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ARMY REGULATION

No. 601-140

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC. 1 April 1970

**PERSONNEL PROCUREMENT
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT EARLY COMMISSIONING PROGRAM**

Effective 1 June 1970

This revision of AR 601-140 revises the Army Medical Department Early Commissioning Program to include students of osteopathy, optometry, psychology, sanitary engineering, and social work, and is issued in compliance with DOD Directive 1200.14, 30 July 1969. Local supplementation of this regulation is permitted but is not required. If supplements are issued, Army staff agencies and major Army commands will furnish one copy of each to The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPT-R, other commands will furnish one copy of each to the next higher headquarters.

| | Paragraph |
|---|-----------|
| Section I. GENERAL | |
| Purpose..... | 1 |
| Applicability..... | 2 |
| Eligibility..... | 3 |
| Responsibilities..... | 4 |
| Nomination for active duty..... | 5 |
| Active duty orders..... | 6 |
| Delay in reporting for active duty..... | 7 |
| II. USAR PARTICIPANTS (OTHER THAN ROTC GRADUATES) | |
| Application..... | 8 |
| Appointment—branch transfer..... | 9 |
| Assignment..... | 10 |
| Participation requirements..... | 11 |
| Reappointment—branch transfer..... | 12 |
| Service obligation..... | 13 |
| III. ROTC GRADUATES | |
| Application..... | 14 |
| Branch detail..... | 15 |
| Assignment..... | 16 |
| Participation requirements..... | 17 |
| Branch transfer..... | 18 |
| Service obligation..... | 19 |
| Regular Army appointment..... | 20 |

Section I. GENERAL

1. Purpose. This regulation establishes the Department of the Army's Medical Department Early Commissioning Program which provides a programed input into the Active Army and an early association of future members of certain health professions with the Army. It insures qualified applicants of delay from active duty pending receipt of their professional degree. In the case of medical and osteopathic students, the delay period includes the completion of a 1-year internship.

2. Applicability. This program is applicable to students selected for or enrolled in approved or accredited schools of medicine, osteopathy, den-

tistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, psychology, sanitary engineering, and social work. See AR 135-101.

3. Eligibility. In addition to meeting the matriculation requirement (para 2), applicant must meet the requirements for appointment in the Medical Service Corps prescribed in AR 135-101.

a. Students of osteopathy will be considered to have met the educational requirements if accepted for or enrolled in an approved school.

b. Students of optometry will be considered to have met the educational requirements if they are enrolled in an approved school and have completed

This regulation supersedes AR 601-140, 19 June 1963, including all changes.

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a minimum of 60 semester hours of preoptometry studies.

c. Psychology students must demonstrate potential for admission to a doctoral program acceptable to The Surgeon General.

4. Responsibilities. *a.* The Surgeon General is responsible for the overall supervision of this program and will—

(1) Furnish annual program quotas to area commanders.

(2) Issue assignment instructions for participants reported as available for active duty.

(3) Determine in coordination with the Chief of Personnel Operations whether participants who fail to graduate or accept reappointment should be called to active duty or discharged.

b. Area commanders, including the Commanding Generals, USARHAW and USARAL will—

(1) Exert every effort to obtain sufficient participants to meet their assigned quotas (AR 601-132).

(2) Insure that prospective participants receive a copy of this regulation and are counseled regarding their service obligation and the alternatives offered by this program.

(3) Tender appointments to qualified applicants.

(4) Reassign appointees immediately upon acceptance of appointment to the USAR Control Group (Officer Active Duty Obligor (OADO)), U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel Center, Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN (USARPCPC) 46249.

(5) Reassign to the Control Group in (4) above on the effective date of this regulation, all Reserve officers under their jurisdiction who are students of medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry, including unit officers, who have not completed the active duty portion of their obligated period of military service.

(6) Furnish The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPT-R, one copy of orders for each officer reassigned pursuant to (4) and (5) above.

c. The Commanding Officer, U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel Center, will—

(1) Maintain control over officers who are assigned to the USAR Control Group (OADO) at U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel Center.

(*a*) Assure strength accountability, control

of officers and proper maintenance of personnel records.

(*b*) Process and make promotions as prescribed in AR 135-155.

(*c*) Effect reappointment or transfer of medical, dental, veterinary students in accordance with paragraph 12.

(*d*) Accomplish approved reappointments and branch transfers.

