



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 24
1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, FMF
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15 Jan 26

POLICY LETTER 2-26

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 24 UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION
CAMPAIGN PLAN FOR CALENDAR YEAR (CY) 2026 AND 2027.

Ref: (a) MCO P1400.32D W/CH 1-2 Enlisted Promotion Manual
(b) MARADMIN 630/24 Updated Enlisted Professional Military Education (EPME) Requirements
(c) MCO 1553.4B Professional Military Education (PME)
(d) ALMAR 018/23 Professional Reading
(e) MARADMIN 169/25 Academic Year 2026 Enlisted Professional Military Education Non-Resident Seminar Programs

1. Situation. This policy letter details the schedules and opportunities for all service members to enhance their professional development through courses offered by the Marine Aircraft Group 24 (MAG-24) University Professional Military Education (PME) program.

2. Mission. MAG-24 will publish the Calendar Year (CY) PME campaign, providing all personnel with the information, schedules, and opportunities to attend professionally enhancing courses to foster leadership development and increase unit lethality.

3. Execution.

(a) Commander's Intent. To provide all service members with information and schedules for professionally enhancing courses designed to support career growth and leadership development, ensuring that Marines and Sailors enhance their ability to carry out their duties. Career development is a shared responsibility between leaders and the command. This plan outlines the requirements for career progression and supplemental education to establish a positive climate that enhances our overall lethality, by fostering a growth mindset, through this unit-driven education. This supplemental education is designed to make our leaders more confident, competent, and ethically grounded, ultimately improving our unit's readiness and warfighting capability.

(b) Concept of Operations. This campaign plan will be executed in three phases. The scheme of maneuver is to provide regularly scheduled, professionally enhancing courses hosted at the Group level, which subordinate units will support with instructors and students.

(1) Phase I: Preparation and Dissemination. Upon publication of this letter, squadron leadership will disseminate the course schedule to all hands. The Group Sergeant Major will coordinate with squadron operations to source all required directors, chief instructors, and faculty advisors for the CY26 and CY27 courses from the Group.

(2) Phase II: Execution and Sustainment. MAG-24 will host the following courses per the schedule: Lance Corporal Leadership and Ethics Seminar, Corporal's Course, NCO Transition Course, Ethics Course, Staff Sergeant Symposium, and Gunnery Sergeant Symposium. Squadron leadership will actively encourage participation, affording Marines and Sailors the opportunity to attend. While attending these unit-run courses, personnel should concurrently continue their individual progress on any required nonresident and resident PME.

(3) Phase III: Review and Refinement. The Group Sergeant Major will conduct a quarterly review of attendance data and solicit feedback from course graduates and instructors to refine the program for maximum effectiveness and adjust as required by operational commitments.

(c) MAG-24 University PME Courses. The following courses will be hosted by MAG-24 for required and supplemental PME, to develop leadership within the Group.

(1) Lance Corporal Leadership and Ethics Seminar: Hosted by MAG-24, this is a professional military education (PME) program designed to bridge the gap between a Marine's initial training and their first resident PME. This week-long seminar is a mandatory prerequisite for promotion to the rank of Corporal and is intended to cultivate the leadership skills and ethical foundation necessary for non-commissioned officers (NCOs). Each iteration will require an E-8 or E-9, to serve as a Director, a SNCO as the Chief Instructor, and PME-complete Corporals or above to serve as instructors and faculty advisors. Directors, Chief Instructors, Instructors, and Faculty Advisors will be sourced from the Group. Lance Corporal and below must complete EPME3000AA Leading Marines Distance Education Program, to attend. The Group Sergeant Major will coordinate with S-3, Operations for the tasking of required personnel.

Year	Dates
2026	20-23 January
	14-17 April
	14-17 July
	6-9 October
2027	19-22 January
	13-16 April
	13-16 July
	5-8 October

(2) Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Transition Course: This initiative is part of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Policy Letter 3-25, NCO Guild. This one-day course is designed to bridge the gap between the transition from Lance Corporal to Corporal, before attending the required PME. The unit will conduct a one-day course to prepare newly promoted Corporals for the challenges of becoming a Noncommissioned Officer. This will assist with developing the dynamics of making sound decisions in garrison and in combat. This is hosted by MAG-24. Each iteration will require an E-8 or E-9, to serve as a Director, a SNCO as the Chief Instructor, and PME-complete Sergeants or above to serve as instructors. Directors, Chief Instructors, Instructors, and Faculty Advisors will be sourced from the Group. The Group Sergeant Major will coordinate with S-3, Operations for the tasking of required personnel.

