



United States Army Center for Initial Military Training

Staff Sergeant (SSG) Ashley Buhl 2023 Drill Sergeant of the Year (Active Component)

SSG Ashley Nicole Buhl was born in Richmond, VA, and raised in Crestview, FL. After graduating from Crestview High School in 2011, she attended college at Troy University, where in 2015, she earned a Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology. In February 2016, SSG Buhl enlisted in the U.S. States Army and completed basic training at Fort Sill, OK, where she graduated in the top 10% of her battery.

Subsequently, she went to Fort Sam Houston, TX, to earn the Military Occupation Specialty 68W - Health Care Specialist. In doing so, she was awarded the Junior Leader of the Cycle Award.



SSG Buhl has served in multiple duty positions ranging from a Line Medic to a Treatment Noncommissioned Officer (NCO), and even a Medical Operations NCO, while assigned to the 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Sill, OK. While stationed at Fort Sill, SSG Buhl deployed twice in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Spartan Shield, and Operation Freedom's Sentinel in the countries of Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, and Afghanistan.

After Fort Sill, SSG Buhl attended the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant School, Fort Jackson, SC. After graduating, she was initially assigned as a Drill Sergeant in the 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment and later, she served as the Senior Drill Sergeant of 2nd Platoon, Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment. After four days of physically and mentally grueling competition, SSG Buhl was announced as the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year (Active Duty Component) on 15 September 2023.

SSG Buhl's goals consist of earning her Expert Field Medical Badge, completing her Bachelor's degree and starting her Master's degree, attending the Master Resilience Training Level 2 Course, the Master Fitness Trainer and Equal Opportunity courses, and retiring from the Army as a Command Sergeant Major. In her spare time, SSG Buhl likes to volunteer with the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, attend Pilates and boxing classes, and relax at home with her three cats. She is currently serving as the Training & Doctrine Command's Drill Sergeant of the Year (Active Component) at the U.S. Army Center for Initial Military Training, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA.