

PAF AIR WAR COLLEGE INSTITUTE



Allied Officers Wing
AWCI Allied Members' Handbook

Dear Members,

1. We will soon welcome you to Karachi, the largest city and biggest commercial hub of Pakistan. This beautiful coastal city is the core of Pakistan's economy, and serves as a diverse cultural hub of the sub-continent. The staff at the Air War College Institute (AWCI) encourages you to enjoy your stay here as you experience history, culture, science, sports, art, local and international cuisine and more. PAF Base Faisal, home of the AWCI, is ideally situated in the heart of Karachi, from where you can experience the exciting diversity which this city offers.

2. This handbook is designed to ease your transition into the AWCI educational program for which you were selected. We have provided important information about housing, transportation, identification documents, and basic living needs. Please read it thoroughly. Unfortunately, no handbook can contain all of the information that you may need, but you can talk to the staff, consult local directories, or use the internet to find any additional information.

3. The most rewarding source of information about the local city and base premises would be your colleagues of the course. For each Allied member in the course, a sponsor member is detailed to assist them in their day to day matters. Get to know your fellow students and neighbors, make acquaintances, and share experiences. They can give you suggestions about how to make the most of your experience in PAF Base Faisal, and Karachi city.

4. We wish you a memorable year ahead. It is our hope that you will leave Pakistan with an appreciation for its geo-political importance, vibrant and diverse landscapes, rich culture and diverse food, its strengths and an understanding of its shortcomings. We are confident that your experience will be a great one. We are excited to assist you and your families to make that happen.

Sincerely,

AWCI Staff



Squadron Leader Azmat Saleem

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AWCI – PICTORIAL OVERVIEW

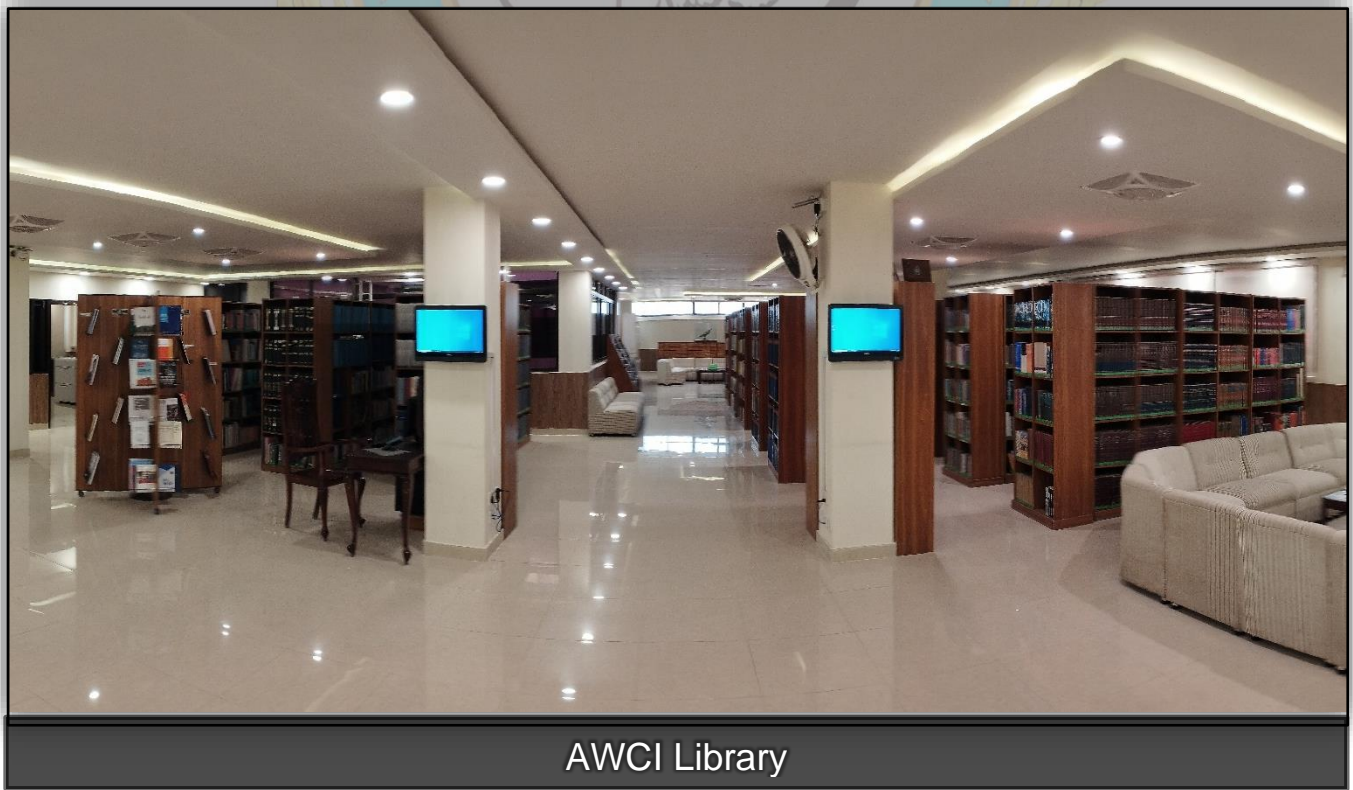


AWCI Main Building



AWCI Main Lobby

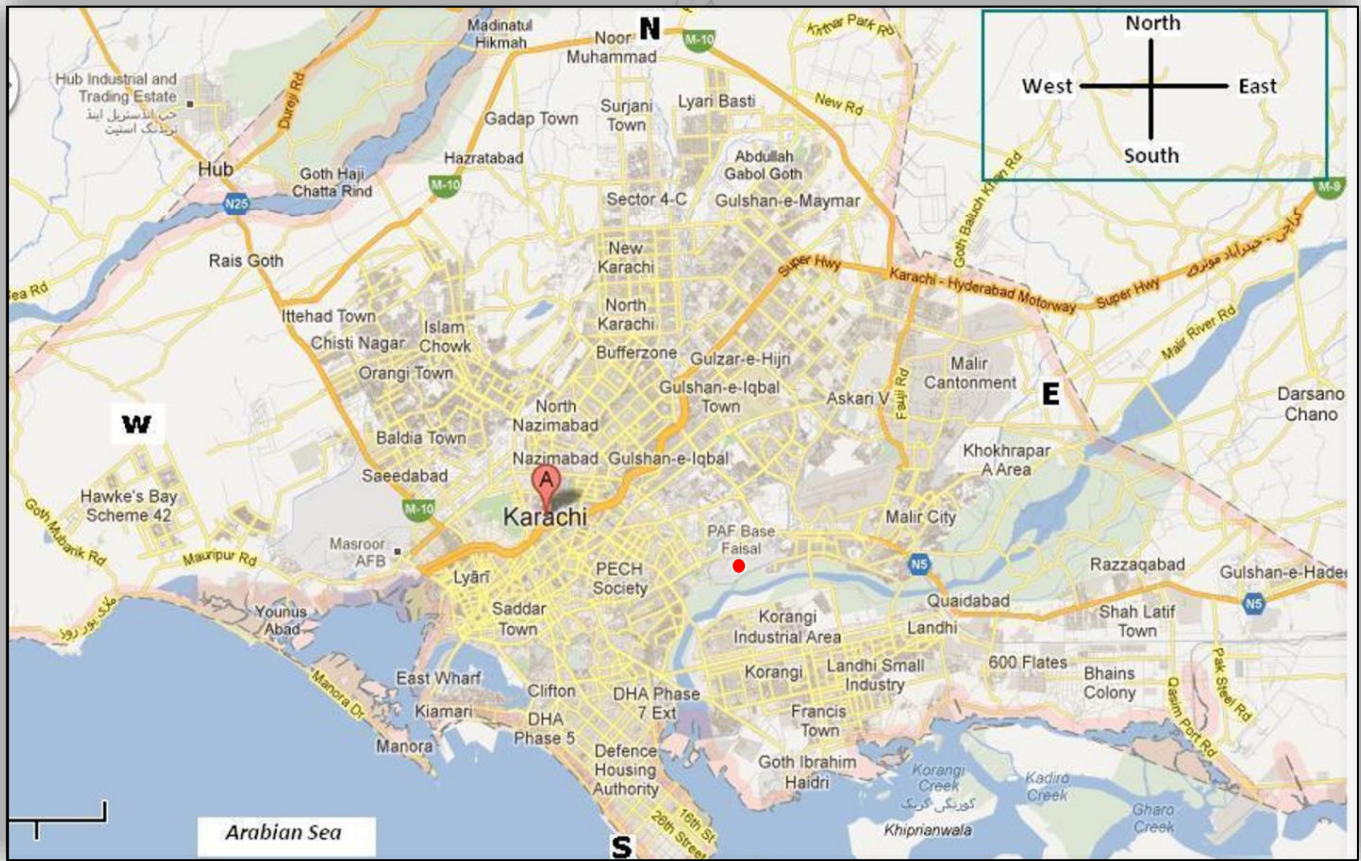
AWCI – PICTORIAL OVERVIEW



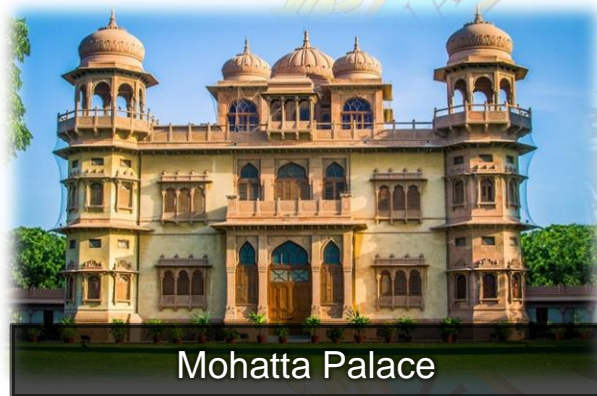
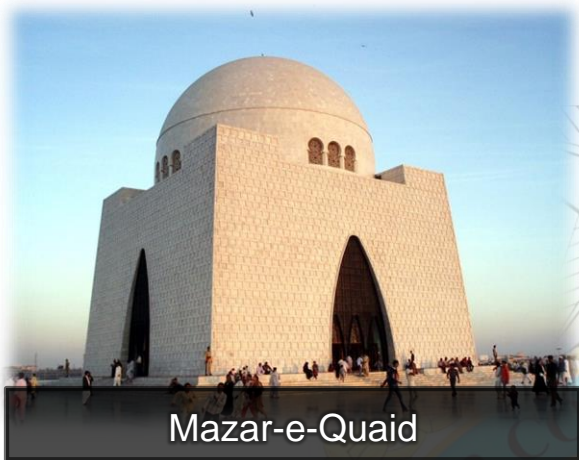
KARACHI CITY – OVERVIEW

