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*AR 601-141

ARMY REGULATION
No. 601-141

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 1 June 1977

PERSONNEL PROCUREMENT
US ARMY HEALTH PROFESSIONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Effective 15 July 1977

This regulation provides policy governing the US Army Health Professions Scholarship Program. Supplemental instructions may be disseminated by subordinate headquarters upon approval by HQDA (SGPE-PD), Forrestal Building, WASH, DC 20314.

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1. Purpose and scope. This regulation establishes the Army portion of the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program, as prescribed in Chapter 105, Title 10, US Code. Scholarship assistance is available for students pursuing a course of study at an accredited institution leading to a graduate degree in medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, or other designated allied health disciplines. Selection of individuals in each discipline is based on allocations established in accordance with Department of Defense directives and on Army requirements for officers qualified in the disciplines concerned. Selections on a best qualified basis from all applicants for each field of study will be made by selection boards appointed by The Surgeon General. Policies and procedures as prescribed apply to civilian and military applicants including personnel of the Army Reserve and Army National Guard.

2. Responsibilities. a. The Surgeon General, with the assistance of the Commander, US Army Medical Department Personnel Support Agency, is responsible for:

- (1) Developing policy for the administration and management of the program.
- (2) Determining the categories of applicants to be considered and the number to be selected for entry into each discipline, consistent with DoD limitations and the anticipated requirements of the Army Medical Department.
- (3) Selecting participants from applications presented.
- (4) Budgeting funds required from the Operation and Maintenance Army appropriation for support of the program.
- (5) Prescribing reports necessary to monitor and evaluate program effectiveness.
- (6) Representing the Department of the Army in joint Service aspects of the program.
- (7) Nominating individuals for appointment in the USAAR; assuring that all documents related to program participation are completed by selected applicants; forwarding assignment instructions; initiating appropriate actions when a participant no longer meets the requirement for payment of entitlements, in accordance with established administrative procedures.

*This regulation supersedes the following DA messages: DAPC-PAS-S 211700Z Jun 73, SGPE-PD 012145Z May 75, and SGPE-PD 311530Z Aug 6.

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(8) Developing and implementing a comprehensive program providing opportunities for continued professional education, consistent with Army requirements, beyond that provided by the US Army Health Professions Scholarship Program.

(9) Recruiting operations for the program.

(10) Performing officer procurement functions, as stated in AR 601-132.

(11) Determining active duty for training (ADT) assignments to satisfy annual training requirements and active duty (AD) assignments upon successful completion of the Program.

b. Commanding General, US Army Health Services Command, is responsible for:

(1) Disbursing all entitlements to program participants and civilian institutions.

(2) Managing a training program for the 45-day annual active duty training phase and such other procedures as may be designated and approved by The Surgeon General; advising The Surgeon General of number and types of assignments and the forwarding of training reports.

(3) Maintaining statistical data as required by The Surgeon General.

c. Commanding General, US Army Reserve Components Personnel and Administration Center, is responsible for:

(1) Tendering USAR appointments to qualified individuals nominated by The Surgeon General.

(2) Managing program participants in their status as Reservists of the Army to include annual delay renewal while a program participant.

(3) Issuing required ADT and AD orders in accordance with assignment instructions provided by The Surgeon General.

(4) Maintaining statistical data as required by The Surgeon General.

d. Chief, Army Reserve, is responsible for budgeting funds required in the Reserve Personnel Army appropriation for support of this program.

3. Eligibility requirements. a. An applicant must meet the following eligibility criteria:

(1) Be a citizen of the United States.

(2) Demonstrate sincere motivation toward a designated health professional career in the United States Army.

(3) Except as specified in subparagraphs (a) and (b) below, be fully eligible for appointment in the USAR as set forth in AR 135-100 and AR 135-101, as applicable:

(a) Be physically qualified for appointment as an officer in the United States Army Reserve as prescribed in chapter 8, AR 40-501.

(b) Applicant's age at time of projected date of graduation (and reappointment, if applicable, after graduation in the appropriate branch) must meet the eligibility criteria prescribed in AR 135-101, provided the applicant is not disqualified considering prior service creditable toward retirement and the statutory requirements of Chapter 363 of Title 10, US Code.

(4) Be enrolled in or have obtained firm written acceptance from an accredited professional school in the United States or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The professional school must be accredited by an accrediting agency or association which is recognized for such purpose by the US Commissioner of Education. Included are those institutions which are in the process of seeking accreditation and currently have provisional or conditional accreditation or candidacy status for accreditation based solely on the newness of the institution and nonaccredited independent allied health science schools approved by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs).

