

ALERT

AIR LAND EMERGENCY RESOURCE TEAM



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

JANUARY 2010

One Academy Blvd. • Big Sandy, TX 75755
Phone: (903) 636-2000 • Fax: (903) 636-2013 • www.alertacademy.com

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ALERT VISION STATEMENT

Before the return of Christ to earth, Scripture tells us that there will be perilous times (II Timothy 3). We are in those times, and we are ready to meet urgent needs and to give answers to the problems that perplex others. ALERT is designed to equip and empower young men to dynamically serve God in stressful circumstances. It is our desire that God raise up ALERT Responders to answer the call for service, no matter how difficult or dangerous that call may be. We do not know what God ultimately has in mind, but we do need to be prepared (Ephesians 6:10) and ready to serve wherever and whenever we are asked.

We are preparing men with the desire, skills, and opportunities to meet the needs of people in crisis and to share their faith and the love of Christ in dark places. As he seeks to see his life count for the kingdom of God, the ALERT Responder needs to be totally committed to dying to self, taking up his cross, and following Christ alone on a daily basis. Competitors for our affection and attentions must be abandoned. Entanglements and besetting sins must be set aside. We must be ready at all times to respond to crises in a timely manner, with a grateful spirit, and with the discipline to effectively accomplish the Lord's task whenever He gives the call. This commitment to Godly living extends to training, deployment, and home.

The leaders who emerge in the next generation will be those with proven character, resolute courage and vision, and unwavering convictions. ALERT desires to help men, through the power of God, to achieve these attributes and to hold a standard against the tide of evil. A few committed believers turned the world upside down in the first century. There is a need for that same dynamic in the challenges of today. The ALERT Responder becomes part of a team of committed men who are dedicated to the Lord and to the ALERT vision. The ALERT Responder, by choice and by the Lord's grace, will continue the discipline of a Godly life wherever the Lord may call him to serve.

An ALERT Responder seeks success by claiming four promises:

- 1) Joshua 1:8: *"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."*
- 2) I Peter 5:6: *"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."*
- 3) Philippians 4:13: *"I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me."*
- 4) John 15:7: *"If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."*

ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION

Eligibility

- Young men at least 17 years of age, or who will turn 17 during their Basic Training
- Medically and physically qualified:
 - Young men must pass a sports physical (dated within 60 days of the Basic Training start date)
- Enrollment in the Advanced Training Institute (ATI)

—or—

For non-ATI students: Completion of high school graduation requirements

Application Process

1. Complete an Application, which must include all of the following:

- ALERT Application & Questionnaire
- ALERT Father Questionnaire
- Medical History form—includes Release of Liability and Medical Consent Form
- BT Physical Examination form—filled out by a qualified medical doctor. Please remember, this physical must be dated within 60 days of the Basic Training start date. You may mail this form in later, or hand carry it to us when you arrive.
- ALERT Physical Training Standards Form
- Photographs
 - 1 family photograph (any size), taken in the last year
 - 2 personal photographs (any size), taken in the last year
- \$35.00 application fee (check made payable to ALERT)
- Valid Passport (required)

In addition, you will want to begin the following preparation at home:

- Start memorizing the book of I Peter (KJV).
- Start a physical fitness program at home.
- Obtain a valid U.S. Passport

2. Mail the above information to:

International ALERT Academy
Attn: Basic Training—Confidential
One Academy Blvd. • Big Sandy, TX 75755

3. After receiving and reviewing your application, an ALERT Basic Training officer will conduct a phone interview to discuss your eligibility. Please allow 4 weeks from the day we receive your application to make this call.

You will be carefully screened for potential of success, and every effort will be made to ensure a positive experience at ALERT.

If it is determined that a candidate is in need of further preparation before Basic Training, one of the following options may be suggested:

- 1) At-home preparation to resolve deficiencies or
- 2) CORE—a 4-week, in-residence, preparation program.

Following or during the phone interview, a decision or recommendation will be made regarding the training path that would be best for you.

4. Written confirmation of your acceptance for an upcoming Basic Training unit will be sent by mail, along with the final instructions for preparation, Medical Insurance Information Form, Transportation Form, and a packing list.

NOTE: The ALERT Transportation department needs your arrival/departure information if flying, traveling by bus, or car.

Completing the ALERT Application & Questionnaire

Complete the questionnaire in detail, in your own handwriting, and with your father's guidance. You may use extra paper when needed.

The requested information is necessary to develop a full picture of who you are, including the weaknesses in your life that we may encounter. Our desire is to help every man find freedom from the sins and weights which so easily beset him and from the things which are deceptive and destructive in life. Please be honest with your answers or simply state, "I am uncomfortable answering." There are some very personal and soul-searching questions which all have a bearing on our training process. All answers will be kept strictly confidential. We suggest that you make a copy of your application, not only to serve as a back-up copy, but also for future personal reference.

We hope you sense our sincere desire to help you in your personal growth. If you have any questions, you may call ALERT and request to speak with a Basic Training staff member.

NOTE: ALERT, as an organization, is in a constant state of development. If you received your application forms or this booklet more than four months ago, please contact us to verify that they are still the most up-to-date version, or visit our website at www.alertacademy.com and download the latest application.

Goal

The 4-week CORE pre-Basic Training program helps candidates prepare for the intense challenges of Basic Training, and affords them the opportunity to be introduced to the ALERT environment in a low-pressure setting before committing Basic Training. CORE focuses on building a pattern of daily disciplines in the spiritual and physical realm.

The goal of CORE is to prepare young men for success in Basic Training. Spiritual shallowness, resistant attitudes, emotional immaturity, besetting fears, and low physical fitness are five primary causes of Basic Training incompleteness. CORE is an opportunity for our staff to address these weaknesses as well as others.

Eligibility & Application

Men who apply to ALERT are screened for their prospect of success versus risk of failure. Higher-risk applicants (e.g., less-mature applicants, those who have special spiritual or emotional needs, or those with little to no athletic preparation) are urged to pray about and consider CORE before attempting Basic Training. Entry standards for CORE are consequently much less demanding, as the program is designed to build the skills necessary for success in Basic Training.

Those considering CORE should follow the general ALERT application process (see "Application Process," pg. 4). Following or during the phone interview with an ALERT Basic Training officer, a decision or recommendation will be made as to whether the candidate should consider CORE training or immediately enter Basic Training.

Training Elements

Spiritual Training

Spiritual training is central to CORE, as in all ALERT phases, and becoming grounded in one's faith is foundational to all future training. Scripture memorization includes a "jump start" on required passages for Basic Training so that candidates challenged in this area can enter Basic Training better prepared.

Character Development

Character development is heavily emphasized in Basic Training, and CORE's character training through daily work projects is designed to bring out areas of struggle (resistant spirits, laxness, lack of motivation) and address them through mentoring.

Emotional Maturation

Emotional development and crossing fear boundaries are among the real assets of CORE training. Specific fears addressed include being under authority, facing the unknown and homesickness. These can overwhelm a Basic Training recruit. Learning how to overcome fear increases a candidate's faith in God's ability to strengthen those who will trust Him and builds a healthy self-confidence.

Physical Training

Physical training is the single largest source of discouragement to poorly prepared men. The four weeks of CORE are designed to slowly but effectively build both strength and endurance, thus making the candidate equipped and confident to face the physical challenges of Basic Training.

BASIC TRAINING

Goal

The objective of the 9-week ALERT Basic Training is to instill foundational attitudes and behaviors that will prepare men to lead Godly lives, while equipping them for further training and ministry with ALERT and a vision for God's kingdom. Basic Training prepares men for a disciplined life. With such a foundation, future training and service opportunities are performed with optimum effectiveness.

Basic Training equips spiritually-minded men with the disciplines and responsiveness necessary to serve effectively as men of God. The goal is to build Godly character and to incorporate Biblical values en route to manhood and life ministry.

Training Elements

Spiritual Training

Basic Training is structured around the eight callings of II Peter 1:5–7. Each week, one calling will be emphasized in devotions and other activities.

Recruits are challenged to establish the disciplines of personal devotions, Scripture memory, and Bible study while applying Biblical principles to life situations. ALERT proves to them that if they can have a daily time with God in the most extreme circumstances, then they can maintain this discipline throughout the rest of their lives and hopefully gain a vision for God's kingdom.

Scriptural application is further refined in the pursuit of Godly character. The men gain emotional maturity as they wrestle with homesickness, youthful fears, and controlling emotional reactions. Their comfort limits and fear boundaries will be regularly tested to widen their horizons and to help them develop a healthy level of self-assurance. Specific fears addressed include being under authority, facing the unknown, home-sickness, extended hiking, camping in the wilderness, and heights.

Learning how to respond to stressful situations increases a man's faith in God, as well as his confidence in his own abilities. Basic Training is carefully balanced to control the tribulation necessary to stabilize fear, resignation, discouragement, anger, resentment, and other negative emotions. As men overcome increasingly difficult challenges, they are able to see God's hand at work in their lives, and they grow in faith, discipline, motivation, and focus, all while combining training with a spiritual emphasis.

Character Training

ALERT provides a quality alternative to young men considering military service, as it imports the best features of the U.S. military. As such, ALERT should not be confused with church camp or recreational outdoor programs.

Training in Godly character is organized into clusters, the chief cluster encompassing the area of Compliance. The principle of authority is taught with a view to differentiating between obedience, submission, honor, and loyalty.

Within the context of compliance training, recruits master the elements of basic obedience (rote compliance motivated by consequences). Moving onto the second level, submission is learned in light of phileo (brotherly love) and mutual trust. The third and highest level of compliance,

honor, is imbued with the agape (God's love) understanding that we die to self as we strive for the success of a God-appointed authority.

The Basic Training environment is very effective in revealing resistant attitudes and rebellion in young men. Responsiveness is ALERT's byword, and as an ALERT Responder, a good employee, or a faithful son, the recruit must demonstrate the qualities of dependability, diligence, and thoroughness. Meaningful projects allow men to develop these qualities along with punctuality and accountability, to achieve a mature level of responsiveness.

Similar qualities are clustered around Persistence (endurance, determination, patience), Confidence (boldness, initiative, decisiveness), and Readiness (vigilance and attentiveness).

Physical Training

"PT" is an integral part of Basic Training. Although ". . . bodily exercise profiteth little . . ." it is of value nevertheless. An ALERT Responder needs to maintain a man-sized capability of strength and endurance in order to safely and effectively serve in disaster situations that usually demand long exertions of hard, physical labor.

Additionally, physical fitness provides a convenient classroom in which to learn self-control and mastery over one's physical body. Although ALERT deems physical training a lower priority than spiritual and character development, it may be an area of struggle for those not in the habit of physical training.

Skill Training

Skill training is threaded throughout Basic Training as a foundation for subsequent areas of training. Many of these training opportunities have an element of adventure and provide incentive to complete ALERT Basic Training. Among these are camping skills, survival skills, and outdoor skills.

The realm of search-and-rescue requires Responders who are competent in all varieties of outdoor terrain and who will not be liabilities to themselves or to the mission. Living off the land, group sheltering, and outdoor living have been proven elements to teach our men to thrive in austerity while delivering valuable services. Such conditions are useful in preparing men for foreign missions or the coming perilous times.