1. Karachi is the most populous city in Pakistan and one of the most populous cities in the world, with a population of over 20 million. Also known as the city of lights for its vibrant nightlife, this coastal city is situated at the southern tip of the country along the Arabian Sea coast. Karachi is Pakistan's premier industrial and financial center, which is the most linguistically, ethnically and religiously diverse, as well as one of Pakistan's most secular and socially liberal city in Pakistan.
2. Historically, Karachi was named in honor of *Mai Kolachi*, a resident of small fishing villages, whose son was said to have slain a man-eating crocodile in early 1720s. It was a small settlement consisting of fishing villages. The name later evolved through history as Karachi, through early settlers ranging from the Dutch, Balochis, Hindus, Arabs, Portuguese and the British. Karachi, being an important sea route along the coast, welcomed ethnic and religious diversities throughout history, and till date people from all the major religions of the world, with their customs and cultures can be seen in this city. The population is almost entirely Muslim, with many Christian, Hindu, Parsi, Buddhist, and Jain minorities.
3. Karachi serves as a transport hub and contains Pakistan's two largest seaports, the Port of Karachi and Port Qasim, as well as Pakistan's busiest Airport; Jinnah International Airport. Karachi is also a media center, home to news channels, film and fashion industry of Pakistan. Most of the multinational companies and banks have their headquarters in Karachi. Karachi is also a tourism hub due to its scenic beaches, historic buildings and shopping malls.
4. Karachi has an overall hot climate, which is dominated by a 'Long Summer', moderated by oceanic influence from the Arabian Sea. The city has low annual precipitation levels, which rises sharply during the monsoon season between July – August. Summers are hot and humid, with average temperatures between 35 °C to 42°C with unexpected sudden heat waves. Winters are dry and last between December and February, with average temperatures between 12 °C to 19°C. It is dry and pleasant in the winters, relative to the warm hot season that follows in March till the monsoon rains in July. Proximity to the sea maintains humidity levels at near-constant levels all year round. Thus, the climate is similar to a humid tropical climate, except for low precipitation.
5. For tourist information : [Karachi tourism](http://thepakistanitraveller.assamartist.com/feature/karachi-first-tourist-attractions-map-and-complete-tour-guide/)
(<http://thepakistanitraveller.assamartist.com/feature/karachi-first-tourist-attractions-map-and-complete-tour-guide/>)

KARACHI CITY – MAP



KARACHI CITY – ATTRACTIONS



KARACHI CITY – ATTRACTIONS



Do-Darya Restaurants



Dolmen Mall Clifton



PAF Museum



Bahria Adventure Park



Manora Beach



Churna Island Snorkeling & Scuba diving

MILITARY CO-OPERATION PLAN (MCP)

1. Dear members, the Military Co-operation Plan (MCP) establishes your sponsorship and invitation to participate in training for this course in Pakistan. It is the controlling document used to authorize training terms, conditions, and privileges that you will receive during your stay in Pakistan. This document is provided to you by your respective embassy before arrival in Pakistan. Please go through this document thoroughly, as it contains vital information about the agreement between your country and Pakistan for this course. Pertinent areas mentioned in the MCP include:

- (a) Eligibility Criteria for Admission at AWCI
- (b) Member Status (Gratis, Paid or Reciprocal)
- (c) Billing Details (Utility bills, Accommodation bills)
- (d) Medical Cover
- (e) Training Facilities (Tuition fees, Messing details)
- (f) Study Tours formalities

LEAVE POLICY

2. Keeping in view the long duration of the course, all members will be entitled to a mid-term break, during which members can avail leave for **02 weeks**. Mid-term break usually falls between 20th December till 2nd January. Additionally, members will be allowed to avail 01 week Eid Leave for each Eid. In case of travel outside Pakistan during above mentioned leaves, the members proceeding abroad on leave **must inform O i/c AOW, and submit formal leave application at least 02 weeks prior to the commencement of leave**. Final clearance will be given after consultation with DS Plans and written approval from the respective embassy of each allied member.

3. In case of emergencies, leave will be awarded to members in case the emergency is related to blood relatives only. The duration of leave will be ascertained on a case-to-case basis.

All members must note that minimum of 75% attendance is necessary for qualifying the course.

PASSPORT AND VISA

4. Before arriving in Pakistan, it is advised that you obtain a valid **multiple entry visa** and passport for at least 01 year, both of which should expire after at least one week of culmination of the course. Generally, the course is held between July till June every year. In case your visa or passport expires before the said period, you should inform your respective embassy well ahead in time for the renewal of your visa or passport.

5. After selection for the course at AWCI, all members – along with their accompanied family members, are required to submit copies of their visa and passport, to O i/c Allied Officers Wing (AOW) on the following email address:

aow@awci.edu.pk

ID CARDS / RED PASS

6. Upon arrival at the base, all allied members will be issued with Security ID cards, also known as a “Red Pass”. All members are required to keep this card with them at all times, especially when moving in or out of the base premises.

7. The Red pass is your official document for travelling inside and outside of the base. This should be kept with you whenever you are moving outside your homes. Any other identification is not required by any member. All members are advised not to carry their Passport or Visa when travelling outside base premises. In case of any requirement pertaining to identification within base premises or otherwise arises, Oi/c AOW or your sponsor member may be contacted.

All members must return these cards to AWCI after culmination of the course.

FAMILIES / DEPENDENTS ID CARDS

8. Your families would be staying with you during the course, and family members / dependents will not be issued any identification card. In case they need to move, they may freely move inside the base. In case of movement involving off-base, families would be accompanied by the Allied member.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

9. On arrival at AWCI, all allied members are required to submit **Certified True Copies (CTC)** of requisite documents to the Registrar's office for Admission/Registration process in the Master / MS (NSSS) program. The degree is recognized by the Higher Education Commission (HEC), a governing body regulating the degrees in Pakistan. In light of HEC policy, the following guidelines are to be met by all Allied officers:

- (a) 16 Years of Education.
- (b) Equivalence certificate of 16 years academic qualifications from respective embassy at Islamabad (**Sample Attached on page 13**).

