

1.5 Great Start Overview

Key Question: What does new cadet orientation look like?

Great Start is the best way for a young person to begin their cadet experience. The orientation and training is structured to meet their needs. This briefing explains to new and prospective cadets what activities are involved with Great Start, and what they can expect in the coming weeks.

Suggested Instructor

A senior member or cadet officer should deliver this briefing

Duration

15 min

Goal

Understand the events included in the Great Start program

Materials Needed

Optional: PowerPoint slides are available for this briefing

Special Note

The content of this briefing will be affected by local policies and variation from the suggested schedule. The course director and unit commander should review the outline below carefully and discuss how their unit will respond to the issues raised.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. Great Start

8 min

Overview: For the next 7 weeks, our squadron will be running a special orientation and training program for prospective and new cadets. It is called Great Start because we will give you a glimpse into what cadets do, and give you the tools needed to begin your cadet experience right.

Use the outline below to review the events planned for Great Start:

Week 1: Welcome to CAP (ie: today; self-explanatory)

Week 2: Get Started!
Introduction to drill and customs and courtesies.

Week 3: Continue drill training, Cadet Wingman Course ,and an aerospace activity.
Apply for membership

Week 4: Focus on leadership training and character.
Homework: Cadets log into eServices and complete Cadet Welcome course online.

Field Day: A busy day touching all aspects of Cadet life and concluding with a speaker.

Week 5: Fitness assessment and review for the leadership assessment.
Homework: complete the Leadership Ch. 1 Cadet Interactive or test at home.

Week 6: Drill tests, cadet expectations, and an aerospace activity.

Week 7: Leadership feedback meetings, uniform tutorial and aerospace activity.

Week 8: Promotion ceremony & social, what are the next steps?

Saturday: Flying (if possible)

Every week has both classroom academic content and active hands-on learning activities.

2. Support

7 min

Use the outline below to review the different avenues of support available to prospective and new cadets.

Interim Uniform: What should prospective and new cadets wear until they receive a uniform? Are they permitted to go out and buy uniforms on their own right away? At what point will the squadron assist the cadets in obtaining uniforms, other than via the Curry Uniform Program (ie: unit supplies, wing supplies, DRMO, etc.)

Interim Books: Will hard copies of the New Cadet Guide be made available to cadets? Will the squadron loan the cadets hard copies of those materials until their Cadet Member Kit arrives? Whatever your policy, explain it now.

Website: Mention that all the materials new cadets need to complete Great Start are available electronically at www.gocivilairpatrol.com/newcadet.

Bring a Friend: If one of the prospect cadets visiting tonight now realizes that they have a friend who would love to join CAP, bring them next week.

FINAL THOUGHT

If you are interested in becoming a cadet, now is the best time for you to begin. The Great Start program will help you begin your cadet experience right.