Introductions in map and compass skills support later training in search-and-rescue, diving, and aviation. Elementary ropework, practiced in river crossings and rappelling in Basic Training, leads to high-angle rescue. First Aid essentials covered in Basic Training eventually yield to instruction in emergency medicine in Advanced Training. Problem-solving exercises give a practical forum for team-building and leadership practice, and by the time Basic Training is completed, the young men have been knit together into a cohesive team that depends first on God's strength. They are then ready to confront new challenges in ALERT Advanced Training.

Response Training

Initial response training foundational to disaster response will begin in Basic Training. Classes in Evangelism and Search-and-Rescue will equip Responders to deploy immediately upon promotion, if required. Many times international travel is required, and a valid passport is necessary prior to the start of Emergency Response Training (ERT). These skills provide confidence in ministering to people in need and equip the Responders in their goal of service to others. This initial response training will also provide the building blocks for further training during Emergency Response Training.

Discipleship

Discipleship is what the Christian life is all about. But how do we know when we are true disciples? And how do we know when we have trained someone else to be a disciple? The answer is found in the Great Commission: "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:20). So what were all the commands of Jesus? A survey of the Gospels will produce about forty-nine general commands that every believer should follow. This, then, is the curriculum for carrying out the Great Commission and being a disciple. We will attempt to cover 8–9 foundational qualities needed in the life of an ALERT Responder.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING

Goal

Building upon the foundation of Basic Training, the 10-week Emergency Response phase prepares men to respond physically and spiritually to crisis situations, while continuing to instill in them the ministry mindset that is a prerequisite to Godly servanthood. Crisis response skills are taught in the classroom and are readily practiced through disaster relief and other service opportunities. The development of Godly character is promoted through discipleship and accountability. Both skills and character are essential in preparing a man to minister to the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of those he is called to serve.

Training Elements

Basic Fire Fighting

An introduction to Basic Structural Fire Fighting terms and tactics, enabling the student to perform to International Fire Safety Training Association (I.F.S.T.A.) standards.

Basic High Angle Rescue

This course provides a working knowledge of ropes and anchors used in rescue incidents to retrieve victims. Skills learned in the class are tested by simulating real-life rescue scenarios.

Evangelism (Series)

A practical series during morning devotional time on how to share your faith with opportunities to minister to those outside of the ALERT community.

Leadership

Instruction in the foundational biblical principles of being an effective leader.

Open Water Diving

An entry-level course with certification through the National Association of SCUBA Educators (NASE). The student will receive training in the fundamentals of SCUBA diving, including proper buoyancy, basic diving physics and physiology, equipment use and maintenance, decompression theory, and basic diving first aid. Prerequisite to Advanced Open Water and Special Response Diver.

Open Water Diving

An advanced SCUBA course with NASE certification. Training includes areas of diving specialty, such as night diving, deep diving, and navigation diving. Special emphasis is placed on solidifying the student's self-confidence in his personal diving skills. Prerequisite: Open Water SCUBA Diving. Prerequisite to Special Response Diver.

Rescue Systems One

Instruction in structural collapse, urban search-and-rescue, structure stabilization, shoring techniques, and patient extrication.

Sawyer

Instruction in the proper use of the chainsaw, as well as chainsaw maintenance and safety procedures. The skills gained in this course will find important practical application on disaster deployments and local service projects.

Special Response Diver

Training in underwater search and recovery with certification through the National Academy of Police Diving (NAPD). Topics include search patterns, vehicle recovery, body recovery, and underwater crime scene investigation. Prerequisite: Advanced Open Water SCUBA diving or equivalent certification from another nationally recognized agency. Proof of certification must be provided at registration.

Wildland Firefighting

Please call for more details on this course.

Other Courses

As schedule/instructor availability allows: Advanced Search and Rescue, CPR certification.

Service Elements

Disaster Response

In response to a call from an authority, ALERT will deploy a team on short notice to a disaster-stricken area to assist that authority with the needs in his jurisdiction. ALERT's goal is to make leaders successful while presenting the love of Christ through flexible, selfless public service.

Local Response

Applying the search-and-rescue skills taught in Basic Training, men are placed on response teams which are on-call with local sheriffs to assist in emergency situations, such as lost-person searches.

Service Projects

Service to others is an opportunity to exercise the heart of a servant and to build vital qualities. ALERT service projects may take place at the ALERT Headquarters, at IBLP training centers, in local communities, or even internationally in the form of humanitarian aid.

ADVANCED TRAINING

Goal

The goal of the 32-week Advanced Training is to equip each man with vocational skills in an area he can use to support his future ministry endeavors, while increasing his emergency response capabilities. In many of the Advanced Training options, the 32 weeks of training (34 weeks for Paramedic, plus ten weeks of EMT-Basic if not already certified) can contribute to a young man's pursuit of national certification in his chosen field; however, the emphasis remains on "service to others," as the men remain on stand-by for possible disaster-relief or service deployments. Both skills and character are essential ingredients for preparing a man to minister to the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of those he is called to serve.

The semester schedule of Advanced Training allows each man to seek and follow the Lord's will in his specific calling. Graduation from ALERT requires completion of Basic Training (9 weeks), Emergency Response Training (10 weeks), and 32 weeks of Advanced Training, which may be completed within one field of study or in three sessions in various training fields. Whether preparing for a home business or developing diverse skills for future ministry, Advanced Training provides the flexibility to follow a desired course of instruction.

Advanced Training Options

NOTE: Not all training options are available each session; please contact the Training Officer for specific scheduling.

Aircraft Maintenance—General (10–32 weeks) *

Apprenticeship in the procedures, practices, materials, tools, and equipment generally used in constructing, maintaining, or altering airframes and powerplants. Students may elect to remain beyond their graduation for an additional 96 weeks to complete the full course of practical training required for federal certification as an A&P mechanic. (Please note that these additional weeks exclude furloughs, deployments, and other absences from training. A week implies 40 hours of work at the hangar or on related assignments.) Special payment schedule: weeks 1–32, full room and board, tuition and program fee; weeks 33–80, room and board only; weeks 81–128, no charge.

