



WELCOME ABOARD

There have always been rumors, good and bad, about how U.S. Marines are trained, but you never really knew the truth until you saw it with your own eyes.

You can now count yourselves among the many educators who have accepted their local Marine Corps recruiting station's invitation to visit Marine Corps boot camp in San Diego, and you quickly realized that this was no "dog and pony" show. The four-day Educators Workshop gave you the closest look you could get of the Marines' basic training without getting your head shaved first.

You were escorted every day by actual drill instructors, the infamous trainers of Marines whose faces and voices are seared forever into the very beings of those whom they've trained. You also took advantage of the numerous opportunities throughout the week to ask questions of actual recruits from your area undergoing training.

Although this training is renowned, as educators you most likely noticed immediately the Corps' success begins before training with students who care about developing physical and mental discipline and who seek increased confidence and maturity.

The reasoning behind your unique opportunity is simple: The Marine Corps wants only the best, and you are in a position to recommend the best to us. Our goal following this opportunity is only that you are now able to provide accurate, first-hand information to those young Americans with whom you come in contact.



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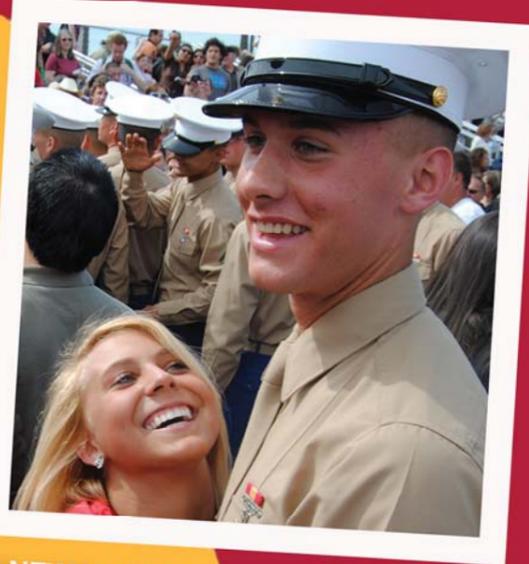
RS Twin Cities





GRADUATION

You stood on the Yellow Footprints, ate at the recruit chow hall, watched the memorable Emblem Ceremony, and now (just like the recruits in front of you) recruit training graduation is the only thing standing between you and the journey home. Following breakfast with the commanding general, you sat with the parents of the graduating recruits and witnessed the pageantry and emotion that makes graduating from Marine Corps recruit training one of the most memorable moments in a Marine's life. After shaking hands with the new graduates, you likely congratulated each other as well – you earned it.



A NEW MARINE CELEBRATES WITH HIS FAMILY AFTER GRADUATION

Dear Educator,

I would like to thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to attend Recruiting Station Chicago's annual Educators Workshop. I hope during your short week in San Diego you were able to witness firsthand what the Marine Corps can do for young men and women, the benefits available, and some of the skills one can acquire through service. The Educators Workshop is a great opportunity to witness what happens at MCRD San Diego; to ask questions to senior leadership and Drill Instructors; and to speak with recruits undergoing training and to Marines who have varying amounts of service under their belts. All this is our attempt to help you understand your Marine Corps and what we do. There are many misconceptions about the Marine Corps and I hope during this year's workshop some of those misconceptions were cleared up.

If at any time you have questions about the Marine Corps, feel free to contact your local recruiter or my office, and we will get an answer for you. Thank you again for your participation.

Semper Fidelis,
Maj. Aaron C. Lloyd
Commanding Officer
RS Chicago



Dear Educator,

It was my sincere pleasure to provide you an opportunity to learn more about the Marine Corps and to demonstrate the Corps' commitment to excellence. Like teachers, the Marine Corps strives to turn ordinary young men and women into outstanding citizens, who not only benefit us internally, but who also go on to benefit our great country.

Marines take great pride in their organization and will work tirelessly to ensure they uphold its standards. Their commitment to the Marine Corps and the United States begins at Recruit Training, where they are pushed both mentally and physically to surpass their perceived limitations, while also being taught the Core Values of honor, courage and commitment.

