



MISSION COMMAND TRAINING PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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[What is MCTP?](#)

Mission Command Training Program is the only deployable Combat Training Center. It consists of eight operation groups and a supporting unit of the 505th Command and Control Wing, Detachment 1 (USAF). Each of the operations groups trains commanders and staff on effective integration of warfighter functions in a joint-interagency-intergovernmental-multinational operating environment to achieve operational mission command. Operations groups OC/Ts provide high-quality academic seminars and formal after action reviews during the WFXs to improve the readiness and combat effectiveness of each training audience.

[What is MCTP's mission?](#)

MCTP supports the collective training of Army units as directed by the Chief of Staff of the Army and scheduled by Forces Command to provide Commanders and Leaders the opportunity to train Mission Command in Unified Land Operations.

[Why is MCTP significant to the Army?](#)

MCTP remains a premier Combat Training Center to train Brigades, Divisions, Corps, and Army Service Component Command (ASCC)-level headquarters on their mission essential tasks needed to support Unified Land Operations and train joint functions within select headquarters to support their role as a joint task force.

MCTP serves as an engine of change for implementing doctrine by providing feedback to the Army on future doctrine, unit organization and application of that doctrine. MCTP's annual collection of key observations made at Brigades through Army Service Component Command levels enables the Army's future force to grow and develop from lessons learned.

What does MCTP provide to the Army?

- Exercises for Army Service Component Commands, Corps, Divisions, Functional/Multi-Functional Brigades and select Army National Guard Brigade Combat Teams
- Retired general officers serve as senior mentors to the Army's senior leadership
- Professional observer, coach/trainers ensuring we have a well-trained fighting force
- Robust suite of simulations capable of replicating complex, operational environments
- Competitive, "free thinking" opposing forces emulating real world threat conditions

What are MCTP's priorities?

- Conduct exercises as scheduled by Forces Command
- Increase Joint and Allied participation in Warfighters (WFX)
- Establish Joint and Allied duty positions within MCTP
- Reduce exercise costs
- Develop multiple operating environments

How does MCTP affect doctrine?

MCTP serves as an engine of change for implementing doctrine by providing feedback to the Army on future doctrine, unit organization and application of that doctrine. MCTP's annual collection of key observations made at Brigades through Army Service Component Command levels enables the Army's future force to grow and develop from lessons learned.

How can a unit request a warfighter?

All the MCTP exercises and supported training events are scheduled at the Army Service Resource Conference (ASRC) by Forces Command (FORSCOM). The MCTP Commander, through deliberate planning, may elect to exceed the MCTP planned capacity if the situation provides additional flexibility for the MCTP to plan, resource and execute around known constraints.

Does MCTP conduct ramp-up training events to the warfighter such as command post exercises and mission readiness exercises?

MCTP does not support unit ramp-up training events and command post exercises (CPX) that occur in preparation for participation as a training audience in an MCTP WFX. Requests for non-standard, out-of-cycle, and un-programmed exercises must be submitted in writing by the training audience through the Army command (ACOM)/chain of command to the respective proponent (HQDA for ASCC or FORSCOM for WFX/BWFX) for approval at least 12 months prior to exercise execution. The training audience is responsible for all additional costs associated with the variance from a standard exercise.

What is the timeline of the warfighter?

The warfighter is a 10-day exercise with a mid-after action review being conducted in the middle of the exercise and a final after action review being conducted on the last day of the exercise.

Where does MCTP travel in support of warfighters?

MCTP deploys worldwide, both CONUS and OCONUS, in support of the warfighter. Locations are dependent on units participating in the exercise and training support facilities for these exercises.

What is included in mission command training?

Mission Command Training (MCT) is a five-day training event that assists in developing the training unit's command and staff team. Each training unit receives MCT hosted by the OPS GRP providing OC/T coverage at the warfighter. The MCT's purpose is to provide the training unit academic seminars and an opportunity to conduct planning focused on the application of Army operations doctrine and command and staff processes.

Can Mission Command Training be conducted at a unit's home station?

Mission Command Training can be conducted at a unit's home station pending a letter of approval from the Forces Command (FORSCOM) Commanding General.

What is an observer, coach, trainer?

MCTP provides senior mentors and observer coach/trainers to facilitate mission command training from Corps to Brigades through 24-hour coverage for unit command groups, staff, and key leaders in their respective command posts, as well as staff/warfighting function and integrating cells throughout the warfighter. OC/Ts cover all warfighting functions, playing a critical role in providing feedback to the unit, informally, through everyday interactions, and, formally, through mid and final after action reviews (AARs) plus the final exercise report (FER). These events give the training audience actions to consider for sustainment and improvement.

What are the benefits of being an observer, coach, trainer?

The OC/T experience provides officers and NCOs with deeper substantive knowledge of their military profession, increases their proficiency in operational art and the practical application of doctrine, and exposes them to the challenges the Army could face in future conflicts.

Officers and NCOs at MCTP are able to gain multiple careers worth of experience in a short time through observation of their training audiences. Furthermore, OC/Ts gain a unique perspective of the Army's trending challenges and their solutions.

OC/Ts have the opportunity to help shape the way the Army will fight now and in the future. OC/Ts are not evaluators and, at the end of the day, OC/Ts are judged by what they impart on training units and how they have helped them grow warfighting skills and improve their readiness.

How does one become an observer, coach, trainer?

Observer, coach, trainer officers are LTCs or senior MAJs that are branch-qualified, CGSC graduates and have extensive field experience. Observer, coach, trainer NCOs are SFCs-SGMs and have attended the Battle Staff Course or are United States Sergeants Major Academy Graduates. They are personally selected by the MCTP Commander, MCTP and Chief of Operations Group (COG). Furthermore, they are certified through a rigorous training program, are Subject Matter Experts (SME) on doctrine and in their specific Warfighting Functions and are trained in providing feedback using the After-Action Review process.

Can units select their senior mentor?

No, MCTP assigns senior mentors based on their experiences, for example, aviator senior mentors are assigned to an aviation unit.

***Submit general questions about MCTP and comments about the website to the MCTP PAO:

usarmy.leavenworth.CAC.list.mctp-pao@mail.mil

Submit warfighter specific requests for information to warfighter point of contact