(5) Execute DA Form 4629 (Service Agreement—Department of the Army Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program) without reservation.

b. Selected active duty applicants must be relieved from active duty prior to entry into the program. (see para 10d(2)). Provisions of AR 635-100 and AR 635-120 apply for officers and AR 635 200 for enlisted personnel.

c. At the time of application. A member of another Service of the Uniformed Service must submit, along with the application for the program, a release from the individual's Service which is contingent on selection for the US Army Health Professions Scholarship Program.

d. Ineligibles. Paragraph 1-5, AR 135-100, lists categories which render individuals ineligible for appointment in the USAR. In addition, an individual who is receiving financial assistance from another source, or has any other commitment, which obligates him/her to service other than with the United States Army after receipt of professional degrees is ineligible. Officers who enter active duty on or after 1 July 1977 must fulfill all active duty obligations prior to being eligible for participation in this program (e.g.,

graduates of service academies must complete their five year obligated service prior to being eligible to enter the program). Officers who enter or entered active duty prior to 1 July 1977 are eligible to apply for this program under policy in effect at time of entry on active duty (e.g., two years after entry on active duty subsequent to service academy graduation). In the latter instance, the officer's remaining service obligation(s) are carried forward to be completed subsequent to completion of service obligation incurred as a result of this Program.

4. Entitlements. *a.* A monthly stipend of \$400, to be paid for each month of program participation, except while satisfying the annual active duty training requirement specified in paragraph 6 below. Eligibility for payment of the stipend commences on the latest of the three dates dealing with actions in paragraph 5f(1).

b. Payments of all approved educational expenses incurred by a member of the Program, including tuition, fees, books, laboratory expenses, microscope rental, laboratory and clinical coats, precious and semiprecious metals, and payments for educational services but excluding room and board and non-academic expenses. Payments are limited to those educational expenses normally incurred by students at the institution and in the health profession concerned who are not members of the program. In no case will the Army reimburse an individual for purchase of nonexpendable equipment to include microscopes.

c. Documentation of educational expenses is required. Documentation must include purchase receipts for the items claimed as well as certification by a school official, designated by the educational institution, that the items claimed are essential to the course of study as described in *b.*, above.

d. Payments of authorized expenses may be made directly to a civilian educational institution or to the member of the program. Payments to educational institutions may be contracted and made without regard to section 529, title 31, US Code.

e. Members who enter the program during an academic session are eligible for personal reimbursement on a prorated basis of all normally required and authorized items as specified in paragraph 4b provided they are applicable to the current academic year. Those expenses incurred

and items purchased prior to the current academic year, but still in use or required to be used in the future, are not approved for reimbursement.

f. Taxability surrounding program entitlements is determined by statute and/or rules and regulations of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

5. Obligation. *a.* Unless sooner separated, an appointed Program participant is obligated to remain in the Program to complete the educational phase leading to a professional degree in the course of study in which enrolled. No extension of this scholarship will be granted for the purpose of pursuing studies toward completion of course requirements prerequisite to receiving any other degree.

b. After graduation, members are obligated to a term of service on active duty (AD) in their professional status for a minimum of three years for program participation periods of one year or portion thereof. As an exception to this policy, a member may be obligated to service for a period of less than three years if program entry was prior to 1 October 1976 and the service agreement stipulated a period of obligated service of less than three years. Program participation periods in excess of three years will result in an additional AD obligation computed as follows:

(1) An additional year for each full year of participation beyond the initial three years.

(2) Periods of six months or more but less than one year considered one full year of AD obligation.

(3) Periods less than six months counted on a day-to-day basis to determine AD obligation.

c. Time spent on active duty or active duty for training while a member of the program prior to completion of professional degree requirements will not be credited toward fulfillment of any AD obligation. Time spent on active duty following completion of professional degree requirements, for individuals selected to participate in the Army First Year Graduate Medical Education Program (FYGME) or the Army Dental General Practice Residency (One Year) and awaiting the start of either program, will not be credited toward fulfillment of any AD obligation incurred by participation in this program.

d. Time spent in postgraduate professional education (first year graduate medical education/internship, residency, or fellowship) will not be

creditable toward satisfying the AD obligation incurred as a result of program participation.

e. A member may not serve all or any part of a military obligation incurred by participation in this program concurrently with any other military obligation.

f. Program participation for purposes of computing service obligation commences with the date of eligibility for payment of the monthly stipend described in paragraph 4a and terminates effective with the date of loss of such eligibility.