Your experiences at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Camp Pendleton and Marine Corps Air Station Miramar provided you with a small taste of Recruit and Marine life. I hope you found that experience to be both rewarding and educational and that you will pass on what you learned to others. On behalf of the Marines of Recruiting Station Twin Cities, thank you again for taking time from your busy schedule to learn more about our mission.

If you have any questions or need further assistance at any time, feel free to contact my Public Affairs Marine, Staff Sergeant Clinton Firstbrook at (612) 725-3229.

Semper Fidelis,
Maj. Kenneth C. Gawronski
Commanding Officer
RS Twin Cities



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MCRD SAN DIEGO

There's no better way to start the week than in the shoes of new Marine recruits arriving at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego's legendary "yellow footprints." Here, you witnessed first-hand what the first few hours of a young recruit's life in the Corps is like, and you'll get an overview of the 13-week recruit training process. You'll spend most of the day observing how recruits are gradually challenged and tested, both academically and physically (although Marines may be best known for their physical fitness, the ratio of academic hours to physical training hours is 3 to 1). After a welcome by the commanding general's staff, participants witness water survival, rappelling, martial arts and bayonet assault training, some of which you can even try first-hand. The day also includes lunch with recruits from your area and a visit to the depot's museum.

Educators from Recruiting Stations Chicago and all of their belongings in the bin like recruits did upon introduction to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego during the 2012 educators workshop, Jan. 9-13.

The experience of the Educator's Workshop is unparalleled. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to attend the workshop and see firsthand how the Marine Corps develops outstanding Marines. There is a wealth of information for me to share with whomever will listen. Our principal has been asked to clear a time for our local recruiter to come and speak to our juniors and seniors. Thanks for all you do.

Barbara Flynn
Religion Teacher and Dean
Aquin Catholic High School, IL.

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MCB CAMP PENDLETON

Many of you needed tissues as you began the day at Camp Pendleton with the Emblem Ceremony, typically the most emotional boot camp moment aside from graduation that recruits (and their DIs) experience. The formal presentation of the Marine Corps eagle, globe and anchor emblem to each recruit comes after months of training and occurs immediately following boot camp's defining event: The Crucible. The ceremony marks the first time they are called "Marines." You also got a close look at marksmanship and field skills training, fired rifles and pistols on a marksmanship training simulator, had lunch with recruits, visited the Marine Corps' only Amphibious Assault Vehicle School, which included a live demonstration of amphibious vehicles in the water, and toured an enlisted base family housing area.



Marines provide a marksmanship introduction to as part of their Recruiting Stations Chicago and Twin Cities in San Diego, Jan. 9.

Prior to the workshop I had very little knowledge of the military. I have to be honest and say I was not a huge fan of the military either.

After my experience at the workshop, I found myself with a new perspective. I have much more respect for the Marines and the training they go through in order to earn the title. Yes, I learned about all the benefits and educational opportunities available to the students who complete training, but I was more impressed by the level of commitment, support, and unity evident in all Marines.

I would like to thank the Marines for opening my eyes to a strong alternative path for our students. This is a once in a lifetime experience I will never forget.

Andy Lau
ESL Teacher
Robbinsdale Armstrong High School, MN

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MCAS MIRAMAR

At Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, once the home of Top Gun, you saw Marines doing what they joined to do – their jobs. You had already heard about recruit training straight from recruits near your area; but that was just the beginning. Marines from various job fields like military police, crash/fire rescue, administration, air crew, air traffic control, and armory, as well as pilots, answered your questions about life in the Marine Corps. You also got a brief on educational opportunities for Marines and a hands-on look at the latest in Marine Corps aviation and support equipment. The day concluded with a Marine Corps Band concert, a brief trip to the Marine Corps exchange and a visit to the Depot Museum.



A CH-53 Super Stallion is open for educators to view during the 2012 Recruiting Stations Chicago and Twin Cities Educators Workshop, Jan. 9-13.

This is my 21st year as a classroom teacher and cannot recall ever attending a better organized event for educators than the USMC Educators Workshop. Some personal highlights include lunching with recruits at Camp Pendleton. It was impressive how focused and proud these young men were to be on their way to completing boot camp, observing a 'Guided Discussion' at MCRD San Diego. I learned there is more to boot camp than physical, mental stress and testing.

Eric Tollefson
Physics Teacher
Moorhead High School, MN



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