

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What kinds of things do FA50s do?** Especially in this era of transformation and modularity, FA50 Force Management Officers consider themselves to be the “Architects of the Army.” We ensure Army forces are organized and equipped to support the missions of the Combatant Commanders. FA50s design new organizations and build force structure in the Total Army Analysis process; allocate Army manpower and equipment (Plans, Programming, and Budget Execution); coordinate unit activations, inactivations, and reorganizations; build Army-level investment strategies through the POM process; and most visibly, manage equipment distribution and new equipment training (NET) throughout the Army. FA50s at Joint Staff or COCOM levels are the commanders’ experts on Army force structure, capabilities and readiness.

**Are there any specific qualification requirements to be designated FA50?** The only fixed requirement is that officers must be at or beyond the seventh year of service and basic branch qualified. Officers with the technical aptitude to grasp complex, abstract ideas and understand key leadership actions that must be taken to adapt the Army as change occurs will find the most success as an FA50. Undergraduate degrees in business, finance, project management, organization management, and human resources are highly encouraged.

**What will influence my selection for FA50?** Officers in the rank of captain must have completed their basic branch KD requirements to include CCC. Experience of at least 24 months in KD positions in a Brigade, Division or Corps Headquarters are preferred. If you have or are filling a Force Management-related position, or have staff experience at brigade level or higher, you’ll want to include that information. Any education or training that you have received or experience related to equipment fielding, capabilities development or budgeting, is also useful information to include on your VTIP application.

**What if I have not completed CCC or had a Company Command?** FA50 requires officers to be branch qualified before beginning their Force Management careers. The FA50 HRC career manager will work with you and your branch career managers regarding the branch requirements if you are in the process of completion when you submit for VTIP.

**Where is FA50 training conducted, and is it considered a PCS?** All newly accessed Active Duty FA50 officers attend the 14 week FA50 Qualification Course (including the 4 week prerequisite, the How the Army Runs Course), currently taught at the Army Force Management School, Ft. Belvoir, Va. Officers typically attend in conjunction with the first FA50 PCS assignment which most often is in the metro DC area. Officers attending

enroute to assignment outside the DC area will have notation in their orders with specific instructions.

**Where are FA50s assigned? Do they deploy?** FA50 Force Management Officers are assigned throughout the Army at Division and Corps headquarters; at Theater Army and Army Service Component Command HQs such as ARCENT/3A, USAREUR/7A, USARPAC, Eighth Army and Army Space and Missile Defense Command; at Combatant Command HQs such as CENTCOM, PACOM, AFRICOM and US Forces Korea. Almost half of the Active Component FA50s and most Title 10 AGR FA50s are here in the Pentagon, either in the Army G-8, G-357, OSD or the Joint Staff. Besides normal unit deployments, we also have several FA50 officers tasked to support Worldwide Individual Augmentee System (WIAS) requirements in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan. These requirements change constantly so contact your HRC Career Manager for updates

**Do FA50's get the opportunity to go to graduate school?** Advanced Civil Schooling (ACS) is a Human Resources Command (HRC) Program. FA50 is currently allocated 4 slots per year for officers to attend ACS. A board of senior FA50 officers selects ACS candidates from applications submitted annually. Selected officers may attend any program for which they can be accepted as long as it is first approved by the Proponent. Degrees in Organization Development, Public Administration, Business Administration or Human Resource Management are preferred. In the ACS program, you will be in a fully funded status for the duration of your studies (usually 18 months), attending in resident status and receiving all pay and allowances for that location while earning a Masters degree. For more information check out: <https://www.hrcapps.army.mil/SITE/protect/branches/officer/LeaderDev/CivSchool/index.htm>.

**Where and when do FA50s attend ILE?** Currently, Operations Support Career Field officers, including FA50s, attend resident ILE at one of the satellite locations – Fort Belvoir or Fort Lee, Virginia; Fort Gordon, Georgia; or the Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. The curriculum is identical to ILE at Leavenworth. If you are being assigned to the NCR, we will normally try to get you into ILE at Belvoir during your assignment there. Technically, “ILE” completion, which results in the officer being awarded Military Education Level (MEL) 4, includes the “core” course which awards Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) I, and the appropriate functional area qualification course. Either course may be done first, but both parts must be completed by the end of your 15th year of service.