MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT ORDER 1550.2A

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List
Subj: MARINE CORPS PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION (PME) PROGRAM

Ref: (a) MCO 1553.4B Professional Military Education
(b) MARADMIN 703/08 Officer PME Summary
(c) MCO P1610.7F Ch 1-2 Performance Evaluation System
(d) ALMAR 027/11 Revision of the Marine Corps Professional Reading Program List

1. Situation. Per the references, to publish the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) command PME policy.

2. Cancellation. MEUO 1550.2.

3. Mission. This Order provides information and direct action regarding continuing professional education within all elements of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) in order to ensure our leaders of tomorrow are educated and prepared to accept the responsibilities of small unit leaders, as well as command and staff assignments, in joint or combined arms environments.

4. Execution

   a. Commander’s Intent and Concept of Operations

      (1) Commander’s Intent. PME is an integral part of every Marine’s professional military development throughout his or her career. The purpose of the 15th MEU PME program is to develop an environment conducive to the study of warfighting and assist all Marines in the 15th MEU in developing analytical and critical thinking skills by ensuring and supporting Marines in their enrollment and participation in resident instruction, distance education, professional self-study, and the Marine Corps Professional Reading Program. The desired endstate of this program is the timely completion of PME criteria per grade and the development of every Marine in the skill set, knowledge and military professionalism needed to continue their professional growth and competitiveness for promotion/retention.

      (2) Concept of Operations. Reference (a) outlines the objectives and requirements of the Marine Corps PME Program in detail.

         (a) The objectives of the 15th MEU PME Program are:

         (1) Develop the individual Marines’ PME with the knowledge and leadership training to enhance their professional qualifications in preparation for assuming duties of greater responsibility.
(2) Develop 15th MEU Marines whose professional backgrounds and military education will improve the operational excellence of both single-service and joint military force across the range of military operations.

(3) Develop 15th MEU Marines with the warfighting skills necessary to lead Marines in combat with the knowledge gained in the distance education program.

(4) 15th MEU Marines will have an equal opportunity to participate in the PME program. Sections will ensure all Marines are afforded the opportunity to participate in and complete their PME programs in order to facilitate long-term career development of the Marine.

(b) Resident enlisted PME instruction can be obtained through attendance of one of the formal schools aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California.

(c) Nonresident PME is obtained through the officer and enlisted Distance Education Programs (DEP).

(1) Marine officer DEP is developed by the College of Continuing Education (CCE). Marine officers can complete either the resident course or the associated DEP as equivalency for purposes of promotion as identified in enclosure (1) of reference (a).

(2) Enlisted nonresident programs are sponsored through the Marine Corps University (MCU) enlisted PME Branch with the support of the Marine Corps Institute (MCI). MCI supports the enlisted PME program by enrolling, distributing and administering nonresident course material to the individual Marine.

(d) The Marine Corps Professional Reading Program established by the command will be utilized to the maximum extent possible. The Command Library located in the 15th MEU Conference Room maintains books from the required reading list per reference (d). Individuals may check these books out from the 15th MEU Education Officer.

b. Tasks

(1) S-1, 15th MEU. Assign one Marine as Training Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) to liaison with the S-3 Training Chief for past, present, and future PME tracking.

(2) S-2, 15th MEU. Assign one Marine as Training NCO to liaison with the S-3 Training Chief for past, present, and future PME tracking.

(3) S-3, 15th MEU

(a) Coordinate and supervise all aspects of the PME Program.

(b) Assign one Marine as the 15th MEU Training Chief within the section that will track PME resident/nonresident course enrollment for the MEU.
(c) Maintain a schools matrix for accountability of 15th MEU Marines. The schools matrix will track resident PME courses, Military Occupational School (MOS) or billet related courses, Marines on Temporary Additional Duty (TAD) orders, locations, and funding per course. The schools matrix will include the following:

1. Current attendance;
2. Future courses; and
3. Requested courses.

(d) The 15th MEU Training Chief will forward requests for PME school submission to I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group (I MHG) via email at: IMHG.SCHOOLS@usmc.mil.

(e) Ensure proper screening of individual eligibility requirements is accomplished prior to forwarding applications for PME enrollment.

(f) All completion of training will be entered into the Marine Corps Training Information Management System (MCTIMS).

(g) The 15th MEU Training Chief will ensure that all tracking of PME is current and an electronic copy of training is kept within the S-3 section.

4. S-4, 15th MEU

(a) Provide funding for schools not funded by the Training and Education Command (TECOM) for 15th MEU Marines when course submission has been approved through the S-3.

(b) Assign one Marine as Training NCO to liaison with the S-3 Training Chief for past, present, and future PME tracking.

5. S-6, 15th MEU. Assign one Marine as Training NCO to liaison with the S-3 Training Chief for past, present, and future PME tracking.

c. Coordinating Instructions

1. MCI/CCE PME Program Eligibility. 15th MEU Marines will be eligible to enroll in PME programs for the next higher grade after satisfying the PME requirements and criteria of their present grade as defined in reference (a).

2. PME Equivalency. PME equivalency is addressed by grade in reference (a). Requests for equivalency review should be submitted through the Chain of Command.

3. Fitness Reports. All Marines attending resident PME courses will receive appropriate reports according to procedures specified in reference (c).

5. Administration and Logistics
a. Submit all recommendations concerning this Order via the appropriate chain of command.

b. The following websites can assist with the Command PME Program.

   (1) The College of Continuing Education:
       http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/cce/

   (2) The Marine Corps University:

   (3) The Marine Corps Institute:
       https://www.mci.usmc.mil/

   (4) The Marine Corps Professional Reading Program:

6. Command and Signal

   a. Command. This Order is applicable to all personnel assigned or attached to the 15th MEU.

   b. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.

   S. D. CAMPBELL

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