Aquatics (11-32 weeks)

An intense program in aquatic rescue and recovery. The foundation of the training is the Open Water, Advanced Open Water, and Special Response Diver courses from the Emergency Response phase.

- **Aquatics I** (11 weeks): Nitrox Diver, Rescue Diver, Drysuit Diver, Underwater Photography Diver, Tactical Diver, Lifeguard, Swiftwater Rescue and the Divemaster Training Program.
- **Aquatics II** (10 weeks): ERT Divemaster Training, Full Facemask Diver, Dive Gear Equipment Specialist, Lifting Specialist, Visual Inspection Program, Marina Diver, and the Instructor Training Program.
- **Aquatics III** (11 weeks): The Aquatic Program III is designed for qualified Divemasters to apply their training to real time classroom instruction as they complete their requirements for Openwater, Specialty, and Lifeguard Instructor.

Auto Mechanics (10–32 weeks) *

Hands-on work in the auto shop for those with either prior auto mechanic skills or those men who wish to learn basic maintenance on vehicles. There is no formal training/classroom structure and project assignments are at the discretion of the auto shop manager. Individual abilities determine type of work assigned. When feasible and/or time allows, men will work side-by-side with a skilled mechanic. Limited to 1–2 men per 10–11-week session. Please note that this option is only conducted when auto shop is staffed with a full-time mechanic. Please consult the Battalion Training Officer for more information.

Aviation

Flight Training approved under FAA Part 61 and taught by FAA certified instructors. Training is available for the FAA Private, Commercial and Flight Instructor certifications as well as the Instrument rating. Cessna 150, 172 and 210 aircraft are used. How far the student progresses during the 27 weeks normally allotted depends on his personal aptitude, diligence and finances as well as weather, however normally the Private certificate with Instrument rating is completed by graduation from ALERT. In rare cases one may even complete their commercial license. This again would depend on personal finances, aptitude and flying conditions. The student may stay on after graduation or even return at another time to add or finish additional certifications/ratings if he so desires.

Basic Training Leadership and Support (12 weeks)

Participating as either a squad leader or logistics assistant for future Basics. Includes some classroom training. Men who are in ERT training who chose this as their next option will be excused from final weeks of ERT requirements to join leadership training classes in preparation for Basic.

Emergency Medicine

• **EMT-Basic (11 weeks)**—Instruction in emergency care, with practicals at a local hospital's emergency department and ambulance service. The EMT-Basic course is prerequisite to the EMT-Paramedic course and is offered during the second session of each semester. Students may apply for state and/or national certification as an EMT-Basic, upon completion.

• **EMT-Paramedic (34 weeks)**—Didactic, practical, and clinical instruction in advanced professional emergency care. This course is offered once every year, during the summer session. Students may test and apply for state and/or national certification as an EMT-Paramedic, upon completion of the course.

Emergency Services Operations (14-21 weeks)

A program specializing in emergency services operations. Training includes 480-hour fire academy, high-angle rescue, urban search-and-rescue, water rescue, trench rescue, and confined-space rescue.

Law Enforcement (21 weeks)

Instruction given in accordance with national, state, and local law enforcement standards. Good background for those planning a career in criminal justice. The Police Academy is not state-certified or accredited, but it is taught by professionals in their specific fields. Minimum entry age is 19.

Leadership and Business (10–11 weeks)

Leadership practicals with the Quest Program followed by training in business related subjects.

Property and Facility Care Level I (10–32 weeks) *

The Property and Facility Care Level I (PC1) is a training option available to men in need of financial assistance. PC1 members go through Basic Training, like all other ALERT applicants. Upon successful completion of Basic Training, applicants receive a substantial discount for their Emergency Response Training in exchange for 32 weeks of on-campus service for their Advanced Training option. Contact the ALERT Training Officer for more information.

Property and Facility Care Level II (10–32 weeks) *

CALENDAR

Please call and confirm accuracy of all dates and events on this calendar before making any flight or other travel plans. ALERT will not be responsible for the cost of ticket alterations if you did not confirm accuracy first.

2010 Schedule

Winter

Jan. 2	Winter furlough ends, Winter Session begins
Feb. 8-Mar. 5	CORE 10-1
Mar. 13	Winter Session ends, Spring Session begins

Spring

Mar. 22-May 21	Basic Training Unit 43
May 21 - Unit 43	Advancement and Advanced Training Briefing; Red Carpet Day
May 22-June 26	Unit 43 Summer Furlough
May 28	Unit 41 Graduation

Summer

May 29-June 26	Unit 42 Summer Furlough
June 26	Summer Furlough ends, Summer Session begins
Aug. 2-27	CORE 10-2

Fall

Aug. 23	Paramedic Summer Furlough ends
Sept 4-Nov. 20	Summer Session ends, Fall Session begins
Sept. 13-Nov. 12	Unit 44 Basic Training
Nov. 12	Unit 44 Advancement and Advanced Training briefing, Red Carpet Day
Nov. 13-Jan 3, 2011	Unit 44 Winter Furlough
Nov. 19	Unit 40 Graduation
Nov. 20-Jan 3, 2011	Unit 43 Winter Furlough

Winter

Winter Session Registration deadline	
Jan. 3, 2011	Winter Furlough Ends, Winter Session begins

Please Notice

All in coming flights depending on ALERT transportation from the airport must be scheduled before 2 PM, and must have an ALERT Transportation Form* filled out and sent into the transportation department.

All out going flights depending on ALERT transportation from the airport must be scheduled after 12 PM, and must have an ALERT Transportation Form* filled out and sent into the transportation department.