10. The list of required documents to be submitted to the Registrar's office include:

S. No	Document	No. Of Copies
1.	O' Level (Grade-10/SSC) : Certificate	03
2.	O' Level (Grade-10/SSC) : Detail mark sheet (DMC)/Result Card	03
3.	A' Level (Grade-12) / Intermediate : Certificate	03
4.	A' Level (Grade-12) / Intermediate : (DMC)/Result Card	03
5.	BA / BSc / BE / BS Degree	03
6.	BA / BSc / BE / BS Transcript	03
7.	MA / MSc Degree	03
8.	MA / MSc Transcript	03
9.	Any other higher degree with transcript	03
10.	Equivalence certificate of 16 years academic qualifications from respective embassy at Islamabad	1 Original + 2 Copies
11.	Copy of Passport	03
12.	Copy of Visa	03
13.	Photographs : 07 [04 Passport size & 02 (1x1) in uniform + 01 in civil dress]	7 (4+2+1)
14.	AWCI Registration & Admission forms (to be filled on arrival)	01
15.	Educational certificates must be attested from the following departments: (a) Ministry of Education (b) Ministry of Foreign Affairs (c) Pakistan Embassy in respective country	
16.	English translation of all educational certificates duly attested by the agencies mentioned at S.No 15 (a-c).	

All documents must to be provided in hard copies

EQUIVALENCE CERTIFICATE SAMPLE

(on the official letter head of embassy)

The Registrar

PAF Air War College Institute, Faisal
Shahra-e-Faisal, Karachi-75350

Subject: ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION EQUIVALENCE CERTIFICATE

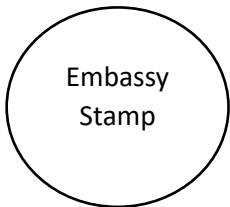
1. It is certified that _____ is undergoing No 36 Air War Course at PAF Air War College Institute, Faisal for award of Masters in National Security & Strategic Studies. It is certified that the officer has gone _____ years of education, details are as follows:

S No	Qualification	Awarding Institution	Duration (Years)	Title of Certificate	Awarded after completion of Years
(a)	SSC / O'Level (10Y)				
(b)	HSSC / A'Level (12Y)				
(c)	Bachelor's Degree (14Y or 16Y)				
(d)	Master's Degree				
(e)					
Total					

2. The above qualifications are recognized and accepted as equivalent to _____ degree in our own country.

3. All the certificates / degrees issued are in _____ language. English Translation of each document from National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad-Pakistan / Authorized translator is endorsed / verified for validation of the certificates.

4. Based on above qualification, the officer may kindly be entertained for Admission / Registration in Academic Degree Program (i.e Masters in National Security & Strategic Studies) as per criteria laid down by PAF Air War College Institute, Faisal.



Signature
(Name _____)
Designation _____
Embassy of _____

MEDICAL CARE

Note: If you or your dependent has any medical emergency, you should immediately inform your Sponsor member and O i/c AOW.

11. **Medical care (As per MCP of individual countries) is provided to all members of the course** by PAF Hospital, Faisal, which caters for all the basic as well as advanced medical needs. The hospital has state of the art facilities and also has a medical college, which includes specialist from all fields of medicine. In addition, medical facilities are also available at Pakistan Army and Pakistan Navy hospitals in the city.

12. Dental care is limited to emergency care only. The closest and most convenient dental facility is located at PAF Hospital, Faisal. **Free Dental care is not available for dependents at any military facility in Pakistan.**



PAF Hospital, Faisal Base

DEPENDENTS HEALTH CARE

13. Dental care would be provided to dependents (Parents, siblings or relatives) of Allied members **On Payment basis**. The same would be provided through PAF Hospital, Faisal, or by any other military hospital in Karachi. If a member wants, he can avail medical care from any civil hospital as well. It is pertinent to mention that the cost of medical care is relatively high in civil facilities, especially hospitals in Karachi city.

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

14. Medical transport is provided free of cost **within base premises** to all allied members and their families. Ambulances are available 24 x 7. In case some member wants to take his dependents to a civil hospital, he will have to make his own arrangements for pick up and drop off to the respective hospital/ clinic.

Note: To call an ambulance at any time, you may dial extension 4444 from any phone available at your residence or anywhere from the base

LOCAL PHARMACIES

15. All medical needs are provided inside base premises, and every type of medicine is readily available at the hospital within the base. Local pharmacies are **not** present inside the base; however they are available in abundance in the city. AWCI does not suggest any member to undergo self-medication, In case any member feels he requires medicines for slight headaches, an upset stomach, mild allergies or a cold, he can visit the hospital, where he would be provided medicines for his ailments.

EMERGENCIES

16. In case of emergencies, hospital emergency services are available 24/7 and will see patients without an appointment, arriving by their own means or by an ambulance. Due to the un-planned nature of patient attendance, the ER provides initial treatment for a broad range of illnesses and injuries, some of which may be life-threatening and require immediate attention. PAF Hospital Faisal has qualified doctors and paramedical staff who will cater to all the basic medical needs round the clock.

RECIPROCAL HEALTHCARE AGREEMENTS

17. Reciprocal Medical Healthcare Agreements (RHCA) are individual agreements between the Pakistan's Ministry of Defence (MOD) and the defense organization of friendly country which grants dependents medical coverage comparable to Pakistani active duty military families.

- (a) RHCA dependents are authorized for free of cost medical services in all military medical facilities.
- (b) RHCA do not cover medical care from civilian hospitals.



TRANSPORTATION

18. A modern urban transport system for the city of Karachi is presently under evolution. The present available options include a modern bus system, namely the Red Line and Green Line bus service, Car hailing apps like Uber and Careem are also available, which charge users per kilometer and charges vary with traffic congestion in the city. The Yellow cab taxi service is also an alternate, which is by far the most expensive among all services.

19. Due to security concerns, all car hailing app and cab services vehicles are **not allowed inside base premises**. Privately owned security cleared taxis are available at the base for pick and drop anywhere in the city, which provide cheap, easy and secure access to every location in Karachi.

20. Due to the general lack of the local population's comprehension of various languages; including English, and volatile security situation in the country, Allied members are generally not encouraged to move out of the base on their own without a local course member or escort. Escorted transport is however provided to Allied members and their families at regular intervals to shopping malls, supermarkets, local markets and entertainment venues throughout the city. Additionally, any official requirement by the Allied members is fulfilled by AWCI through military escorted transport to any point in the city.

