

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

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## **SOS 3.0 Program (New)**

### **1. What is the SOS DL 3.0 Program?**

Squadron Officer School Distance Learning (SOS DL) 3.0 is a redesigned, outcomes-based Professional Military Education (PME) program. It is a 175-hour curriculum specifically engineered to develop O-3s and GS 9-12s into tactical warfighters. The program emphasizes mission command, ethical decision-making, and tactical operations through a progressive, integrated learning model.

### **2. What are the primary differences between SOS 2.0 and SOS 3.0?**

The transition to SOS 3.0 introduces a shift to Authentic Assessment and Sequential Programming.

- **Progressive Pathing:**
  - Students must complete courses in a strict sequence.
  - Dual enrollment in multiple courses is no longer permitted\*.
    - *\*Exception: WAR-531S and WAR-532S may be taken prior to or simultaneously with LDR-533A.*
- **Facilitated Integration:**
  - SOS 3.0 includes four facilitated courses which utilize active instructor guidance to provide timely, constructive feedback, and create a collaborative and supportive learning environment to facilitate peer to peer interaction.
- **Evaluative Rigor:**
  - Leadership and Warfighting Suite self-paced courses now include high-stakes assessments\*.
    - *\*Note: See question 6 for more information.*
- **Projected Timeline:**
  - Due to sequential timeline and availability of facilitated iterations, students should plan for an approximate 8-month completion journey\*.
    - *\*Note: Students are still given 3 years to complete the program.*

### **3. What is the Capstone experience?**

The SOS DL 3.0 Capstone (CST-531A) is a four-week, high-intensity collaborative exercise that serves as the program culmination. Students work in a simulated operational environment to solve complex problems focused on Agile Combat Employment (ACE) and

near-peer conflict. Assessments are based on the student's decision-making process, staff work, and demonstration of professional competencies throughout the wargame.

#### **4. How long do I have to complete each course?**

SOS 3.0 maintains the 60-day window for self-paced courses.

#### **5. How does the facilitated course schedule work?**

Following the initial program rollout, facilitated courses will be offered monthly. To account for the sequential flow of the new curriculum, the inaugural offerings for each suite are scheduled as follows:

- **MTC-532A:** 3 – 16 August 2026
- **LDR-533A:** 5 – 25 October 2026
- **WAR-535A:** 4 – 24 January 2027
- **CST-531A:** 1 – 28 February 2027

#### **6. What happens if I fail a high-stakes exam?**

High stakes testing is included in all self-paced courses in the Leadership (LDR) and Warfighting (WAR) suites. Students are allowed two attempts to pass the final exam; students who fail the course will be required to re-enroll and start the course from the beginning prior to moving forward in the program.

## **Legacy SOS 2.0 Program (Current)**

### **1. What happens to my current SOS DL 2.0 enrollment?**

Students currently enrolled in SOS DL 2.0 will remain in the 2.0 program and can continue working under existing requirements.

- Current SOS DL 2.0 students will have until the program's sunset on 1 November 2026 to complete **all** requirements.
- SOS 2.0 students may request disenrollment via the AFGC Help Desk and enroll in SOS 3.0 but will NOT receive any transfer credit.

### **Program Sunset and Transition**

- **Hard Sunset:** SOS DL 2.0 will be deactivated on 1 November 2026.
- Students who do not complete **all** program requirements by 1 Nov will be disenrolled.
- Students must enroll in SOS DL 3.0 via the AFGC admissions process.
  - There is no automatic migration from SOS 2.0 to SOS 3.0.
- There are **no course equivalencies** or **transfer credits** between SOS DL 2.0 and SOS DL 3.0.
- **Final Offerings of SOS DL 2.0**
  - **Leadership Series LDR-504A**
    - August 2026
    - Registration deadline: 19 July 2026
  - **Warfighting Series AIR-502A**
    - October 2026
    - Registration deadline: 20 September 2026

### **2. If I am in a 2.0 self-paced course during the 3.0 launch, what should I do?**

You have two options:

- **Option A (Complete 2.0)**
  - If you can realistically finish all remaining self-paced courses and enroll in the final facilitated courses (LDR-504A and AIR-502A) by the registration deadlines, you should proceed with completion of SOS 3.0.
- **Option B (Transition to 3.0)**
  - You may request SOS 2.0 disenrollment from SOS 2.0 via the AFGC Help Desk and enroll for SOS 3.0 on or after **1 July 2026** via the AFGC admissions process.

### 3. Will this change impact my military records or Reserve points?

- **Personnel Records:** There is no impact on your master personnel record. Both versions grant the same SOS completion credit. Transcripts will reflect the specific course numbers completed.

**Reserve Points:** While AFGC does not award points directly, the contact hours have increased from 135 to 175. Total Force Service Center (TFSC) remains the point of contact for all Reserve point inquiries.

**Table 1. SOS 2.0/3.0 Program Comparison**

SOS DL 2.0	SOS DL 3.0
ORN-501S (0 contact hours)	ORN-531S (0 contact hours)
GSS-501S (10 contact hours)	MTC-531S (10 contact hours)
LDR-501S (10 contact hours)	MTC-532A (15 contact hours)
LDR-502S (15 contact hours)	LDR-531S (10 contact hours)
LDR-503S (10 contact hours)	LDR-532S (20 contact hours)
LDR-504A (20 contact hours)	LDR-533A (25 contact hours)
WAR-501S (10 contact hours)	WAR-531S (10 contact hours)
ISS-501S (15 contact hours)	WAR-532S (15 contact hours)
AIR-501S (15 contact hours)	WAR-533S (15 contact hours)
JNT-501S (10 contact hours)	WAR-534S (15 contact hours)
AIR-502A (20 contact hours)	WAR-535A (20 contact hours)
	CST-531A (20 contact hours)