We are not responsible for pickups that do not meet the above requirements

* The ALERT Transportation Form can be found on the ALERT website (www.alertacademy.com)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Financial Counsel and Regulations

One of ALERT's goals is to offer a quality program at a reasonable cost. We believe the disciplines, skills, and service opportunities offered to ALERT men are well worth the financial investment they make. Even so, we strongly encourage men and their families to "count the cost" before enrolling in ALERT (see Luke 14:28–30).

ALERT men are responsible for various work projects on campus on a weekly basis. This allows us to keep tuition at a minimum cost.

ALERT's financial procedures are based on the Biblical principle of responsible stewardship. Recognizing that our finances must be managed as a sacred trust from God, we desire all men to learn and practice Scriptural principles of financial responsibility. Freedom from debt through one's own labor, miraculous answers to prayer, and God's provision of needed funds help young men learn, practice, and build life patterns of financial freedom.

ALERT has no wish to be unkind or to seem unduly hard, but it is imperative that all accounts be paid on time, or else the man will be removed from training until the financial obligations have been fulfilled. Debt is a snare that can prohibit or hinder Christian service, and our desire is to allow our men to transition smoothly from training at ALERT to effective service for God's Kingdom. In addition, regular income from tuition and other fees covers only a portion of our operating expenses and staff salaries.

Training Fees

- Please go online to www.alertacademy.com/training and click on "Costs" to view the current Payment Schedules. Prices may also be obtained by contacting the ALERT Finance Department at (903) 636-2000. Please turn to page 27 for an overview of training costs.
- Fees are subject to change at ALERT's discretion and may be adjusted at the beginning of each calendar year.
- The following are the main categories of fees charged for ALERT training:
 - Tuition—covers administrative costs of the program.
 - Room & Board—helps to pay for the food and lodging expenses that are incurred.
 - Program Fee—non-refundable fee that covers the cost of textbooks, shop materials, other special materials, and activities provided during Basic Training, Emergency Response, and Advanced Training.
 - Uniform Fee—one-time uniform issue is paid prior to M-Team or Basic Training.
- ALERT men who go home for a time and return for additional training will be charged the current year's training fees.
- A re-attempt at Basic Training will be subject only to Room & Board fees, although any Tuition or Uniform fees that remain outstanding or that were refunded following the first attempt will also apply.

Payment Information

- A one-time \$35 application fee must accompany each application for admission into M-Team and/or Basic Training.
- A \$200 non-refundable deposit to verify registration is required immediately upon receipt of written confirmation of acceptance into a Basic Training unit (see pg. 5 of this booklet) or an M-Team (see pg. 5). The deposit will be applied against the Basic Training/M-Team fee due.
- Full payment of M-Team or Basic Training fees must be made approximately two weeks prior to the beginning of training.
- Two payment options are available for the Emergency Response and Advanced Training sessions. Regardless of the option chosen, the first payment must be received at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the session.
 - Option 1: With this option, payments made in full are rewarded with a discount.
 - Option 2: Payments are made throughout the session, according to the payment schedule that will be sent to parents.

Note: No other alternative payment options are available. Discuss any problems with meeting these deadlines with the Finance Department. Do not establish your own payment plan.

- A \$25 out-processing fee will be charged to men who leave ALERT in the middle of a semester, who are sent home for disciplinary reasons, or who are removed from Basic Training (except for medical discharge).
- Allow four weeks processing time for Tuition and/or Room & Board refunds. Unused Room & Board will be refunded in full, subject to the \$25 out-processing fee described above. Unused Tuition will be refunded only if less than 50% of a training session has been completed. Refunds are calculated by the number of weeks completed (not by a per-day rate). Partial weeks will be rounded up to the next full week.
- Due to costly credit card processing fees, we ask that you use checks for tuition payments. If this is not possible, we can accept Visa, MasterCard, or Discover. All credit card payments will be charged an additional 3% to cover this cost.
- Because we are charged when checks are returned by the bank unpaid, a \$20 fee will be charged for any non-sufficient funds (NSF) check.
- Please mark your envelope "ATTN: FINANCE" when mailing payments or other financial correspondence to ALERT.
- For proper crediting, write the full name of the man for whom a check is written on the memo line.
- ALERT is unable to refund Room & Board to men who choose to skip on-campus meals. Students in the EMT-Basic and EMT-Paramedic classes will be refunded for meals they miss while performing clinical rotations.
- For purchases at ALERT's on-campus stores and/or withdrawal of cash (must have PIN), ALERT recommends bringing a checkbook, debit card or Visa/MasterCard/Discover credit card rather than cash. A student may not "charge" his store purchases to his student fees account, where tuition, room and board, etc. are billed.

Financial Assistance

Scholarship Funds

Two ALERT Scholarship Funds have been established and funded by faithful donors to assist men in their training: Sons of Christian Workers-for men whose parents are in full-time Christian work. Assistant Pastors, Summer Camp Directors, etc. are not considered full-time unless that is the primary source of income throughout the year. Sons of Widows-for men whose father is deceased.

Those who qualify will receive a \$1,000 scholarship upon enrollment in Advanced Training. To qualify, the parents must submit a written request to the attention of the ALERT Finance Department explaining the circumstances that meet the qualifications for either scholarship. The scholarships will not be available for those in Basic Training and Emergency Response Training (ERT). The Finance department will notify you when scholarships are awarded.

Property and Facility Care Level I

Those who choose to enroll under the Property and Facility Care Level I (PC1) receive a \$2000 discount for ERT and commit themselves to 32 weeks of Advanced Training (see details on Page 14). Applicants receive a discount for Emergency Response Training and then serve various job assignments at ALERT Headquarters, according to their skill level and/or the particular needs of ALERT. PC1 men also may be deployed off-campus for disaster-relief assistance or to meet special service project needs. When they have successfully completed the entire PC1 program, they will graduate with full honors. If they choose to enter another Advanced Training option after graduation, they will be eligible for a 10% discount on tuition and room and board fees. There is no applicable discount for flight hours and/or program fees if this venue is selected.