(1) To be eligible for such stipend pay, a selected individual must—

(a) Be enrolled in an approved institution;

(b) Hold a USAR commission; and

(c) Have executed DA Form 4629 (Service Agreement—Department of the Army Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program).

(2) A participant becomes ineligible for such stipend upon—

(a) Disenrollment or suspension from the participant's academic program for any reason;

(b) Graduation, or if requirements for graduation are completed more than 45 days prior to the date the degree is to be conferred, upon completion of the requirements for graduation;

(c) Elimination from the service in accordance with current regulations or statutes concerning voluntary or involuntary separation of Reserve officers; or

(d) Dropped from the program by The Surgeon General for deficiency in conduct, in studies, or in moral or personal character.

g. A member who is dropped from the Program pursuant to subparagraph 5f(2)(d) or for any reason fails to fulfill the contractual agreement as a result of action *not* initiated by the Government will complete incurred AD obligation in an appropriate military capacity when relief from active duty in the best interest of the Army is *not* indicated. A program member or graduate of the academic phase of the program who has not fulfilled the AD obligation may not voluntarily withdraw or be relieved of incurred AD obligation or any part thereof solely because of willingness to refund all payments made by the United States Government pursuant to Sections 2121 and 2127, Title 10, US Code. The Secretary of the Army may relieve a member, who is dropped from the program, from any military obligation or requirement for reimbursement of

the Government when such action would be in the best interest of the Army; however, such relief will not relieve the member from any military obligation imposed by any other law. Terminated personnel will be referred by the US Army Reserve Components Personnel and Administration Center (RCPAC), with recommendations, to HQDA (DAPC-OPP-P) for branch determination and assignment or relief therefrom.

h. No member of the program may accept financial assistance from another source which obligates the participant to service other than the US Army after receipt of a professional degree.

i. Program participants will not obligate themselves whereby they would be considered essential to a community.

j. Delay in reporting to active duty beyond graduation is subject to approval by The Surgeon General. Requests for delay based on alleged essentiality or community hardship will not be considered when submitted by or in behalf of participants in this Program.

6. Annual active duty training period. a. During each 12-month period of participation, each individual will perform 45 days active duty for training, to include a maximum of one day travel to and one day travel from the training site. This active duty for training normally will be performed at an Army installation and will provide meaningful military and professional training and experience appropriate to the educational level and abilities of the officer. All active duty for training (ADT) periods will be served in pay grade O-1, regardless of the Reserve commissioned grade held. Should a participant's academic schedule preclude absence from school for a 45-day period, the ADT tour may be served at the school. Request for ADT at school in lieu of a military installation will be considered only when verified by a responsible official of the school as a degree-qualifying requirement in the course of study for the student. Requests for ADT will be approved by HQ USAMEDDPERSA (SGPE-PD).

b. When the ADT period is performed at a military installation, a US Army Officer Evaluation Report (DA Form 67-7) will be submitted in accordance with AR 623-105, with a copy to HQDA (SGPE-PD) for incorporation into the student management file. Raters and indorsers should address specifically in Part VII the officer's

potential as a health professional. Commanders will establish rating schemes which ensure that specific rating officers are present and available during the ADT period in order that such students will be observed through daily contact. An OER will be rendered unless the 45-day ADT is curtailed for some reason and is less than 30 days or is performed at the school. The use of DA Form 1970-R (House Staff Evaluation Report) is encouraged as an additional yardstick for measuring student performance but will not serve as a substitute for DA Form 67-7.

7. Appointment. *a.* For program participation, qualified civilian applicants will be commissioned as branch unassigned, detailed to Medical Service Corps, and awarded Specialty Skill Identifier (SSI) 00E (Student Officer). Other eligible applicants will be retained in their basic branch and will be detailed to Medical Service Corps for administrative accounting and control purposes.

b. Upon completion of academic requirements, all participants will be reappointed to the appropriate specialty under policy outlined in AR 135-101. Reappointment letter will cite this regulation (AR 601-141) as authority for reappointment.

c. A National Agency Check (NAC) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Name Check will be completed for each program participant. However, as an exception, an otherwise qualified US citizen applicant may be appointed prior to the completion of the NAC or FBI Name Check provided a statement of understanding is signed (DA Form 4572-R (Statement of Understanding for Appointment as a Commissioned Officer), as prescribed in fig 2-1, AR 135-101). At the time of appointment, the Commanding General, US Army Reserve Components Personnel and Administration Center, will initiate the National Agency Check and FBI Name Check. If as a result of completion of the postcommissioning investigative processes it is determined that individual is unacceptable for appointment as a commissioned officer, the officer will be released from active duty under provisions of chapter 3, section X, AR 635-100, if appropriate, or discharged under the provisions of chapter 4, section II, AR 135-175.

