

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find information about FA50? You can find information about FA50 in DA PAM 600-3 Chapter 31 and at <http://www.fa50.army.mil/> . If you have an AKO account, you can also check out <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/194547>, and the Force Management Net forum at <https://forums.bcks.army.mil>. Log in using your CAC and request permission to become a member of Force Management Net to learn more. We are also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/army.fa50 .

I am interested in using the Voluntary Transfer Incentive Program (VTIP) to get into FA50. How should I proceed? The Voluntary Transfer Incentive Program (VTIP) is a means for eligible Officers to apply to transfer to a different branch/functional area. The VTIP panels are held quarterly and the eligibility and applications requirements can be found in the latest MILPER message <https://perscomnd04.army.mil/milpermsgs.nsf/> covering the current quarter's VTIP panel. Eligibility is primarily based on Branch/Functional Area Year Group strength. **Our Career Manager at HRC, LTC Eric Hoggard (502-613-6681) can also help.**

I'm interested in using the Call to Active Duty to enter FA50. Can you help? The Call to Active Duty (CAD) Program is a means for eligible Officers to apply to come on active duty. The most up to date information on eligibility and application criteria can be found at: <https://www.hrcapps.army.mil/site/protect/branches/officer/Operations/Accessions/CAD/CADProgram.htm>

What qualifications are recommended to put on the VTIP request to ensure that I am selected for FA50? 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.

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 Army Force Management Course), currently taught at the Army Force Management School, Bldg 247, Ft. Belvoir, Va. There are several ways to attend the Q-Course. If you are being assigned to the Army Staff (ARSTAF) or other organization in the National Capital Area, you will attend after completing your PCS move. If you're PCSing elsewhere, you may attend TDY en-route to your next duty location. (In this case, MTSA funds may be available. Call Patsy Campbell for information.) Or, you may attend in a TDY-and-return status from and to your current duty location. LTC Hoggard can help with scheduling.

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. If you request transfer from your basic branch into FA50 and have not yet completed your basic branch CCC, and your request is approved, we will work with your basic branch to get you scheduled for CCC. Upon completion of CCC and any other branch obligations, you will attend the Q-Course and will be assigned to an FA50 position.

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 about 17 FA50 officers tasked to support Worldwide Individual Augmentee System (WIAS) requirements in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan.

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.

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 6 slots per year for officers to attend ACS. GMU has an MBA program that is popular with FA50s in the NCR, but selected officers may attend any program that they are accepted to as long as it is approved by the Proponent. 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 Navy Postgraduate School at Monterey, California. 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 here. (Technically, “ILE” includes the “core” course, which results in the officer being awarded Military Education Level (MEL) 4 and 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.)

If I become an FA50 will I ever command again? There are currently no command positions designated specifically for Force Managers. However, FA50 does have several LTC and COL level Centralized Selection List (CSL) positions. Officers competing for these positions are selected by a DA command and CSL board and are considered comparable to unit commanders at the same rank.

Where can I find more information about the AGR Program and FA50? Please visit the following link: <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/reserve/soldierservices/programs/agr/agrprogram.htm>