The PC1 option is available to a limited number of men per Emergency Response Training unit. An agreement stating all requirements and obligations of the plan will be sent at the request of each applicant to be signed by him and his parents. Applicants will be accepted into the PC1 program in the order of payment received for Emergency Response Training. Failing to complete a full 32 weeks of PC1 will necessitate reimbursing ALERT a pro-rated portion of the original discount of \$2,000. Please contact Finance or the ALERT Training Officer for a detailed explanation.

Promotion Credits

Every ALERT man is evaluated for promotion, based on set criteria and a schedule of promotion. During Emergency Response Training and Advanced Training, upon promotion to the next rank in the Battalion, a \$75 credit will be added to the student's account to help reduce his bill. If the account is paid in full, the promotion credit may be withdrawn as petty cash. Promotion credits are given to active men in training; those serving in staff positions who do not pay Tuition and Program fees will not receive cash or other credit.

Miscellaneous Information

- Transcripts may be ordered by written or phone request to the Registrar. The individual's tuition account must be current before a transcript may be processed or released. The first transcript is complimentary, any official transcript thereafter is \$10. Please allow four weeks for processing.
- Men in Emergency Response Training and Advanced Training may sign up for an e-mail service as a convenient, economical, and efficient means of communicating with family and friends. Please contact the Sergeant Major Department for current prices and regulations.
- The Finance Office will cash money orders, cashier's checks, or personal checks for students. Checks in excess of \$100 will be held at the Finance Office and cashed within 48 hours. A \$20 fee will be charged for any NSF check.
- The Transportation Department provides shuttle service from certain airports, train stations, and bus stations. Please contact the Transportation Department for the latest fee structure and restrictions.

PACKING LIST

Issued Items

The following items will be issued to recruits and are included in the Basic Training Uniform Fee. Items marked with an astrisk (*) are recieved at the end of Basic Training. The clothing items form the basis of the uniforms needed for all phases of ALERT training.

Uniform Items

- 3 short-sleeve shirts, chambray
- 1 long-sleeve shirt, chambray
- Patches and accessories for shirts
- 4 pairs BDU pants
- 1 BDU belt
- 1 dress shirt
- 1 pair dress pants
- 1 tie
- 1 dress belt
- 1 pair dress shoes
- 1 waterproof jacket
- 1 fleece jacket
- 1 Marine cover, navy
- 1 boonie hat, khaki

- 1 watch cap, black
- 1 pair sweatpants
- 2 sweatshirts
- 2 pair shorts
- 4 navy T-shirts
- 1 ALERT T-shirt*
- 1 navy ALERT polo shirt*

Miscellaneous Items

- 1 duffel bag
- 1 locking carabineer
- 20-ft. length of 1" tubular webbing
- 1 one-quart water bottle (nalgene)
- 1 Camelbak

Required Non-Issue Items

The following non-issue items will need to be obtained by the recruit. Many of these items can be purchased at reduced prices through the ALERT store (look for the ♦ symbol). Unless otherwise noted, all items are required, regardless of season.

Footwear

- 1 pair hiking boots ♦
- 1 pair high-top, polishable black boots ♦
 - Over-the-ankle
- 1 pair high-quality running shoes
 - Cross trainers may be brought in addition.

Socks

- 2 pairs black dress socks ♦
- 6–8 pairs white athletic socks ♦
 - For physical training
- 8–10 pairs wool hiking socks ♦
 - Synthetic material is also acceptable, depending upon preference. Wool socks are mainly for warmth in the winter and blister prevention in the summer. A lighter, less abrasive material, such as teflon, or a polypro sock liner may be worn with hiking socks.
 - Darker colors preferred

The ALERT Store

- Phone: (903) 636-9384
- Mailing Address: The ALERT Store • One Academy Blvd. • Big Sandy, TX 75755
- Online: www.thealertstore.com • Proceeds from ALERT Store sales support the ALERT Program.

Gloves

- 1 pair work gloves ♦
 - Must have leather palm
- 1 pair glove liners ♦
 - Polypro liners are acceptable as winter gloves

Thermal Underwear

- 1 long-sleeved top ♦
 - Navy or black; no turtlenecks
 - Polypropylene or other wicking material; no cotton

T-shirts

- 4 navy T-shirts ♦
- 2 white T-shirts ♦
 - Crew neck only; no logos or pockets

Required Non-Issue Items (cont.)

Other Clothing Items (some items not available at ALERT)

- Casual “civilian” clothes
 - 1 collared shirts (polos allowed) and 1 pair of pants (no “blue” jeans)
 - (Arrival Clothing for Basic Training)
- 8–10 pairs of underwear
 - Boxers, briefs, or boxer/briefs
- Pillow
- 2 sets twin-size sheets with pillowcases
- 3 sets of towels
 - Including hand towels and washcloths
 - Darker colors preferred
- Eyeglasses
 - If you wear contact lenses, you must also bring a pair of glasses. No Transitions or auto darkening lenses.
- Safety strap for eyeglasses
- Shoe cloth
- Shower shoes (Flip-flops, sandals)
- 20–25 clothes hangers
 - Uniformity in type and color recommended

Toiletry Items (enough for all 9 weeks of training)

- Shaving razor and shaving cream ♦
 - Electric razor is optional.
- Toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss ♦
- Soap and shampoo ♦
- Deodorant ♦
- Nail clippers ♦
- Medicated lip balm ♦

Gear

- Backpack ♦
 - Internal-frame pack recommended
 - 3,500-cubic-inch minimum
- Day pack ♦
 - 1,500-cubic-inch minimum
 - For day hikes and carrying books
- Waterproof pack cover ♦
- Lightweight tent ♦
- Outdoor sleeping bag ♦
 - Rated to at least 40°F
- Folding knife ♦
 - Blade no longer than 4"
- Plastic whistle ♦
- Map compass ♦
- 100-ft. length of 550 paracord ♦

