionally, snacks and drinks will be available at the Class of 1948 Ski Lodge for all marchers.
Lunch – For Graduates and paid guests in Eisenhower Hall after the march.

Uniform

All graduates must wear the polo shirt and hat that you will receive at registration and black shorts or hiking pants (bring these with you). Women may wear a black skort. No Exceptions!
A good quality, lightweight, pair of hiking shoes or boots is recommended.
Graduates are not allowed to carry a banner, sign, or guidon during the march. The only authorized banner is for the 50-Year Affiliation Class, which can only be carried during the last 2 miles of the march from the Ski Slope.
We recommend a small back pack or waist pack to carry a change of socks, water, rain gear, sunscreen, insect repellent, and any other essentials.
Registration, Three Step Process:

1. **Register On-line.** WPAOG is hosting the registration website. You must know your user ID and password to register. If you do not know your user ID or password, click on the Forgotten Password link.

2. **Complete your liability form.** All marchers must complete a liability form! You are not registered until we receive your liability form. Send completed liability forms via email or regular mail.

3. **Check-in at Herbert Hall.** All marchers must check-in at Herbert Hall on Sunday, 7 August, 1200-1430, including those marching from the Ski Slope. No exceptions. At check-in you will receive your registration items and any additional merchandise ordered online.

**Water**

Each Graduate/marcher receives one water bottle with your registration items. Use this bottle for the march. Water is available at Barth Hall, at the rest stops during the march from Camp Buckner to the Ski Slope, and the Ski Lodge. However, we recommend everyone bring a Camelbak or other hydration device. You can purchase a Camelbak when you register. Make sure you keep yourself well hydrated during the march.

**New Cadet Company Assignments** (Camp Buckner Marchers Only)

Approximately 20 graduates are assigned to each New Cadet Company. When you register you will be asked who you want to march with. Your options are as follows:
- March with a particular New Cadet
- March with a particular New Cadet Company
- March with another Graduate

**First priority** is parents and family members of New Cadets.

**Change of clothes for after the march**

You will receive a duffle bag at registration for your change of clothes and toiletries. A towel, soap, and shampoo will be provided at Arvin. You may also want to bring a toothbrush, toothpaste, a shaving kit (males), and shower shoes. We will transport your duffle bag to Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center. Depending on where you march back from you will leave your duffle bag as follows:
- **Camp Buckner Marchers** - Bring the duffle bag with you to Camp Buckner. We will collect them Monday morning at Barth Hall.
- **Ski Slope Marchers** – We will collect the duffle bags at Buffalo Soldier Field in the morning before you depart for the Ski Slope.
Personal Hygiene after the March

Graduates can use the showers in Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center. There is no air-conditioning in the shower area. It will be hot! A towel, soap, and shampoo will be provided at Arvin. You may want to bring a toothbrush, toothpaste, a shaving kit (males), and shower shoes.

Additional Merchandise  Click here to view these items

As part of your registration fee, every Graduate receives a polo shirt, hat, duffle bag, water bottle, commemorative pin, and "Old Grad" t-shirt. Additional items for sale include:

- Grad March Back Polo Shirt, $50.50 (Issue Item)
- Old Grad T-Shirt, $22.50 (Issue Item)
- March Back Hat, $18 (Issue Item)
- Duffle bag, $43 (Issue Item)
- Water Bottle, $28.00 (Issue Item)
- Commemorative Pin, $6.75 (Issue Item)
- Camelbak, $62.00 (3L, ACU color)

Cancellation Policy  - No refunds for cancellations after 1 August.

Useful Links

- Directorate of Academy Advancement Website
- WPAOG Registration Page
- Grad March Back Issue Items

SAFETY

Physical Fitness  - You should not participate in the Graduate March Back if you are not physically fit. If you are out of shape or if you have medical concerns do not register for this event!

Water  - Make sure you keep yourself well hydrated during the march. Each Graduate/marcher receives a water bottle that you can refill during the march. However, we recommend everyone bring a Camelbak or other hydration device.

Sleep  - You will get a limited amount of sleep on Sunday night and you are participating in a long march over difficult terrain. As a result, you will be very tired after the march. Therefore, plan to have someone drive you home or to the airport or make arrangements to stay another night.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

You should not participate in the Graduate March Back if you are not physically fit. If you are out of shape or if you have medical concerns do not register for this event!