21. Karachi also features an international airport, which provides direct and indirect routes to all cities of the world. Allied members can conveniently go to their home countries via commercial airline in case they have a valid leave permit from AWCI. Official trips and course specific air travel within the country and abroad is fulfilled by military aircraft, which operates from PAF Base Faisal, Karachi.



HOUSING AND ACCOMODATION

22. All AWCI Allied members are accommodated within the premises of PAF Base, Faisal. Every allied member is entitled to a fully furnished home on sharing basis, located in a multi-storey building. Officers arriving with families are provided with fully furnished separate house in the same building. All houses in AWCI have running hot and cold water, modern American style kitchens, Air conditioners, and elevators with standby generator. A separate standby generator is available for the Allied officers in case of general power failure in the multi-storey apartments.

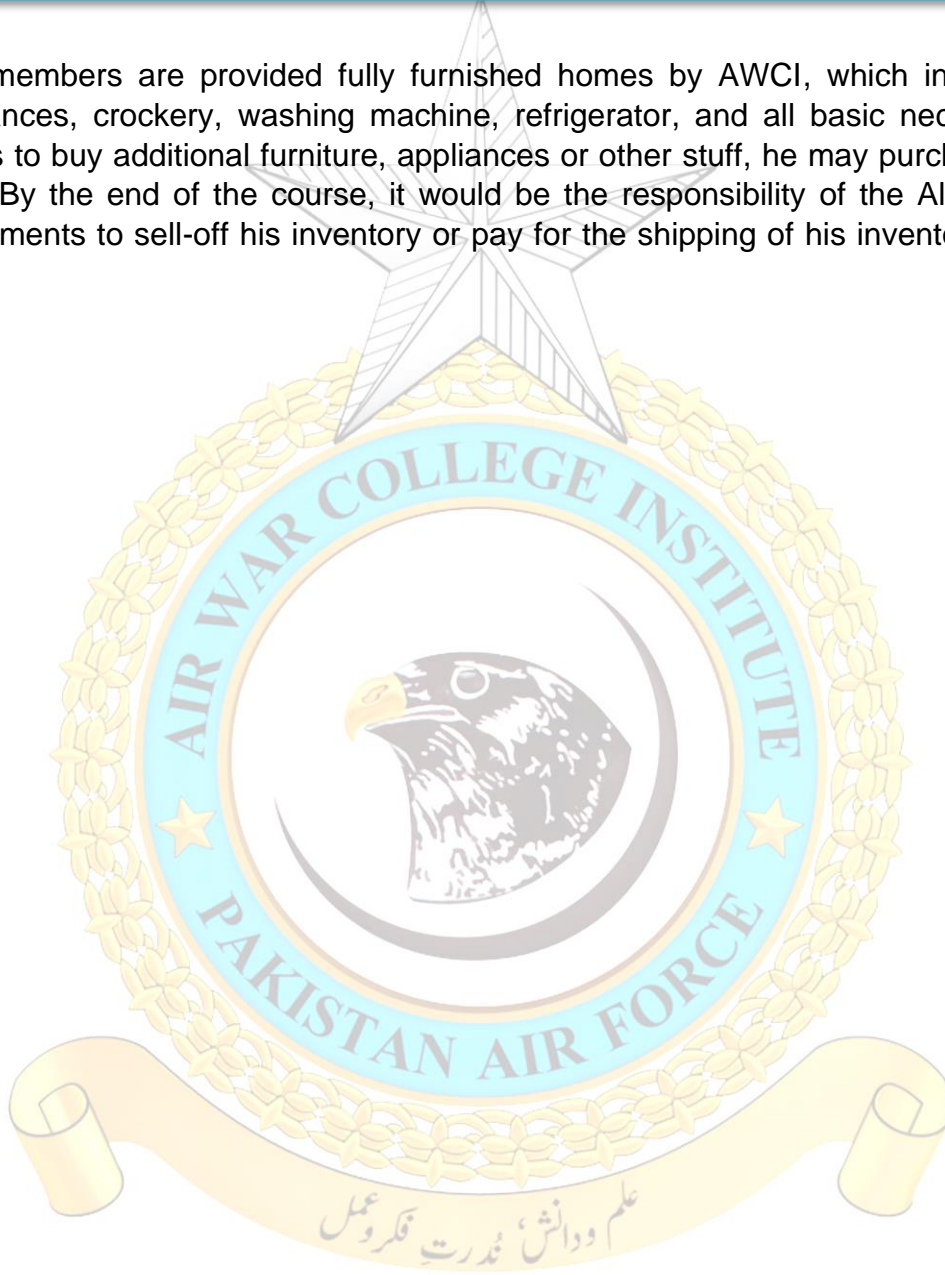


23. On-Payment hired labor (Batman) is available for all Allied members, who help out the single and accompanied officers in daily tasks. The batmen assist allied officers in menial tasks while they are away on official commitments, and are also very helpful for accompanied members for running daily errands and grocery runs for the families. They are also particularly useful for payment of local bills and dealing in the local markets. In addition, all Allied members are provided with sanitary workers who are responsible for trash collection from every individual's home.

24. All Allied members are provided the three basic utilities, i.e. Water, Gas and Electricity, and are charged for these utilities as per the MCP. All allied members are requested to go through their respective MCP for further details on the charges for these utilities.

FURNISHING YOUR APARTMENT

25. Allied members are provided fully furnished homes by AWCI, which include furniture, kitchen appliances, crockery, washing machine, refrigerator, and all basic necessities. If any member plans to buy additional furniture, appliances or other stuff, he may purchase it from the local market. By the end of the course, it would be the responsibility of the Allied member to make arrangements to sell-off his inventory or pay for the shipping of his inventory to his home country.