- First Aid kit ♦
 - Antacid, Band-Aids®, moleskin, needle, anti-bacterial soap or tincture of benzoin, roller gauze, safety pins, Steri-Pad® gauze, medical tape, triangular bandage, elastic bandage, tweezers
- Metal “mess” kit or pot ♦
 - 1 frying pan and 1 boiling pot recommended
- Eating utensils ♦
 - Spoon recommended as minimum
- 2 firestarting options (at least) ♦
 - Matches
 - Lighters
 - Magnesium Kit
 - Butane lighters
- Flashlight, extra bulbs, and batteries ♦
 - Small, lightweight, and bright
 - A second flashlight may be cheaper than buying replacement bulbs.
- Sewing kit ♦
 - Needles, white and navy thread, scissors
- Water purification tablets or water filter ♦
- Sunscreen/sunblock ♦
- Black shoe polish ♦
- Hand sanitizer ♦
- Insect Repellent ♦

Miscellaneous Items

- Bible (KJV) ♦
 - The smaller the better; “no-commentary” style
- Notebook, paper, pens, pencils ♦
- Stationery, envelopes, stamps ♦
- Laundry detergent powder ♦
- Starch ♦
 - 2–3 Sta-Flo® liquid starch
 - 3–5 Faultless® spray starch
- Phone card for long-distance calls home ♦
- White & black laundry/gear markers ♦
- Vitamin C, potassium, and garlic tablets ♦

Optional Items

The following items are *not required* for Basic Training; however, they may be useful during and after Basic Training and are therefore recommended.

- 2 additional pair of navy BDUs ♦
- Compression shorts ♦
- Chafing cream or powder ♦
- Camera and film ♦
 - Cameras with time/date stamp are not permitted during Basic Training.
 - Disposable cameras are practical options.
- Personal checks, debit card and/or Visa/Mastercard/Discover credit card
 - For personal supplies, equipment, or uniform purchases
- Iron
- Small travel kit ♦
 - Toothbrush, toothpaste, razor, soap, deodorant
 - Sample sizes recommended
- Watch
 - (This Item not needed/allowed- during Basic Training)
- Large zip-lock bags
- Headlamp (flashlight) ♦
- Gore-Tex[®] socks or Seal Skinz[®] ♦
- Military-issue, tri-fold shovel or small camping shovel ♦
- Folding saw or hatchet ♦
- Sleeping pad or inflatable closed-cell foam pad ♦

Packing

Due to limited storage space for luggage, please pack your gear in soft/collapsible luggage or duffel bags.

What NOT to Bring

Please leave behind books, magazines, music media, fixed-blade knives, alcohol, tobacco, cell phones, laptop computers, distracting pastimes, and any inappropriate paraphernalia.

Source for Outdoor Gear

The ALERT Store

- Phone: (903) 636-9384
- Mailing Address: The ALERT Store • One Academy Blvd. • Big Sandy, TX 75755
- Online: www.thealertstore.com • Proceeds from ALERT Store sales support the ALERT Program.

(Notes continued on next page)

GEAR RECOMMENDATIONS

Clothing Materials

Fleece

- **Description:** A teased nylon fabric usually used in jackets.
- **Pros:** Provides excellent heat retention; wicks moisture very well; does not irritate or chafe; is light and easy to breathe through.
- **Cons:** Melts when exposed to flame; most common weave is neither waterproof nor wind-proof.

Wool

- **Description:** A natural fiber that is widely used in socks, hats, mittens, and even in pants.
- **Pros:** Provides excellent heat retention, wicks moisture well, provides more wind and rain protection than does fleece (except for loose-knit wools), and insulates even when wet. It is less abrasive than cotton, and it does not melt as quickly as a synthetic material when exposed to high temperatures.
- **Cons:** May require more care in washing; heavier than most synthetics; some people's skin reacts to the texture.

Thinsulate™

- **Description:** A thin, insulating fabric usually used in boots, gloves, and light jackets. It is always laminated to another fabric and is rated by weight of fabric: 200g is the most common form, although 400g, 600g, etc., is often used in boots. Thinsulate™ is not in itself waterproof.
- **Pros:** Good for people who often experience cold feet.
- **Cons:** When used as a boot liner, it can cause the feet to sweat excessively, unless worn by someone who has consistently cold feet.

Gore-Tex®

- **Description:** A membrane consisting of billions of microscopic pores, laminated to other textile material. It keeps wind and water out, but allows body moisture vapor to escape. It is mostly used in cold-weather clothing.
- **Pros:** Excellent barrier to the elements; durable material.
- **Cons:** Melts when exposed to flame; "breathability" is not always adequate (additional ventilation required); Gore-Tex®-lined boots, gloves, etc., may not be fully waterproof if seams are not sealed.

Clothing Recommendations

Body Warmth

There are many different kinds of thermal underwear—with varying degrees of effectiveness. The most effective fabrics are wicking fabrics such as polypropylene, Capilene®, Thermax®, and many others. "Polypro" is generally the least expensive and traditionally comes in three weights: light, medium, and expedition weight. Polypro is also a great bottom layer because it keeps all your other clothing from chafing your skin. Wool long underwear can be a good option if your skin does not react to it.

Hiking Boots/Shoes

Footwear plays an important part in the outcome of one's Basic Training. The average recruit walks, runs, and hikes over 500 miles in his boots. Don't compromise quality for a little cost.

A good boot is usually described as an "off-trail" or "backpacking" boot with a stiff sole and excellent ankle support. Full-fledged mountaineering boots made for crampons are not suitable for all-purpose use. An example of an excellent boot is the Vasque Sundowner, which should last about five years if properly cared for. Many ALERT men have found that lighter hiking boots made by manufacturers such as Nike, Adidas, Timberland, New Balance, Montrail, Salomon and HiTec are adequate.