Year	Dates
2026	11 March
	14 June
	9 September
	9 December
2027	10 March
	2 June
	1 September
	8 December

(3) Corporal's Course: The Corporal's Course is a foundational PME program that provides Corporals with the leadership skills and knowledge necessary to be effective small-unit leaders. It marks the transition from being a junior Marine to becoming a Noncommissioned Officer, "The Backbone of the Marine Corps." Corporals must complete EPME4000AA Corporal's Distance Education Program, to attend the Corporal's Course. This is hosted by MAG-24. Each iteration will require an E-8 or E-9, to serve as a Director, a SNCO as the Chief Instructor, and PME-complete Sergeants or above to serve as instructors. Directors, Chief Instructors, Instructors, and Faculty Advisors will be sourced from the Group. The Group Sergeant Major will coordinate with S-3, Operations for the tasking of required personnel.

Year	Dates
2026	2-20 March
	5-21 June
	1-18 September
	1-18 December
2027	2-19 March
	7-25 June
	8-30 September
	1-17 December

(4) Ethics Course: This course provides Marines with instruction in the application of ethical decision-making in garrison and on the battlefield. The training is a Commanding Officer-directed effort to prepare personnel for the challenging dynamics associated with decision-making. The course will be conducted by certified instructors and will consist of scenario-based Socratic instruction combined with small, mentor-led breakout groups to foster discussion. The end state is the development of leadership across the force with an emphasis on ethical decision-making and the sustainment of a command climate based on professionalism, competence, and character. This is hosted by MAG-24. Each iteration will require an E-9, to serve as a Director, a SNCO as the Chief Instructor, and PME-complete Sergeants or above to serve as instructors. Directors, Chief Instructors, Instructors, and Faculty Advisors will be sourced from the Group. The Group Sergeant Major will coordinate with S-3, Operations for the tasking of required personnel.

Year	Dates
2026	27-30 January
	21-24 April
	21-24 July
	20-23 October
2027	26-29 January
	27-30 April
	20-23 July
	19-22 October

(5) Staff Sergeant Symposium: The professional development and education of Staff Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs) consists of a progressive integration of Marine Corps Common Skills and PME. PME focuses on developing military judgement and decision-making as the leader advances in grade. The purpose of this PME is to build professional competence and comradery amongst the Staff Sergeants of MAG-24. This is classroom based; instructor led training that covers topics to assist newly selected or recently promoted Staff Sergeants, with the duties and responsibilities. The end state is a better-trained/ better--educated Staff Sergeant, which proves to be a key element of a unit's success to promoting a stronger command climate and professional discourse. The unit will conduct a four-day symposium to prepare Staff Sergeant selects for the challenging dynamics associated with making sound decisions in garrison and combat as SNCOs. This is hosted by MAG-24. Each iteration will require an E-9 to serve as a Director, a Gunnery Sergeant or above to serve as the Chief Instructor, and PME-complete Gunnery Sergeants or above to serve as mentors/instructors. Directors, Chief Instructors, Instructors, and Faculty Advisors will be sourced from the Group. The Group Sergeant Major will coordinate with S-3, Operations for the tasking of required personnel.

Year	Dates
2026	10-13 February
	11-14 August
2027	9-12 February
	10-13 August

(6) Gunnery Sergeant Symposium: The professional development and education of Staff Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs) consists of a progressive integration of Marine Corps Common Skills and PME. PME focuses on developing military judgement and decision-making as the leader advances in grade. The purpose of this PME is to build professional competence and comradery amongst the Gunnery Sergeants of MAG-24. This is classroom based; instructor led training that covers topics to assist newly selected or recently promoted Gunnery

Sergeants, with the duties and responsibilities. The end state is a better-trained/ better--educated Gunnery Sergeant, which proves to be a key element of a unit's success to promoting a stronger command climate and professional discourse. The unit will conduct a four-day symposium to prepare Gunnery Sergeant selects for the challenging dynamics associated with making sound decisions in garrison and combat as SNCOs. This is hosted by MAG-24. Each iteration will require an E-9 to serve as a Director, an E8-E9 as the Chief Instructor, and E8 or above to serve as mentors/instructors. Directors, Chief Instructors, Instructors, and Faculty Advisors will be sourced from the Group. The Group Sergeant Major will coordinate with S-3, Operations for the tasking of required personnel.

Year	Dates
2026	12-15 May 17-20 November
2027	11-14 May 16-19 November

4. Administration and Logistics. Course dates are subject to change due to operational commitments. Students are encouraged to check with the S-3, and their leadership for any changes or updates.

5. Command and Signal. The point of contact for this order is MAG-24 Sergeant Major at DSN 315-496-2864.

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