AMENITIES DURING STAY AT AWCI



Gymnasium



Banks & ATMs



Coffee Bar



McDonald's Shahrah-e-Faisal



Dragon Café – PAF Base Faisal

CELL PHONES AND SIM CARDS

26. As per directives of the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), all cell phones must be registered with the PTA in order to use a Pakistani SIM card. The registration is a lengthy process and taxes for mobile phones are very high. However, military students are exempted from the taxes, after verification from their respective embassies. It is therefore recommended that **before** your arrival, you should submit your mobile phone's IMEI number to your Embassy in Pakistan, which will in turn authorize usage of your personal mobile phone in Pakistan with any local cell phone operator.

27. AWCI will facilitate you in providing local SIM card from a reputable cell phone operator. The local SIM will only work in a PTA approved mobile. In case a member has not registered his mobile phone with PTA, he can also buy a mobile phone from Karachi after his arrival.

Note: Mobile phones will continue to work normally in case of non-PTA registration, only local cell phone SIMs will not work until they are registered with PTA. In case a member wishes to activate roaming services, he will have to get his phone registered with PTA. Online communication applications e.g. Skype, Whatsapp, Zoom, Messenger, etc. will continue to work on Wi-Fi and the internet.

COMPUTERS / LAPTOPS / INTERNET

28. Upon arrival at AWCI, all members will be provided a laptop to use throughout their degree program. The laptops would be configured to connect to AWCI college LAN, which would allow the members to share their material and research on the AWCI intranet for subsequent presentations and study purposes. Due to the nature of classified information during the course of the program, these laptops would not be able to connect to the internet, and any external devices e.g Memory Sticks, USB's or drives cannot be connected on these laptops.

29. AWCI has a dedicated IT cell to facilitate its members pertaining to all their needs during the course. The IT department is located inside AWCI premises, and is available round the clock.

30. Internet facility is available for all the course members at the college library and at their residences. High speed internet with Optical fiber connectivity is available at the residences. Detailed plans and packages for the internet facility would be available to the members after their arrival at AWCI.

BANKING

31. Allied members may opt to open bank accounts in any of the local banks available in Karachi. The closest banks available near the base are Bank Al-Habib and Habib Bank Limited. AWCI would assist in opening bank accounts for its allied members. After opening a bank account, it would become convenient for members to pay their local bills, carry out online transactions via the bank's apps and can also avail discounts and offers on local shopping malls and online purchases.

Note: Always exercise caution and safety when performing online transactions.

AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES (ATMs)

32. These are machines located throughout the city that allow you to withdraw cash from your bank account. To withdraw cash, insert your bank card and then enter your Personal Identification Number (PIN) using the key pad. To avoid theft and injury, do not share your PIN with others, and do not withdraw large sums of cash.

33. For local banks, all ATMs work across different platforms and any debit or credit card can withdraw cash from any ATM, i.e. you do not necessarily need to go to the ATM of the bank where you have opened your account. There may be an extra charge if you use an ATM that is not owned by your bank.

34. International debit and credit cards also work on local ATMs, but this feature does not apply to all the cards. Detailed features and compatibility of the respective local banks and their ATMs with international credit and debit cards can be checked from the respective bank's website.

INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFERS / EXCHANGING MONEY

35. Money exchange from your local currency to Pakistani Rupees can be done through multiple money exchange franchises, most of which are located near the base. Some currencies may not be available at all the franchises, however all major currencies of the world are readily available.

36. Money transfer is also possible through Western Union outlets, which can be easily found all over Karachi. The nearest is 3 km outside the base, located inside a shopping mall.

SUPPORT FOR SPOUSES

37. AWCI recognizes that while you are busy with your coursework, it is important to ensure that your spouse is being supported. For this reason, AWCI has organized several programs, activities and visits throughout the year that empower spouses to experience Pakistani culture, develop their various skills, and build lasting relationships with other spouses and members of the AWCI community. Activities undertaken by ladies club include :

1. Welcome Dinner	2. Country Presentations	3. Ladies Seminar
4. Talent Classes	5. Visit to Science Centre	6. Cyber Security Lectures
7. Naat & Qir'at Competition	8. Shopping Trips	9. Milaad
10. Korangi Creek Picnic	11. Gul Ahmed Factory Visit	12. State Bank Museum Visit
13. Combined Luncheons	14. Hi-Tea Gatherings	15. Tambola Nights
16. Walkathons	17. International Gourmet	18. Dessert Competition
19. Karachi City Visit	20. Quran Khwani	

SCHOOLING FOR KIDS

37. PAF Base, Faisal lies in the heart of Karachi, and has access to the best schools for children of all ages in close proximity. Transport for pick and drop is provided by AWCI. Some of the premier schools (for all age groups) are enlisted below:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| (a) Base Montessori | (Nursery Kids) |
| (b) PAFWA Education System (PES) School | (Grade 1 till 5) |
| (c) The City School | (Grade 1 till 10) |
| (d) Fazaia Schools & Colleges | (Grade 1 till 10) |

SHOPPING

38. PAF Base, Faisal has a number of small shops to cater for daily needs, which include all basic items for household use, including bakeries, meat shops, fruit shops, dairy, and small eateries. However, the majority of shops featuring local and international brands are located in large complexes of shops in shopping malls, with each mall having a huge variety of shopping diversity, including international supermarket chains like Carrefour and Hyperstar. Among other attractions, all shopping malls feature a food court, with some also having a multiplex cinema, children’s play area; Fun land, and multiple restaurants in addition to food courts. Some of the leading shopping malls in Karachi are:

Dolmen Mall (03 Malls)

