Here’s How...

with easy, customizable programs from

Marine Corps Association & Foundation
“Leadership is the sum of those qualities of intellect, human understanding, and moral character that enables a person to inspire and control a group of people successfully.”

Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune, 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps

Welcome to the Marine Corps Association and Foundation (MCA&F) and to our many programs that can help you achieve the continuing military education and professional excellence the Corps expects of every Marine. As you’ll see on the following pages, these programs are varied and easy to tailor to your needs or to the needs of the Marines you lead.

Perhaps best of all, our programs assist you in mentoring other Marines — as the Commandant has directed — all without any cost to the Corps and in total compliance with its Marine Corps Order on accepting gifts and support. Increasing your attention to personal and unit accountability can begin right now — because the people and programs of the MCA&F are here and ready to help.

You’re a leader... Take advantage of these great opportunities.
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“The study of our profession through selected readings will assist each Marine’s efforts to achieve operational competence and to better understand the nature of our ‘calling as leaders of Marines.’”

General Alfred M. Gray, 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps

Commanders’ Unit Libraries

MCA&F’s Commanders’ Unit Libraries make it easy to get the books — in hardcopy, and in some cases, electronically — that will be of most value to you and your unit.

You can choose to receive books from the Commandant’s Professional Reading List or books from the MCA&F expanded list of professional reading. Each year you are able to submit an application for one library or for additional books and materials to enhance an existing library. MCA&F now establishes or enhances more than 250 libraries annually.

Mentor your Marines with an increased reading initiative
Commanders’ Forums

Discussing the operational, cultural, or historical significance of battlefield experiences is an invaluable learning tool for expanding a Marine’s knowledge and preparedness for future missions. The MCA&F’s Commanders’ Forums assist commanders in tailoring specialized presentations and discussions with noted military leaders, authors, and scholars to instruct, illuminate, and provide historical examples on a wide range of current or classic topics. Presenters in Commanders’ Forums have included:

- **Colonel Wesley Fox** – Medal of Honor recipient and Vietnam and Korean Wars veteran spoke on jungle fighting

- **Robert Coram** – the distinguished military biographer and author of “Brute” lectured on the effect LtGen “Brute” Krulak had on the Corps and national defense

- **Colonel Thomas X. Hammes** – specialist in counter insurgency warfare and author of “The Sling and the Stone: On War in the 21st Century”
Commanders’ Forums — Battle Studies

Battle studies comprise another component of our rapidly expanding Commanders’ Forums. In these popular learning experiences, groups travel to significant battlefields worldwide for onsite tours and lectures. These trips help participants see, feel, and understand better how battles were fought, the challenges that were faced, and why they were won or lost. The MCA&F has conducted battlefield studies at:

- Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
- San Juan Islands, Washington
- Vicksburg, Mississippi
- Fredericksburg, Virginia
- Chancellorsville, Virginia
- Peninsula Campaign, Virginia
- Belleau Wood, France
- Salerno, Italy
- Okinawa, Japan

Learn more from leaders —
on battlefields, in academia, and across industries
Wounded Marine Support

Rehabilitating Marines — we can especially help you, too. MCA&F focuses on continuing the professional military education of active duty Marines who are convalescing. During rehabilitation from severe injuries or emotional and mental scarring, it is important to keep Marines thinking and acting as much like Marines as possible. This helps speed their return to regular Corps assignments and advancing their careers.

MCA&F works with the Wounded Warrior Regiment to support its “Survive to Thrive” program. Together, we have even executed a battlefield visitation for recovering Marines. MCA&F is the only organization providing this type of enrichment effort to Marines on active service.

Additionally, MCA&F distributes Leatherneck Magazine and Marine Corps Gazette to convalescing Marines and offers access to MCA&F events. MCA&F provides libraries of professional books, and when possible, distributes iPads® and Kindles™ to aid individuals with limited eyesight or mobility.

*Mentoring can be most important for Marines on the mend*
Marine Excellence Awards

Inspiring Marines to be their best — in training, academics, and operational environments — and then recognizing those who provide outstanding leadership or service is what these awards are all about. Each year, MCA&F is committed to honoring the professional achievements in academics, special duty, and operations of Marines throughout the Corps — of which, about 95 percent are enlisted men and women.