(*e*) Nominate officers for active duty in accordance with paragraph 5.

(*f*) Issue active duty orders in accordance with paragraph 6.

(2) Notify eligible ROTC officers that they may submit an application for appointment in the Regular Army under the provisions of AR 601-124 (para 20).

5. Nomination for active duty. *a.* Except as indicated in *b* below, student officers will be nominated for active duty not later than 1 February of the year of graduation, unless the officer has been selected by The Surgeon General for participation in another program.

b. Medical and osteopathic student officers will be nominated for active duty not later than 17 February of the year of completion of internship, unless the officer has been selected by The Surgeon General for participation in another program.

c. Nomination will consist of a consolidated roster of officers by name, grade, and social security account number. Separate rosters will be prepared for each professional discipline. Two completed copies of DA Form 2694 (AMEDD Officer Initial Assignment Questionnaire) will be attached to the roster for each officer nominated. In the case of officers nominated for active duty with the Medical Service Corps, one complete set of transcripts covering all academic work completed to date will be attached to the questionnaire. Nomination will be forwarded to The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPT-R.

6. Active duty orders. *a.* Active duty orders will be based on assignment instructions furnished by The Surgeon General.

b. All active duty orders pertaining to officers who participated in this program will be identified as follows:

(1) PPN-TH—Early Commissioning Program participants, other than ROTC officers.

(2) PPN-SG—ROTC Officers other than those specified in (3) through (7) below.

(3) PPN-S-5—ROTC officers whose tender of Regular Army appointment as Distinguished Military Graduates has been deferred.

(4) PPN-U-4—ROTC officers who have a Regular Army obligation as an ROTC 2-year scholarship participant.

(5) PPN-U-5—ROTC officers who have a Regular Army obligation as an ROTC 4-year scholarship participant.

(6) PPN-S-1—ROTC officers having ROTC flight training.

(7) PPN-TK—ROTC officers, USAR, not specified in (3) through (6) above, entering on active duty with the Medical Corps, Dental Corps, or Veterinary Corps.

7. Delay in reporting for active duty. *a.* Except as provided in *b* below, requests for delay in reporting for active duty subsequent to tender of appointment in the Medical Corps, Dental Corps, or Veterinary Corps, will be governed by AR 601-26. ROTC officers who have a Regular Army obligation may be authorized further delay under the Armed Forces Physicians' Appointment and Residency Consideration Program (Berry Plan), Armed Forces Osteopathic Residency Deferment Program (ORD), Armed Forces Reserve Dental Officer Allocation and Commissioning Program, or the Armed Forces Veterinary Officer Postgraduate Training Program.

b. Chapter 3, AR 601-25, governs the delay or exemption of an individual member or member of units of the Ready Reserve alerted for, or involuntarily ordered to active duty.

Section II. USAR PARTICIPANTS (OTHER THAN ROTC GRADUATES)

8. Application. *a.* Applicants who do not hold a commission but desire to participate in this program will forward to the area commander in which their schools are located, DA Form 3587 (Certificate of Acknowledgment and Understanding of Service Requirements for Individuals Applying for Appointment in the United States Army Reserve Under the Provisions of AR 601-140) in triplicate, along with other documents required for appointment by AR 135-101. Applicants will not be required to appear before an examining board. Selection of applicants studying psychology will be made by The Surgeon General.

b. Applicants who hold a commission as a Reserve officer of any of the Armed Forces and desire to participate in this program will forward to the area commander in which their schools are located, DA Form 3587, in triplicate, along with other documents required for transfer to the Medical Service Corps, USAR, by AR 140-10.

9. Appointment-branch transfer. Applicants who are approved for participation in this program will be appointed or branch transferred, as appropriate, to the Medical Service Corps, USAR. Appointment letter will cite this regulation as the authority for appointment. Appointments will be in the grade of second lieutenant unless the applicant qualifies for a higher grade in accordance with AR 135-101. Applicants qualifying for an entry grade higher than first lieutenant will have

their applications for appointment or branch transfer referred to The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPT-R, for approval. Branch transfer orders will cite this regulation and AR 140-10 as authority for branch transfer.

10. Assignment. Officers who are appointed or branch transferred to the Medical Service Corps, USAR, for participation in this program will be assigned to the USAR Control Group (OADO) at U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel Center.