Clifton, Tariq Road and Hyderi

Lucky One Mall

F B Area

Ocean Mall

Clifton – 2 Talwar

The Forum

Clifton – Schon circle

Atrium Mall

Saddar Bazaar

Com-3 Mall

Clifton – Bilawal Chorangi

Port Grand

West Wharf

Emerald Tower

Clifton – 2 Talwar

Millennium Mall

Gulistan-e-Johar

39. In addition to shopping malls, Karachi also has many local shopping areas or “Bazaars”, which are a reflection of the city’s old heritage and hustling life. Some of these bazaars date back to the old British era, and buildings reminiscent to the British can still be seen in those areas. These bazaars are always buzzing with excitement, and are rather noisy for people who don’t like shopping, but for shopaholics and adventurous travellers, they are a shopper's heaven. Bargaining vendors, honking cars, crowded narrow streets, roadside stalls and eateries with happy shoppers are the highlights of these bazaars, which make them the liveliest of markets in Karachi. These bazaars have evolved into huge shopping hubs, and although almost every household item can be bought from each bazaar, they are generally known for selling particular stuff in bulk quantities with cheap prices. The salients of these bazars are:

Zamzama Street, Tariq Road, Bahadurabad	Designer dresses, Wedding dresses, Casual dresses, Local Boutiques, Shoes, Bags, Local & International brands
Gul Plaza, Hyderi Market, Boulton Market, Jama Cloth Market	Bed sheets, Crockery, Plastic ware, Toys, Babywear, Gifts, Household Items, Travelling bags, Kitchenware, Souvenirs
Zainab Market, Saddar Market, Zaibunnisa Street	Jewelry, Artificial jewelry, Leather goods, Export leftovers, Traditional wear, Casual wear, Jeans, T-Shirts, Souvenirs
Cooperative Market	Customary Gifts, Souvenirs, Traditional clothes, Electronic items

SOCIAL LIFE, ENTERTAINMENT & TOURISM

40. Karachi is a diverse hub of social, cultural and ethnic amalgamation. It is home to a multitude of activities, which cater to every individual. Among the most notable activities in Karachi are its socially interactive lifestyles, which come to life in the night. Tourism and physical sports activities – although limited, are available for the more enthusiastic people.

FOOD

41. Karachi cuisine is a multicultural cuisine as a result of the city consisting of various ethnic groups from different parts of Pakistan. Karachi is considered the melting pot of Pakistan. Karachi cuisine is renowned for its cultural fusion, due to various empires and peoples living in this mega city. As a result many multi ethnic cuisines collaboratively had an influence on the style of Karachi food. The Pakistani cuisines such as Sindhi, Punjabi, Pashtun, Balochi, Hyderabad, Afghan, Gujrati, Irani, Chinese, Italian, Turkish, Arabic and other regional cuisines have also influenced the cuisine of Karachi.



42. These cuisines are available readily throughout the city, with shops scattered in all localities and shopping malls. A comprehensive food guide can be sought from the internet and local members of the course. Some famous eateries in Karachi include:

Buffet	Lal Qila, Clock Tower, Royal Jasmine, Suzie Wong, Sky BBQ, Movenpick, Rangoli, Ramada La Terrasse, BBQ Tonight, Chaupal, Rosati Bistro, Cocochan, Kolachi, Kababjees
À la carte	Café Aylanto, Café Flo, Xanders, Chandni, Jason Steak House, Ginsoy,
Food Streets	Boat Baisin, Hussainabad, Sindhi Muslin Society, Highway hotels, Mohammad Ali Society, Khadda Market, Bukhari Commercial, Port Grand
Local Foods	Shaheen Shinwari, Kababjees, Zameer Ansari BBQ, Abdul Ghaffar BBQ,
Middle Eastern	Ridan Mandi, Zeytin (Turkish), Mandi House, Haveli, Okra (Mediterranean)

MUSEUMS

43. Karachi is home to several of Pakistan's most important museums. The National Museum of Pakistan and Mohatta Palace display artwork, while the city also has several private art galleries. Prominent museums include the Pakistan Airforce Museum, the Pakistan Maritime Museum and the country's first interactive science centre, the MagnifiScience Centre. Wazir

Mansion, the birthplace of Pakistan's founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah has also been preserved as a museum open to the public. Quaid-e-Azam House, the residence of Muhammad Ali Jinnah is also a museum which showcases his furniture and other belongings. Other museums include TDF Ghar and the State Bank of Pakistan Museum & Art Gallery.

BEACHES

44. Pakistan's southern coastline meets the Arabian Sea, running along the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan. Notable Beaches along Karachi's coastline include: Clifton Beach, French Beach, Hawke's Bay, Paradise Point, Nathia Gali Beach, anora Beach, Sandspit Beach, Turtle Beach, Cape Monze, Korangi Creek.



Clifton Beach

ENTERTAINMENT & CINEMA

45. Karachi is home to Urdu cinema and Kara Film Festival annually showcases independent Pakistani / International films and documentaries. Cinepax Cinema (Ocean Mall), Cinegold Plex Cinema (Bahria Town), Mega Multiplex Cinema (Millennium Mall), Nueplex Cinema (Askari-4), Atrium Mall Cinema (Saddar) are some of the most popular cinemas in Karachi.

ADVENTURE PARKS

46. There is a vast variety of amusement parks and attractions in Karachi that are an excellent source of entertainment not only for children but also for adults. Karachi's grand theme parks feature rollercoasters, electronic rides, games, chairlifts, and so many other exciting options. Some Popular amusement parks in Karachi include: Bahria Adventure Land, Arena Club, Onederland, Askari Park, Chunky Monkey, PAF Museum, Winterland, Safari Park and Sindbad Wonderland.



Askari Adventure Park

GENERAL GUIDELINES

PAKISTANI CULTURE

47. Pakistan is an Islamic country, with a predominantly Eastern-Islamic culture. Women are given the utmost respect and priority, specially in queues. The dress for women in Pakistan is according to traditional Islamic values, wherein any kind of dress (Eastern or Western) is permissible while remaining within military and cultural norms. Men do not shake hands with women and a kind verbal greeting is sufficient when two people meet. Physical touch is frowned upon, and efforts must be made not to accidentally touch any woman, even in enclosed spaces like elevators, stairs and corridors.