From individuals involved in recruiting and training to Marines demonstrating intelligence, innovation, and leadership on the
battlefield, these awards encourage countless individuals to train more diligently, think smarter, and perform to the very best of their abilities. Awards examples include:

- **The Chesty Puller Award** – to Recruit Company Honor Graduates
- **The SgtMaj Leland “Crow” Crawford Award** – to the Honor Graduates of the Recruiters’ and Drill Instructors’ Schools
- **The SgtMaj Dan Daly Award** – to the Honor Graduate of Staff Non-Commissioned Officer Academy
- **Marine of the Year Awards** – to the Marine of the Year for 1st MarDiv, 2d MarDiv, 3d MarDiv and 4th MarDiv
- **Enlisted Logistician of the Year Award** – for Outstanding Leadership by an Enlisted Logistician
- **Gunner Henry Lewis Hulbert Marine Gunner of the Year Award** – for Outstanding Leadership by a Marine Gunner
- **Maj Douglas Zembiec Award** – for Outstanding Leadership in the USMC Special Operations Command
- **1st Lt Baldomero Lopez Award** – to the Honor Graduate of each lieutenant company at The Basic School

For a complete listing of the awards visit our website.

*Recognizing leadership at all levels and in all roles*
MCA&F Writing Awards

We sponsor several types of writing awards to encourage Marines to share ideas, expand critical thinking in military affairs, and explore issues to improve the Corps. For a complete list of awards visit our website. A partial list includes:

**Formal School Awards**
- Sr. Enlisted Course Writing Award
- Expeditionary Warfare School Awards
- Naval War College Award
- The National War College Award
- Marine Corps War College Award
- Marine Corps Command and Staff College Award
- TBS Writing Award

**Corps-wide Writing Awards**
- SgtMaj of the Marine Corps Writing Award
- Chase Boldness and Daring Essay Award
- Hogaboom Leadership Essay Contest
- Col Francis “Fox” Parry Award
- LtCol Earl “Pete” Ellis Essay
- *Leatherneck Magazine* Lyons Writing Award

We also have supported unit writing awards. Do you have a unit writing program established? Contact us for information.

*Mentoring means encouraging others to expand their mind and share their insights*
How to Get Started

It’s easy. To begin one or more of the MCA&F programs described for yourself or the Marines you lead, you may:

Visit our website at: www.mcafdn.org

Here you’ll find additional details on each program as well as any links to forms you may need to complete.

Or, just give us a call, at: 703.640.0144 or toll free 877.469.6223

You’ll be directed to the MCA&F staff member responsible for the programs you want to pursue, quickly get any questions answered, and receive any other information you’ll need to start enhancing your professional excellence through the Marine Corps Association & Foundation.
Legally, we have you covered. We’ve done the groundwork to ensure that all MCA&F programs are 100 percent compliant with Marine Corps Order P5800.16A, the Legal Administration Manual and its Chapter 12 on the acceptance of gifts and support. MCA&F programs are offered to Marines as an unsolicited offer of support. Participating in MCA&F programs and events is completely within the Corps’ Code of Ethics.

Should you have questions in this regard, please call your Staff Judge Advocate and call us so we can clarify and eliminate any concerns about taking advantage of these valuable opportunities to enhance the leadership training of your Marines.
“You are part of the world’s most trusted and feared force. Engage your brain before you engage your weapon.”

Lieutenant General James N. Mattis

Why wait?

Engage with us to continue your professional advancement.

Marine Corps Association & Foundation

www.mcafdn.org
About the Marine Corps Association & Foundation

Since its founding in 1913, the Marine Corps Association has worked to support the Corps by sharing knowledge of military arts and sciences among Marines, providing opportunities for their professional development, and preserving the spirit and traditions of the Marine Corps among the Marine family.

Today’s MCA continues to focus on these goals by using 21st century technologies, a team of association professionals, and funding support from the Marine Corps Association Foundation to deliver a wide range of programs that advance leadership, reward excellence, and, ultimately, save lives.