**How can I add a guest or purchase additional merchandise after I already registered?**
You can add another guest(s) and purchase additional merchandise on the registration website. Simply select the item(s) you want to add. Do not click on the “radio style buttons”, again, next to marching from – Camp Buckner or the Ski Slope. However, you will have to enter all the other information again.

**Why are the New Cadets marching back from Camp Buckner?**
The last week of Cadet Basic Training is now at Camp Buckner.

**When should I check in at Herbert Hall if I am not going to Camp Buckner on Sunday?**
Registration for all marchers is 1200-1430 on Sunday. No exceptions!

**Will the WPAOG gift shop be open on Sunday?**
Yes, 1100-1600. All marchers receive 10% off your purchase with your nametag.

**Will Herbert Hall remain open all night?**
No, Herbert Hall will only open during normal business hours, 0830-1630. If you are not staying at Camp Buckner, you are responsible for your own lodging on Sunday night.

**What should I wear to Camp Buckner on Sunday night?**
Attire is civilian casual. Graduates are encouraged to wear their “Old Grad” t-shirt. Wear a comfortable pair of walking shoes and bring wet weather gear. The New Cadets and Academy Staff will be in ACUs or OCPs. You must sign-up for this when you register online.

**If we registered for the optional events at Camp Buckner on Sunday what should we plan for dinner?**
There is a BBQ dinner at Barth Hall for graduates and paid guests. Again, you must sign-up for this when you register online.

**Can I visit with the New Cadets on Sunday at Camp Buckner?**
No, Graduates and guests CANNOT visit with the New Cadets on Sunday.

**When can I meet with the New Cadets?**
Graduates can talk with the New Cadets during the march from Camp Buckner. Graduates will march in the New Cadet formations. At the Ski Slope the New Cadets will form up by Company; graduates will move to the Class of 1948 Ski Lodge. Family and guests CANNOT visit with the New Cadets.

**I requested to stay overnight at Camp Buckner, what can I expect?**
Only available for Graduates marching from Camp Buckner. When you register online you must request to stay overnight at Barth Hall. Slots are limited! Everyone will ride the buses to Camp Buckner. No POVs. After the Awards Ceremony, we will walk to Barth Hall. You will receive an Army cot and a sleeping bag. It will get cool at night. If you bring anything else to sleep with (snivel gear/pillow), please pack these items in the duffle bag that
you will receive at registration. We will collect the duffle bags Monday morning at Barth Hall and take them to Arvin for after the march.

If you forgot, the Army cot is not comfortable! You may want to bring a sleeping pad/mat.

Everyone must remain in Barth Hall, no tours of Camp Buckner or swimming in Lake Popolopen.

There is a mandatory briefing for all graduates at 2100. Lights out at 2200. Please be considerate of others if they go to sleep earlier.

Breakfast and coffee will be served in the morning.

Remember, Barth Hall is not air conditioned!

Where can I eat dinner on West Point on Sunday night?

For those who signed-up online to go to Camp Buckner there will be a BBQ dinner at Barth Hall. Your other options are Burger King or Taco Bell (AAFES PX food court), Grant Hall (Cadet Restaurant), Lil’ Skeeters BBQ and Primo Pizza (WP Bowling Center, Buffalo Soldier Field), Subway restaurant (near the cemetery), or the Thayer Hotel.

Can I carry a back pack during the march?

Yes, we recommend you bring a small back pack or waist pack to carry a change of socks, water, rain gear, sunscreen, insect repellent, and any other essentials.

What is the rate of march from Camp Buckner to the Ski Slope?

The rate of march is 20 minute miles or 3 miles per hour. We will march on trails and paved roads with steep rises and descents. The trails are unimproved with loose stones and rocks. There is only one scheduled stop or rest during the march from Buckner. This stop is at about the 6.5 mile mark. There are water points and portable bathrooms along the route.

What time will the march begin and what is the route?

For security reasons the times and route are not available online. We will post the times and route in Herbert Hall at registration and in Barth Hall at Camp Buckner. Expect a two hour time difference between the start time of the first New Cadet Company and the last.

Are there any rest areas or breaks during the march from Camp Buckner?

Yes, there are typically two rest areas called Tactical Assembly Areas (TAAs). The first one is at Round Pond (6.5 miles) and the last one is at the Ski Slope (10 miles). The rest time is 5-10 minutes. There are portable latrines and water at each TAA. Additionally, there are snacks, fruit, and power bars.

