

## Aquaculture Boot Camp-2 Wants You!

Aquaculture Boot Camp-2 (ABC-2) transforms civilians into fish farmers in the Midwest. Recruits enlist in a one-year tour of duty that includes classroom and field training paired with mentoring from some of the industry's top-ranked leaders. Upon graduation, soldiers will be armed with the knowledge and hands-on experience to successfully operate an aquaculture or aquaponics farm.

### Briefing

The regiment requires recruits to:

- Participate in 12 one-day training exercises **held the second Saturday of each month.**
- Participate in three aquaculture workshops throughout the year at various locations in Ohio.
- Attend the Aquaculture Bus Tour of Farms.
- Complete homework and study assignments on-line between monthly trainings.

### Need to knows

- Minimum 16 days of the year will be required for this tour of duty plus travel time to and from base.
- Most training is on Saturday or Sunday, with some on Friday.
- Command center is located at the OSU South Centers Aquaculture Research Center in Piketon, Ohio, and other cooperating aquaculture-related facilities across the state and region.
- Drill Instructors represent a wide range of rank:  
College and University Educators  
Government Specialists  
Business Professionals  
Experienced Aquaculture Producers
- Combat training addresses:  
Aquaculture and Aquaponics Production,  
Business Planning, Marketing
- No two members of the same immediate family will be selected into the program at the same time. However, business partners may attend training if space is available and scheduled in advance.
- The cost: the intensive trainings, including lunch, are being offered **at no charge!**

### Enlistment Guidelines

We will enlist up to 30 highly motivated new (less than 10 years of farming experience) and beginning fish farmers and aquaponic producers from across Ohio and the Midwest. Recruits will be actively involved in aquaculture/aquaponics or seriously dedicated to developing skills for entry into the industry. To be eligible, you must:

- Submit a completed written or e-mailed application by November 4th, 2016
- If accepted, sign documentation outlining your commitment to attend seminars and workshops.
- Be responsible for all expenses (i.e. travel) related to getting to and from the training sessions.

### Selection Process

The following will be considered in selecting recruits:

1. Internet access, land, a pilot aquaculture/aquaponics operation, years in production, years obtaining an Ohio Aquaculture Permit, previous workshops attended, and capital available.
2. Interest and willingness of the recruit to commit the necessary time, energy, and finances to the program.
3. Ability to participate meaningfully in academic seminars, outside reading, written assignments, and through self-expression.
4. The applicant will support and abide by all policies, rules and regulations of the ABC-2 program.

### Command Center

OSU South Centers ABC-2 Program  
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<https://southcenters.osu.edu/aquaculture>

### Logistics

November 4, 2016: Application deadline  
November 15, 2016: Recruits notified of enlistment  
January 14, 2017: Processing day OSU South Centers  
January 27-28, 2017: Ohio Aquaculture Association Annual Conference in Columbus, OH  
Download Application: [go.osu.edu/abc2](http://go.osu.edu/abc2)



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COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES