

# NEWCOMER'S ORIENTATION (NOWA)

[Sign-up for Newcomers' Orientation](#)

Start your tour off right. Okinawa is a wonderful duty station and great place to work and play for the entire family. Learn all about this beautiful island and all the opportunities you can take advantage of during your tour. Meet and listen to representatives from a multitude of service organizations. Learn about the customs and culture of Okinawa and about your responsibilities as a member of the military community. There is even Youth & Teen Tour designed for family members' ages 10-18 that you won't want to miss.

Newcomers' Orientation is mandatory for all accompanied (all ranks) USMC and USN service members, civilian employees, family members (military and civilian) age 10 and up, and all unaccompanied USMC (E-6 and above) and USN (E-6 and above), and civilian (all grades) new arrivals are required to attend Newcomers' Orientation within 2 weeks of arrival.

E-5 and below (unaccompanied) will attend the JRC brief. Please call 645-5395 for more information regarding JRC.

**\* References: NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATION IS MANDATORY PER MCO 1320.11F AND IIIMEF/MCBO 1754.1D.**

**\*IN ADDITION, ATTENDANCE MUST BE CONFIRMED PRIOR TO MCB SAFETY OFFICE ISSUANCE OF POV DRIVER'S LICENSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH MCIPACO 5560.1.**

**\*COMPLETION OF NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATION IS ALSO REQUIRED BEFORE ANY SERVICE MEMBER IS GRANTED OFF-INSTALLATION LEAVE OR LIBERTY IN JAPAN (III MEF MCIPAC5800 LTR CGOF OF 14 FEB 13).**

NOWA is offered every Wednesday from 07:20 until 14:00. Sponsors should call for: Kinser 637-2815; Foster 645-2104/8395; Courtney 622-7332; Hansen 623-4522/4860; Schwab 625-2622 or [click here](#) to register both the active duty member and required family members once you receive the final flight information. Transportation is available from the Westpac, Hamagawa and Eagle Lodges. The sponsor must request transportation at the time of NOWA registration.

Please contact Base Safety at 645-3183/2862 to inquire about taking the POV Licensing exam prior to attending NOWA. Orders, area clearance, and valid Stateside Driver's License are required to obtain a SOFA driver's license. Civilians must check with Base Safety for specific requirements.

Childcare is provided (free of charge) by the Children Youth and Teen Program (CYTP) on a limited space-available basis and must be reserved in advance. Note: Infant Care space is extremely limited. Sponsors should call the CYTP Resource & Referral Office at 645-4117 for reservations prior to the newcomer's arrival. 1-2 days prior to attending NOWA, the inbound family must complete the required paperwork and turn it in at the R&R Office which is located at Camp Foster, bldg. 495. Once this process is completed, the child can be dropped off at the Child Development Care/School Age Care Center/Family Care Provider the morning of the event. Parents also have the option of attending NOWA at different dates so one of them can watch the child.

In addition, newcomers should bring extra copies of the service member's orders and copies of dependent's area clearance/dependent entry approval for Tricare re-enrollment. If the newcomer does not have these documents, he/she can re-enroll by going to the U.S. Naval Hospital at a later date.