

Company Event Details

Pick Up Events: Almost every week a training company will pick up a group of new recruits. Some companies will have a pick up event that they hold at the beginning of the training cycle. A Pick Up event is an opportunity for spouses and other family members to see their Marine and to meet other family members within the company. You will receive information about a Pick Up event from your Marine, Uniformed Family Readiness Coordinator (URC), or your Family Readiness Assistant (FRA), who is a spouse volunteer within the company.

Initial Drill: Three weeks after pick up, the Marines will compete to see who has trained their recruits best in drill. This is a family event and takes place in the Reviewing Stand on the parade deck, which is the large paved area by the recruit squad bays, in front of the tall flagpole on base. This event is from five to six hours. You will not need to stay the whole time to see your Marine's platoon. Your Marine, URC or your FRA may provide a drill order during the week before the event, specifying when your Marine's platoon will perform Initial Drill. Feel free to bring a dish to share! Kids are welcome. Please remain quiet while platoons are being evaluated during Initial Drill.

Final Drill: Similar to Initial Drill, this is a family event that takes place three weeks after Initial Drill.

Family Day: This event occurs on the day before graduation and families/friends of the new graduating Marines will see them for the first time since they left for boot camp. An orientation brief is provided prior to the start of the Motivational Run. Families/friends can see their new Marine during the Motivational Run as they run by the bleachers and Reviewing Stand at the parade deck. During the Motivational Run, you will see your Marine lead their newly trained Marines and be sure to join in the cheering. Take as many photos as you desire.

The Motivational Run will end in front of the visitors where the Commander will address the families/friends at the end of the run. Subsequently, the visitors receive a Marine Corps brief while their new Marines prepare for base liberty during the rest of the day. You are welcome to sit in on the brief!

When the new Marines are dismissed for base liberty, you will have an opportunity to see your Marine. You are welcome to enjoy lunch at the Bay View with your Marine or to meet some of new Marines recently trained by your Marine. Parking near the parade deck can be crowded so keep in mind that parking is also available across from the gas station.

Graduation: Graduation takes place on the Parade Deck, same place as Initial and Final Drill. There is open seating unless you see signage advising that the seating is reserved. Graduation starts at 10:00 AM and you should be seated no later than 9:30 AM. Especially in the summer months, the seating can get crowded. Avoid parking in the lot by the Parade Deck, which can be congested. To avoid the crowd, park in the lot across from the gas station and walk under the archway to the Parade Deck.

Outpost: This is where the company celebrates the end of the cycle, generally starting between 1:00 and 2:00 PM on Graduation Day. Some companies hold their gatherings in the recreation center on base, at the boathouse, or at a local restaurant. Your Marine, URC, or the FRA will be the best person to provide information on the location. Outgoing Drill Instructors are given a proper send off and they are recognized for their work at a strenuous duty assignment. Spouses and families have an opportunity to celebrate, take a break from the training cycle, and see how much of a positive impact their Marines have contributed to the Marine Corps for many years.