



## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

RECRUIT TRAINING COMMAND  
3355 ILLINOIS STREET  
GREAT LAKES, IL 60088-3127

Dear Family and Friends,

Welcome from Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes! Thank you for supporting your Sailor's commitment to enlist in the United States Navy. You have already played a critical role in molding your new Sailor into the man or woman they are today. Your continued support will help them navigate the transformation from civilian to Sailor and successfully serve our nation in the future.

Recruit training (boot camp) is very demanding. Most find the first few weeks challenging as they adjust to the military environment; and, in some cases, to their first time away from home. Their schedule of instruction, military drill, hands-on learning, and physical fitness regime provides little free time. Your new Sailor has been advised to write or telephone home, when possible, to share their experiences. With the many demands on your new Sailor's time, you may not hear from them as often as desired; however, any encouraging letters and cards will certainly boost their morale and help during this abrupt and significant transition.

The carefully selected staff of officers and senior enlisted personnel who are directly responsible for your Sailor's training, welfare, safety and morale are among the best serving in today's Navy. Additionally, a highly skilled support staff of doctors, dentists, psychologists and chaplains are here to care for Sailors' physical, emotional and spiritual needs while also instilling toughness and resiliency. These professionals will guide your new Sailor during their 10 weeks of basic training. At times, a delay or setback in training for academic, medical or other reasons may be necessary. I can assure you that any decision to delay a Sailor's training is always taken very seriously with each individual's best interests in mind.

In addition to the graduation information you have received, I encourage you to visit our [website](#). There you will find useful information about contacting your Sailor and attending the graduation ceremony, also known as "Pass-in-Review." I also encourage you to "Like" us on [Facebook](#) and "Follow" us on [Instagram](#), where you can see images of Sailors in training, interact with other families, and receive news and information about boot camp.

Most importantly, as we navigate through COVID conditions, it is imperative for the safety of our Sailors and staff that everyone adhere to our COVID protocols. If you plan to attend the Pass-in-Review ceremony, you MUST follow all guidelines listed in the graduation link listed [here](#), which has the most up-to-date information available. Additionally, our graduation attendance is determined by the size of the Training Group which is available on our Training Group [page](#) on our website. Lastly, the form letter and graduation instruction can be located electronically [here](#). I am personally committed to the success and well-being of your new Sailor. Thank you for supporting their desire to serve our great nation in the United States Navy!

Sincerely,

Recruit Training Command