



Accelerated (501) OCS

The National Guard Bureau's Accelerated OCS (501) program is challenging 8-week, 3-Phase program. There are two programs, the first conducted at Fort Meade and the second conducted at Fort McClellan, AL. The schedule is generally as follows:

	<i>South Dakota 501 Program</i>
Phase 0	Preparatory training begins with weekend training assemblies at Camp Ripley in March, April, May and June
Phase I	Conducted at Ft Meade, SD in June
Phase II	Conducted at Ft Meade, SD in July
Phase III	Conducted at Ft Meade, SD in July and August
Graduate	Bar Pinned in August back in Minnesota
	<i>Alabama 501 Program</i>
Phase 0	Preparatory training begins with weekend training assemblies at Camp Ripley in October, November, December and January
Phase I	Conducted at Ft McClellan, AL in January
Phase II	Conducted at Ft McClellan, AL in January and February
Phase III	Conducted at Ft McClellan, AL in February and March
Graduate	Bar Pinned in March or April back in Minnesota

Prior to departing for the 501 program, you will have to choose a branch and unit to be appointed into - your unit/battalion commander will assist you with these choices.

Accelerated OCS (501) Enrollment/Appointment Criteria

- Minimum of 90 semester credits
- Minimum SAT/850 or ACT/19 (N/A if college graduate)
- Minimum GT score (from ASVAB) of 110
- Minimum age 18, maximum age 30 (up to age 35 with state waiver)
- AIT graduate unless enlisted under the OCS enlistment option
- Pass standard 3-event Army Physical Fitness Test
- Meet height and weight standards
- Have a secret security clearance or a clearance request submitted
- Must be a U.S. citizen
- Pass a medical examination for commission (Chapter 2, AR 40-501)
- All physical or moral waivers must have been approved (if applicable)