Can I carry a banner, sign, or guidon during the march?

No, the only authorized banner, sign, or guidon is for the 50-Year Affiliation Class. The 50-Year Affiliation Class can carry a banner during the last two miles of the march from the Ski Slope.

What should I do about a change of clothes for after the march?

We will provide a duffle bag at registration for your change of clothes and toiletries. We will provide everyone a towel, soap, and shampoo at Arvin. You may also want to bring a toothbrush, toothpaste, a shaving kit (males), and shower shoes. Depending on where you march back from you will leave your duffle bag as follows:

Camp Buckner Marchers - Take the duffle bag with you to Camp Buckner. We will collect them Monday morning at Barth Hall.

Ski Slope Marchers – We will collect the duffle bags at Buffalo Soldier Field in the morning before you depart for the Ski Slope.
What do I need to enter West Point?
Effective 7 June 2016, all visitors to West Point must have a Department of Defense (DoD) identification card or they must be escorted by someone with a DoD identification card. If not, please report to the Visitor Control Center located outside Thayer Gate in the Visitors Center. Hours of operation are 0800-1800, Monday-Friday. For more information, please visit the West Point Garrison webpage -- [www.westpoint.army.mil/visitus.html](http://www.westpoint.army.mil/visitus.html)

Where can I park my Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) on post?
1. Buffalo Soldier Field – Graduates marching from Camp Buckner or the Ski Slope park at Buffalo Soldier Field. **No** parking at Camp Buckner, Herbert Hall, or the Ski Slope.
2. Herbert Hall - Park at Herbert Hall, **only** if you will return Sunday night after the Awards Ceremony. Overflow parking is at Buffalo Soldier Field.

Where can family members watch the march back?
Family members can watch the last two miles of the march from the Ski Slope anywhere along Washington Road from Washington Gate to Thayer Statue. The Military Police will close the road about 30 minutes prior to the start of the march; plan to arrive early. Washington Gate is only for individuals with a DoD identification card and a DoD sticker on your POV.

What is the attire for lunch at Eisenhower Hall?
Attire for lunch is casual. Most individuals wear khaki slacks or shorts and a West Point or Class polo shirt. Graduates and paid guests please wear your lanyard and nametag. This will expedite your entry into the ballroom.

What Religious services are offered at West Point?

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<th>Service</th>
<th>Day(s)</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>1200</td>
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<td>Sun</td>
<td>1030</td>
<td>Post Chapel</td>
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2016 Graduate March Back
Poop Sheet, FAQs, and Schedule of Events (As of 27 June 16)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
As of 10 June 16

Sunday, 7 August
1200-1430 Registration, Herbert Hall (Everyone must register during this time)
1500 Grads & Guests attending the BBQ Dinner assemble at Herbert Hall
1515 Buses depart for Camp Buckner, NO POVs
1530-1630 Cadet Summer Training Brief, Camp Buckner Theater
1645-1800 BBQ Dinner, Barth Hall
1830-1900 Awards Ceremony, Cadet Basic Training Regiment, Parade Field
1930 Buses return to Herbert Hall
Camp Buckner marchers who registered to remain overnight at Buckner
move to Barth Hall

Monday, 8 August
TBP Remaining Camp Buckner marchers assemble, Buffalo Soldier Field
TBP Buses Depart for Camp Buckner, NO POVs
TBP Breakfast, Camp Buckner (Camp Buckner marchers only)
TBP March from Camp Buckner begins (Times & route posted at Herbert Hall)
TBP Ski Slope marchers assemble, Buffalo Soldier Field
TBP Bus departs for Ski Lodge, Ski Slope Marchers
TBP March to Superintendent’s Quarters begins
TBP Pass in Review, Superintendent’s Quarters
TBP Personal Hygiene, Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center
1115-1245 Lunch, Eisenhower Hall Ballroom
TBD Superintendent’s Welcome Remarks
1230-1315 Buses shuttle to Herbert Hall and Buffalo Soldier Field from Eisenhower Hall

Times are subject to change. For security reasons the times and route are not available
on-line. We will post the times and route in Herbert Hall and Barth Hall.

For more information please call Vince McDermott
Directorate of Academy Advancement (DAA), 845-938-3700/3024