

The Induction Process

Application

Potential Candidates are required to complete an online application form through this website. The dates for the Recruit Competition are advertised on various platforms and on this website, with applications only being accepted on these dates. All correspondence with applicants will be done through email for the duration of the competition.

Applicants may only apply for assessment in one (1) Army location within the Defence Forces, i.e. DFTC, 1 Brigade, or 2 Brigade. An assessment location will be chosen for applicants who apply for more than one (1) Army location. Their other applications will be rejected. Applicants should be aware that applicants for the Defence Forces can be posted to any location within the State.

Applicants for the Army may also apply for the Naval Service.

Fitness Testing

All candidates who are successful at the Psychometric Testing phase will then be invited to attend a Fitness Testing centre, where they will be required to complete the Defence Forces induction fitness test. This is a pass or fail test. Dual candidates for the Army and Naval Service will only be required to pass one test.

Psychometric Testing

All applicants who meet the minimum eligibility criteria will be invited to take online Psychometric Test. Full details of these tests will be emailed to all successful applicants after the fitness test phase is complete.

Interview

Candidates who are successful at the Fitness Assessment Centre will be asked to attend for Interview which is held on the same day as the Fitness Test. The interview is competency based where Candidates will be assessed under the following competencies:-

- Ability to work under pressure
- Teamwork
- Motivation
- Career Orientation

Medical & Security Clearance

Candidates who are successful at the Fitness Test and Interview will then be called to attend a full medical examination. In conjunction with this all candidates will be security vetted by An Garda Síochána. Candidates will be required to pass both the medical examination and security vetting to be considered for induction. Candidates must also supply two referee's as part of the security vetting process.

Award of an place in a Recruit Platoon

The candidates who finished at the top of the competitions order of merit will then be offered a place in the Recruit Platoon they applied for.

Training

Recruit Training (Seventeen weeks)

The Recruit Training Syllabus is designed to produce a physically fit, disciplined and motivated Two Star Infantry soldier with basic military skills. Recruit training is foundation military training. It is seventeen weeks in duration. It is followed by 3 Star training and at a later stage by Trained Soldier Specialist Training courses.

Phase 1: Induction (Two weeks)

This period will include a Defence Force orientation package, adventure training and information/motivational instruction to the recruit. The Induction period seeks to present a positive approach with the promotion of the Defence Forces as a progressive and forward looking organization. The period will also include personnel/logistical administration, some aspects of health and safety education and training, medical intake processing and an introduction to physical educational training. The training format will include both lecture and practical demonstrations.

Stage 2: Introductory Training Period (6 weeks)

Instructional focus will centre on Foot/Arms Drill, Rifle Marksmanship (to include the Recruits Annual Personal Weapons Test), GPMG (to include the Recruits Annual Personal Weapons Test), and Physical Fitness.

Phase 3 — Tactical Training Period (6 Weeks)

The main instructional focus during this phase will be tactical training and will culminate with the five (5) day exercise in week 14. This training will focus on imparting to the recruit a thorough knowledge of Section level tactics.

Phase 4 - Final Training Period (3 Weeks)

The emphasis during this phase will be on the final approval of the recruit and preparations for the Passing Out Parade.

Unit Assignment

Recruits who are deemed to have successfully completed the training programme receive their Unit assignment in the last week of the Recruit course.