



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE ACCESSIONS CENTER (AETC)
SIU CARBONDALE DETACHMENT 205**

5 May 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR AFROTC DETACHMENT 205 APPLICANTS

FROM: AFROTC DET 205/CC

Southern Illinois University | Grinnell Hall
275 E. Park Street | Mail Code 6718
Carbondale IL 62901

1. Welcome to Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) Detachment 205, home of the *Soaring Warriors*! As an inbound active cadet, you must attend the New Cadet Orientation on **Saturday, 16 August**, from 0800 – 1530 (8:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.). This orientation is a crucial step in your journey with us. ALL cadets (i.e., SIUC, John A. Logan College (JALC), and Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO) cadets) and their families (if attending) will meet at the Grinnell Study Hub lower level at the Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) campus: **275 E. Park Street, Carbondale, IL 62901**.

The New Cadet Orientation facilitates your transition into the AFROTC environment. It will involve processing your application paperwork and informative presentations outlining our expectations and introducing you to the AFROTC way of life. We strongly encourage your family to stay for the initial presentations to gain a comprehensive understanding of our selective program. Lunch for all new cadets will be provided by Detachment 205 Cadre at Grinnell Hall. Please inform us of any dietary restrictions by emailing afrotc@siu.edu.

NOTE: Your **IN-PERSON** attendance at the New Cadet Orientation on Saturday, August 16, is not just important, it's critical. If you cannot attend for any reason, you must contact the detachment and arrange an appointment for processing before 18 August. Failure to do so may delay your enrollment process, something we all want to avoid.

2. Please read **Attachment 1** carefully. It is a checklist of required items that each new cadet must bring to the orientation to process you into the AFROTC program. You must bring your original copy of your birth certificate, social security card, and emergency contact information, which are all referenced in Attachment 1. Additionally, to participate in required AFROTC activities, have your physician complete and sign **Attachment 2**, the *AFROTC Pre-Participatory Sports Physical, Form 28*, and turn it in during orientation. If you do not bring the completed Form 28, you cannot fully participate in AFROTC activities, which may affect your readiness for the program.

NOTE: If you have a military physical certified by the *Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB)* within the last two years, bring that instead of the Form 28.

3. **Illinois In-State Tuition Waivers (IL residents only):** We will not offer new ISTWs until we interview you and have time to assess your Fall performance (i.e., academic, fitness, and overall cadet performance). We will hold interviews around mid-October. If awarded, the waiver will be applied retroactively. Do not anticipate starting classes with the paid waiver before the start of the term. Please be aware that ISTW covers *tuition* only. It does not cover fees or room and board. SEMO cadets do not qualify for ISTW.

4. **SIU Cadets:** I *highly* encourage you to live in the AFROTC Living Learning Community (LLC) in Mae Smith Tower for at least your first year. Adjusting to university life, especially with military characteristics, is not easy for young adults who may be on their own for the first time. Iron sharpens iron, so surrounding yourself with wingmen who follow the same military regimen will benefit you when you wake up at 0500 (5:00 A.M.) for physical training sessions and meet sharp deadlines for other formations. It will also enable easy access to and ready support from our staff and cadre. You can always join an LLC of a major you intend to declare *after* establishing a solid routine in the AFROTC LLC. Wise choices start today. Position yourself for success!

5. **SEMO Cadets:** living in the military housing community on campus in Vandiver Hall are eligible for an annual \$3,000 housing scholarship. Cadets who live in other campus housing are eligible for an annual \$1,500 housing scholarship. This is contingent on being an active cadet for the entirety of the academic year; should you drop the program, the scholarship will be revoked.

6. Your desire to pursue a career of service to this nation inspires me, and I appreciate your willingness to challenge yourself by committing to this program. A few last words to the wise: embrace competition and show up in shape, ready to lead! Please contact Detachment 205 with any questions at (618) 453-2481 or via email at afrotc@siu.edu. The *Soaring Warriors* and I look forward to meeting you and your parents/guardians in August!



CHAY M. DERBIGNY, Lt Col, USAF
Commander

7 Attachments:

1. List of Required AFROTC Items
2. AFROTC Form 28, AFROTC Pre-Participation Sports Physical
3. 2025 New Cadet Orientation Agenda
4. WINGS How-to Guide
5. Female Physical Training Score Chart
6. Male Physical Training Score Chart