The pair of high-top (minimum 8 inches tall), polishable black boots are required for Basic Training with the use of certain uniforms. A uniform boot, however, is typically not a good hiking boot and can increase the likelihood of Achilles tendon injuries. Therefore, an optional hiking boot is a wise acquisition.

Socks

Thick, high-quality, wool socks are recommended, especially those made by Smartwool®, Wigwam®, or Thorlo®. Wearing a pair of Gore-Tex® or Seal Skinz® socks is a good way to keep your other socks a little drier, especially when you have to put new, dry socks into wet boots.

Polypro sock liners are also an option. These are very thin, non-irritating, slick socks, which will provide extra insulation and blister protection. If you use sock liners, you won't need more than a few pairs because they virtually cannot retain water.

Underwear

We recommend cotton boxers for general use, but cotton stays wet when you sweat and can chafe. There are also boxers and "long briefs" made of different materials, such as polypro, which are good, too. Boxers have been found to treat most men better than briefs during the Basic Training regimen.

Equipment Recommendations

Sleeping bag

Your sleeping bag is a very important gear item, not only because it has to keep you warm at night, but also because it is a major part of the weight you will carry. For Basic Training we suggest a mummy-style bag that is good to 40° F or less and a compression sack in which to stuff it in. For warm-weather camping, a 40° F bag is adequate.

A highly-insulative, synthetic fill is recommended. Goose down is acceptable. It is lighter, but more expensive, and tends to lose its insulation abilities when wet. Synthetic fills maintain a high level of heat retention when wet. Examples of good synthetic fills are Lite Loft™, Micro Loft®, Permaloft™, and Thermolite Extreme®.

Backpack

Equal to your sleeping bag in importance is your backpack. Internal-frame packs are the best for the kind of hiking done at ALERT. The main difference between an internal-frame and an external-frame pack is the way weight is distributed. An internal-frame pack keeps weight dense and close to your body, while an external-frame pack has a larger profile and a higher center of gravity. An internal-frame pack allows better maneuverability and balance on rough terrain, and while an external-frame backpack allows better ventilation than an internal-frame pack, it tends to bounce and sway when you run.

A military ALICE pack is very rugged and is designed to carry a lot of weight—even upwards of 100 pounds—but it is not built for comfort, nor is it very energy efficient, because the weight is not well-attached to you. It is worse, in fact, than some external-frame packs.

Before purchasing a pack, try different packs with weight in them, and choose the one that fits your body well.

Tent

Although your tent is a less-important piece of equipment, do not buy a cheap one. If you do not wish to spend a lot of money on a tent, buy a self-supporting, one- or two-man, or a bivy sack.

OVERVIEW OF TRAINING COSTS

A guide to help estimate the cost of training
(ESTIMATED prices—effective through 12/1/2010)

CORE Training (Optional) (4 weeks)—(\$300 Room & Board) Please contact an ALERT Training officer to discuss the suitability of this option. A considerable portion of a man’s time in CORE is spent on work projects on campus.

Basic Training (9 weeks)—\$3,220 Extra gear required for Basic normally costs \$800 to \$1,200 extra.

Emergency Response Training (ERT) (10 weeks)—including 2 weeks SCUBA training \$3,655 (includes \$85 dive gear rental); or including 2 weeks as Dive Tender (no SCUBA training) \$2,970

Advanced Training

Aquatics I, II, & III (32 Weeks)—\$10,345

Aviation Mechanics (129 Weeks)—\$2,600 for 10-week blocks; \$2,830 for 11-week blocks; \$8,260 after 32 weeks; \$16,020 for full 129 weeks

Basic Training Cadre (12 Weeks)—\$2,885 (Starts 1 week earlier than the session start date. Refund \$230 for Room & Board and Tuition expenses for prior training)

EMT-Basic (11 Weeks)—\$3,000

EMT-Paramedic (34 Weeks)—\$9,375 (EMT course either from ALERT or elsewhere prerequisite for paramedic training.)

ESO—Emergency Services Operations - Fire Academy (12 Weeks)—\$3,660

ESO—Emergency Services Operations - Tech Rescue (10 Weeks)—\$2,770

Law Enforcement (21 Weeks)—w/Strategos \$6,955; w/o Strategos \$6,070

PC-1 - Property and Facility Care-1 (10-32 Weeks)—\$2,000 reduction of ERT costs for 32-week commitment (must apply before starting ERT); discounts also available at a prorated amount for each 10 to 11 week period.

PC-2 - Property and Facility Care-2 (10-32 Weeks) (mentored general maintenance field)—\$1,300 for 10-week blocks; \$1,430 for 11-week blocks (Room & Board only - no tuition charges applicable.).

See page 18 and the specific payment schedules for dates and other pertinent information.

		Example	Example 2	Example	Example 4	Example 5
9 weeks	Basic	\$3,220*	\$3,220*	\$3,220*	\$3,220*	\$3,220*
10 weeks	ERT with SCUBA		\$3,655 -230	\$3,655		
	ERT with Dive Tender	\$2,970			\$2,970	\$2,970
32 –45 weeks	Aquatics					
	Aviation (32 weeks)	\$7,360				
	Aviation Mechanics					
	Basic Training Cadre		\$2,885			
	EMT-Basic			\$3,000	\$3,000	
	EMT-Paramedic			\$9,375		
	ESO				\$6,030	
	Law Enforcement		\$6,955			
	PC-1					(\$2,000)
51 – 68 TotalWeeks	Required Gear Estimate	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
	Flight Hours (x3 sessions)	\$12,000				
	Total	\$26,550	\$17,485	\$20,250	\$16,220	\$5,190

*Options that require additional gear or funds

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