

## ALERT STANDARDS AGREEMENT

ALERT is a program of discipleship and training for young men who desire to become strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Men who attend ALERT come from a variety of backgrounds, cultural environments and personal convictions. In order for us to effectively minister to those placed under our jurisdiction it is important for you as an enrollee—or parent—to understand the following guidelines and make an educated decision of whether or not ALERT is the appropriate program for you.

Please review our statement of faith. If there are areas of concern in it, feel free to contact us to discuss it. We may be able to come to an understanding that will allow you to attend ALERT without compromising your core beliefs.

The following are some areas of standards we hold to that are important for you to review. While some may seem inconsequential, our goal is to create a spirit of unity within the training.

- **Music:** We take a general conservative approach to music with our men in training. This means we gravitate towards hymns sung or performed in a more traditional style, rich in melody and subdued in background rhythm. Our standard is determined by how the hymn is sung and the accuracy of its theology. We do not limit ourselves to hymns written in any particular time or era but songs that have a good melody line combined with solid theology. This is not a statement of judgment of those who worship in churches with a much broader scope of music styles but simply a position we have elected to hold. In addition to hymns, most classical music is also approved for our men. All music must be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Sergeant Major Department.
- **Worship:** Men in Basic Training will attend church as a group on campus—no exceptions. We are unable to accommodate Saturday worship during Basic Training. In Phase 2 and 3, if the schedule allows, men are permitted to have personal worship time on Saturday. However they still must attend a church on Sunday and ALERT reserves the right to require participation in any Saturday events —no exceptions.
  - a. Attending churches while on deployment during Phase 2 and 3 has its challenges. We prefer to honor the church that is hosting us with our attendance but also realize that in some situations, based on worship styles and doctrinal positions, this may conflict with our standards as an organization. In such situations we either attempt to find alternate places of worship or allow men who are not comfortable with some aspects of the worship service to enter and leave just before and immediately after the message in a discreet manner.
- **Version of the Bible:** For simplicity in group memorization we utilize the KJV in Basic training. During the remainder of training the men have the option of using other versions approved for memorization. Instructors may use other versions at their discretion for teaching and discipleship.
- **Uniforms:** Uniforms are dictated by ALERT leadership for consistency in appearance. This includes uniforms for physical exercise training, daily uniform wear and civilian type clothing.
- **Tattoos:** Tattoos are highly discouraged and will be expected to be covered in any public appearance by the wearing of long sleeves, wristbands, or whatever is necessary. It is your responsibility to bring appropriate covering. Tattoos that cannot be reasonably covered (on face, around the neck, etc.) will likely exclude you from participation in our program.
- **Course Content:** Men are expected to participate in the teaching and preaching classes on campus—whether conducted in person or by video. We understand that on some occasions something said by a speaker or a particular moment in a video may not line up precisely with what you or our standards

as an organization might prefer These occurrences are unavoidable at times and are not introduced for the purpose of influencing you to one view or another. Please understand this and demonstrate a spirit of graciousness knowing that training at ALERT is for a relatively short period of time. As much as we'd like, we've learned we cannot be all things to all people.

- **Videos:** We occasional show an entertainment video of good moral values devoid of sensuality or offensive language. Men have the freedom to opt out of such meetings if they so desire with no repercussions.
- **Overnight Stays:** Men are not allowed to overnight with their family or other families on or off campus unless extenuating circumstance. i.e. weddings, funerals, special graduations or milestone anniversary events of parents or grandparent. Birthdays are not a reason for overnights elsewhere.
- **Family:** In order to limit distractions for men, the parents of men in training are not permitted to volunteer for more than three days during a semester. Siblings may be allowed to volunteer for longer periods but we reserve the right to address any excessive contact at mealtimes or other times that may result in more attention being paid to family members than fellowship and bonding with men in the program.
- **Mail:** Personal mail addressed to an ALERT man in training will NOT be opened by ALERT personnel. However, incoming mail (including email) from women outside the family will be redirected to the Unit Leader or to the Sergeant Major Department for proper handling through the parents. Catalogs/magazines may be reviewed for questionable content. Magazine subscriptions are not allowed during Basic Training; after Basic Training some restrictions will still apply.
- **Relationships:** Within ALERT Basic Training, men may not receive or send letters, email, or phone calls from women outside their families. During Phase 2 and 3, men may correspond with their girlfriend only after prior written authorization from both his and her parents.
- **Training Jurisdiction:** It is important to understand that while ALERT desires to work with parents in the development of their son, what is in the best interest of his training must be determined by the ALERT jurisdiction he has been placed under. If our differences are such that cannot be reconciled, a separation agreement can be discussed.

All standards and regulations and the level of enforcement are subject to the discretion of the ALERT Commanding Officer.

**By signing this document, I acknowledge that I understand these guidelines and I am voluntarily placing myself under the direction and jurisdiction of ALERT during my training.**

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_