48. Public display of affection, even for married couples is deemed indecent, and consumption of any alcoholic drinks is not allowed in public. Alcohol is banned in Pakistan, and is only available for foreigners / non-muslims from high end hotels. Publicly roaming around in an intoxicated state can get an individual arrested by any law enforcing agency.

UNIFORM REGULATIONS

49. All members are advised to bring both their summer and winter Office Dress (Generally referred to as Blues, Khakis or Whites – for Air Force, Army or Navy respectively) and Combat Dress (CCD) – as per the arm and branch of each officer. Normally CCD is worn at the college, and Office Dress is worn on Mondays or special occasions. Formal or semi-formal suits would be required at some functions during the tenure of the course, and the same can easily be purchased locally at very good prices.

HELP AT HOME – BATMAN FACILITY

50. All allied members would be provided a local helper or 'Batman' to help them in household chores and local grocery runs. The batman facility is optional, and all members would be charged extra for the services. It is pertinent to note that during the high tempo of studies at the college, your batman would be an invaluable help to get your household chores done, help out with tasks at home, run errands and get food supplies while you are away at college. If at any stage there is a problem or issue with the batman, members can contact O ic AOW for further guidance.

PAYING UTILITY BILLS

51. Utility bills like Water, Gas and Electricity will be paid by every individual – Depending on the terms of their respective MCP. It is pertinent to note that tap water is **not potable in Pakistan**; However, bottled mineral water is easily accessible, which can be purchased from the officers' mess or local markets.

MOVING IN AND OUT OF THE BASE

52. Movement to and from the base is generally restricted for Allied members due to security constraints, however, all members are free to move around the city with their sponsor member and families. AWCI would only be providing official transport for the movement of allied officers to facilitate them in their official matters. Any personal visit to the city would be undertaken by the member and/or his family through paid local transport. Weekly run to the supermarket for groceries would however be facilitated by official college escorted transport.

TIPPING IN CIVIL HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

53. Leaving tips for services is quite common in Pakistan. In fact, in most instances, the individual providing the service expects them. Be sure to give a small amount as tip, specially to your oft-visited places.

ONLINE SHOPPING

54. The convenience of shopping online and availability of goods offer an attractive alternative to shopping in a traditional store. However, you should ensure that the company or the individual with whom you are dealing is legitimate and actually has the goods or services as advertised. This is often difficult but if the deal seems too good to be true, or if you have a sense that something is “not quite right,” you are likely correct. You should try to determine whether the company is legitimate by asking such questions as: what kind of business is it, what does it sell, where is it located, how can you contact the business, is the product or service being offered clearly described, restrictions or limitations on the sale, warranty/guarantee, safe payment options, estimated delivery date, etc.

55. An easy thumb rule would be to avoid small enterprises and startups. The most reliable online shopping portal in Pakistan is [Daraz \(https://www.daraz.pk\)](https://www.daraz.pk). All members are advised to remain cautious of online scams and frauds, and be aware of identity thefts by protecting their accounts and passwords.

AVOIDING CYBER FRAUD

56. Scams are regrettably common throughout the world. Like any country, Pakistan has its share of cyber frauds – varying in nature and frequency. Here are some common tips to avoid cyber fraud:

Don't become a victim of cyber fraud!

- Do not respond to unsolicited (spam) emails.
- Do not click on links contained within an unsolicited email.
- Be cautious of emails claiming to contain pictures in attached files, as the files may contain viruses. Only open attachments from known senders.
- Always compare the link in the email with the link to which you are directed and determine if they match and will lead you to a legitimate site.
- Log on directly onto the official website for the business identified in the email, instead of 'linking' to it from an unsolicited email.
- Contact the actual business that supposedly sent the email to verify if the email is genuine.
- If you are asked to act quickly, or there is an emergency, it may be a scam. Fraudsters create a sense of urgency to get you to act quickly.
- Before entering any credit card information on any site make sure the site is secure. If the site's web address begins with "https://" it is secure. If the site only begins with "http://" then the site is not secure, and your credit card information can be stolen from this site.
- Turn off your phone/computer/tablet Bluetooth and Wi-Fi whenever it is not in use and try to avoid (when possible) using Wi-Fi in public places; when your Bluetooth and Wi-Fi are on unnecessarily, people can use these portals to access information on your device.

AVOIDING IDENTITY THEFT

57. In addition to cyber frauds, a scam particularly related to banking is categorized as "Phishing" which leads to identity theft. Phishing is usually by done e-mail or 'popup' messages, and it is one of the most common scams in the world. The message may ask you to 'update', 'validate' or 'confirm' your account information or risk facing consequences – these messages exist simply to trick you into divulging your personal information. Phishing is also common by telephone and regular postal service, in which you are requested to provide personal information such as bank account numbers, social security numbers, passwords, etc., which is then used to steal your money, or identity. All members are to ensure that they do not fall prey to such malpractices, which may result in loss of irrecoverable finances.

OUTPROCESSING

59. Starting from May/June, AWCI will start your final clearance for out-processing. All members are reminded to positively clear their financial dues wherever applicable. Final clearance from AWCI would be subject to the settlement of all matters at AWCI and all services provided by PAF Base, Faisal.

ID CARDS

60. All Allied members must return their ID cards/Red passes issued to them on their arrival to AWCI. This includes all passes and permits issued subsequently by AWCI and PAF Base Faisal to the members and their dependents (if any).

LEAVES

61. Please determine whether or not you would like to take leave after the end of the course or during winter break. A No-Objection Certificate (NOC) is required from your embassy to avail leave during the course, which includes leaves for winter break. All post-training leave must be authorized by your home military unit / embassy at least 15 days prior to end of training.

ACADEMIC REPORTS

62. A copy of academic transcripts / degree will be made available to you. A letter about your academic performance will be signed by the President of the Air War College Institute.



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