



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U. S. ARMY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY
11291 SGT E. CHURCHILL STREET
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79918-8002

ATSS-DAS

29 January 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR United States Army Sergeants Major Course (SMC), Class 67

SUBJECT: Welcome to the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Course

1. Congratulations on your selection to attend the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Course (SMC). Your individual accomplishments, future potential, and dedication to military service were the basis for your selection to attend the capstone of Noncommissioned Officer Education.
2. Families are an essential and vital part of the Academy experience. In support of Families, we include many educational, social, and recreational activities as an integral part of the Course. Two such events are the Family Readiness Group and the Spouse Leadership Development Course. These activities will assist you and your spouse in assuming higher levels of responsibility and support in your military profession. Therefore, we encourage your family members to accompany you and share in this unique learning experience.
3. Carefully read and follow the student guide located on the USASMA website, as it contains answers to most of your questions about the SMC, family housing, and Fort Bliss facilities. The guide will aid you and your family in settling into the Academy and the Fort Bliss community. With regards to housing, housing is limited to SMC students and it is a first come first serve process. It is imperative if you want post housing that you register online prior to your arrival. If you choose to live in post housing, be mindful that there may be challenges associated with clearing housing as it pertains to your timeline to vacate.
4. Lastly, and most important you are about to embark on a 10-month educational journey. The journey is comprised of many activities and a course curriculum that will challenge you in many different ways. Your preparation for this course is important. Needless to say we have a Team here that is ready for your arrival and will assist you during your tenure at the USASMA.
5. Should you have any questions or need assistance, do not hesitate to contact me at maurice.a.thorpe.mil@mail.mil or by phone at (915) 744-8785 (DSN 621) or the course First Sergeant, 1SG Taylor at jessica.l.taylor184.mil@mail.mil or by phone at 915-744-2254.
6. Again, congratulations on your selection. I wish you success in the course and in all your future assignments.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. A. Thorpe".

MAURICE A. THORPE
SGM, USA
Deputy Director