11. Participation requirements. Officers who are assigned to the USAR Control Group (OADO) are not required or authorized to participate in any form of Ready Reserve training, except that medical student officers may apply and be selected for participation in the Clinical Clerkship Training Program (AR 135-200). Participation in the Early Commissioning Program will be considered to fulfill the requirements for promotion to the next higher grade (AR 135-155).

12. Reappointment-branch transfer. *a.* Medical and osteopathic student officers will be reappointed or branch transferred, as appropriate, to the Medical Corps, USAR, upon graduation.

b. Dental student officers will be reappointed or branch transferred as appropriate, to the Dental Corps, USAR, not earlier than 6 months prior to graduation.

c. Veterinary student officers will be reappointed or branch transferred, as appropriate, to the Veterinary Corps, USAR, not earlier than 3 months prior to graduation.

13. Service obligation. Officers who participate in this program in medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, or optometry are obligated to serve on active duty for a period of 2 consecutive years (not including a military internship). Other participants are obligated for 4 years' consecutive active duty, unless a lesser minimum obligation is in effect for their specialty at the time of entry on active duty. In no event will this period be less than 2 years. If not ordered to active duty, officers under age 26 at the time of initial appointment are obligated to serve in the Ready Reserve until they have completed their statutory 6-year service obligation. Officers over 26 years of age at the time of initial appointment do not incur any

obligation except the active duty requirement. Officers who fail to qualify in their respective professional specialty and those who fail to accept reappointment or branch transfer (para 12) will be considered for order to active duty with or without their consent, or discharged under the provisions of AR 135-175. If it is determined at Headquarters, Department of the Army, that the officer can be effectively utilized on active duty, in any branch of the Army, the officer will be branch transferred, if applicable, and ordered to active duty, with or without his consent. If it is determined that the officer cannot be effectively utilized on active duty, in any branch of the Army, the officer will be processed for discharge from his USAR commission. Those officers who are discharged and who have not completed their statutory service obligation will be reported to the local Selective Service Board as available for induction.

Section III. ROTC GRADUATES

14. Application. ROTC graduates will submit application for Category A delay in accordance with AR 601-25. ROTC graduates who are delayed from entry on active duty to pursue a course of study leading to a degree in medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, sanitary engineering, social work, or optometry are automatically considered as participants in the Medical Department Early Commissioning Program. Officers delayed to study psychology must apply for participation by writing to the Commanding Officer, U. S. Army Reserve Components Personnel Center. Selections will be made by The Surgeon General.

15. Branch detail. ROTC graduates who are appointed in a branch other than Medical Service Corps, and who are considered as participants in the Medical Department Early Commissioning Program, will be detailed to the Medical Service Corps in accordance with AR 601-25.

16. Assignment. ROTC graduates who are granted Category A delay in accordance with AR 601-25 will be assigned to the USAR Control Group (OADO) at U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel Center. Subsequent reassignment to a troop program unit is not authorized.

17. Participation requirements. See paragraph 11.

18. Branch transfer. See paragraph 12.

19. Service obligation. ROTC officers are obligated to serve on active duty for 2, 3, or 4 consecutive years following completion of professional schooling depending upon the obligation they incurred in the ROTC program. This is in addition to subsequent obligations that may be incurred as a result of participation in other Army Medical Department programs. Should such an officer fail to graduate he will be required to serve on active duty and in the Ready Reserve in accordance with the terms of the supplemental agreement signed under the provisions of AR 601-25.

20. Regular Army appointment. ROTC officers eligible to accept a Regular Army appointment upon completion of their professional schooling (including internship when applicable) will be informed by the Commanding Officer, U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel Center, that they may submit an application for appointment under the provisions of AR 601-124 upon entry on obligated active duty.

The proponent agency of this regulation is the Office of The Surgeon General. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications) to The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPT-R, Department of the Army, Washington, DC 20314.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

W. C. WESTMORELAND,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

Official:

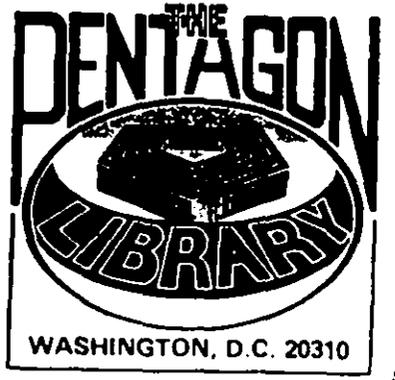
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