8. Postgraduate professional education. *a.* If qualifying for a degree in medicine or osteopathy, members will apply in accordance with applicable

Army directives for the next Army First Year Graduate Medical Education Program (FYGME) scheduled to commence after receipt of such degree and participate in that program, if selected. Those not selected for Army FYGME will be delayed automatically from entry on active duty to complete this year of education in an American Medical Association (AMA) or American Osteopathic Association (AOA)-approved first year graduate education program (internship) offered by a nonmilitary hospital. Dental graduates may apply for the Dental General Practice Residency (1 Year) in an Army sponsored program; if not selected, they may apply for delay to complete a comparable civilian program. Postgraduate professional education accomplished in a nonmilitary facility will be at no cost to the Government. Program members receiving such education while in an inactive status are not entitled to any pay, allowances, or educational expenses from the US Army. Normal stipends and benefits paid to other trainees in the institution may be accepted, provided receipt of such benefits does not entail an obligation for future service. (See also para 5i.)

b. If eligible under the provisions of AR 351-3, program members or graduates of the academic phase of the scholarship program may request an Army postgraduate education program (residency or fellowship) leading to minimum specialty board eligibility, or may request release from active duty or a delay in entry on active duty to undergo a civilian residency, provided a projected Army requirement exists for an officer trained in the specialty desired at the time of projected specialty program completion as determined by The Surgeon General. If approved by the Army for a civilian residency program, deferment from active duty will be for the time specified at the time of approval by the Army for civilian-based training in that particular residency. Any change or deviation in training or change in time required to complete residency, for which approved, must be approved by the Army prior to entry into the revised training program. Officers in delay status are required to notify The Surgeon General if civilian residency training is completed or terminated prior to expected date of completion so that orders to active duty can be initiated for fulfillment of scholarship program obligation. These provisions are applicable to participation in postgraduate programs

(residency or fellowship) leading to minimum specialty board eligibility if:

(1) The scholarship participant applies for the appropriate Army postgraduate professional education program (AR 351-2) and accepts that program if selected; or

(2) The scholarship member is not selected for participation in the Army postgraduate professional education program but is selected by the Army for delay from entry on active duty or release from active duty to accomplish such education in an approved nonmilitary facility. (The provisions of para 8a above apply insofar as entitlement to pay, allowances, education expenses or other stipends and benefits.)

9. Application. An applicant will submit the information listed in subparagraphs *a* through *j* below, which must be complete (unless otherwise indicated) prior to forwarding. The area AMEDD Personnel Counselor will assist the applicant in completing his/her program application. For information concerning location and telephone number of the nearest AMEDD Personnel Counselor, contact HQDA (SGPE PD), Forrestal Building, WASH, DC 20314.

a. DA Form 4571-R, (Data Required by the Privacy Act of 1974 (Eligibility for AMEDD Officer Procurement Programs Miscellaneous Documentation)). (See fig. 2-4, AR 135-101.)

b. DA Form 4628 (Application for the US Army Health Professions Scholarship Program).

c. A letter of acceptance or proof of enrollment from an accredited/approved professional school. In the case of an applicant who is enrolled in a professional school, this letter should be in the form of a dean's letter of recommendation.

d. Three letters of recommendation prepared by individuals, other than relatives, peers, or classmates of the applicant. These letters should reflect estimated potential for military service as a health professional. Included will be a letter from the Professor of Military Science in the case of applications from ROTC cadets or a letter from the applicant's unit commander in the case of active duty personnel or Reserve personnel affiliated with a Reserve unit. Letters should be addressed directly to the appropriate Army Medical Department Personnel Counselor.

e. Official transcripts of all college, graduate, and professional schools attended. When required by the institution, a transcript may be addressed

directly to the appropriate area Army Medical Department Personnel Counselor.

f. Unqualified resignation or request for release from active duty from active duty Army officers pending scholarship selection (see para 10d(2)(a), (b) and (3)).

g. In the case of personnel from another Uniformed Service, a release as described in paragraph 3c above.

h. In the case of prior service personnel, a copy of all DD Form 214 (Report of Separation from Active Duty).

i. A statement of approximately one hundred words prepared by the applicant outlining his/her motivation for military service as a health professional and reasons for applying for the scholarship program.

j. Test score results of the appropriate professional school admissions test for the individual's respective discipline (e.g., MCAAP for medicine, DAT for dentistry, etc.).

10. Processing procedures. *a.* AMEDD Personnel Counselors will process applications for submission to HQDA (SGPE-PD) for consideration. Information concerning application deadlines for each year group to be considered and the number of scholarships open for competition will be provided by area counselors upon request.

b. Selection boards will be established as required to fill vacancies.

c. Appearance before an examining board or interview is not necessary for applicants applying for this program, unless such a requirement is imposed by The Surgeon General for a category or group of applicants.

d. Applications will be submitted as follows:

(1) Civilian applicants, Reserve personnel of the Uniformed Services not on active duty, and ROTC cadets will submit applications through the area Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Personnel Counselor to HQDA (SGPE-PD), Forrestal Building, WASH, DC 20314.

(2) Active duty Army officers (other than AMEDD, Chaplains, and JAGC) and all enlisted applicants will submit applications through normal channels to HQDA (DAPC) for recommendation by the appropriate career office; applications with comments will be forwarded to HQDA (SGPE-PD), Forrestal Building, WASH, DC 20314.

(a) Regular Army officer applicants must submit an unqualified resignation and request

appointment in the USAR under the provisions of chapter 3, AR 635-120 pending scholarship selection. If approved for resignation and entry into the scholarship program, HQDA (DAPC-OPR-PS) will direct the discharge, USAR appointment, and assignment to the USAR Control Group (Officer Active Duty Obligor (OADO)). USAR appointment and assignment to OADO will be processed by RCPAC.

(b) Reserve officer applicants must request release from active duty under the provisions of section XX, chapter 3, AR 635-100, pending scholarship selection. If approved for release from active duty and entry into the scholarship program, HQDA (DAPC-OPR-PS) will direct the separation and assignment to the USAR Control Group (OADO), RCPAC, St. Louis, Missouri.

(3) AMEDD active duty officer personnel will submit applications through normal channels to HQDA (SGPE-PS), Forrestal Building, WASH, DC 20314, for recommendation by each applicant's appropriate career branch and forwarding to HQDA (SGPE-PD). Directives and procedures cited in paragraph 10d(2) (a) and (b) are applicable.

(4) Enlisted Army personnel on active duty must request discharge under the provisions of paragraph 5-3, AR 635-200 and concurrent appointment in the USAR (AR 135-100). Request must be made through the normal chain of command to HQDA (DAPC-EPA). If approved for discharge, HQDA (DAPC-EPA) will direct the discharge and forward the application for appointment in USAR to RCPAC. USAR appointment and assignment to OADO will be processed by RCPAC.

(5) Active duty personnel who are members of another service of the Uniformed Services will submit applications through the responsible area AMEDD Personnel Counselor to HQDA (SGPE-PD). (See paras 3c and 9g.)

11. Additional program information. a. Eligible ROTC graduates who have been tendered an RA appointment must decline the RA appointment for purposes of program entry and acceptance of a USAR commission to be submitted through the normal chain of command to HQDA (DAPC-OPP-P).

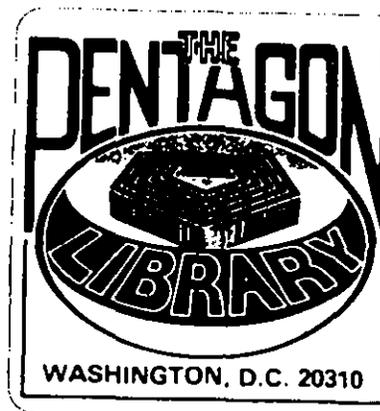
b. As applicable, commissioned officers currently on active duty and selected for program entry will have item 19, DA Form 4629 (Service Agreement—Department of the Army Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program) concerning unfulfilled service obligation, filled in and witnessed by an official at the point of separation.

c. Military service performed while a member of the program will not be counted in determining eligibility for retirement other than:

(1) By reason of a physical disability incurred while on active duty as a member of the program; or

(2) In computing years of service, creditable for pay under Section 205, other than that provided for medical, osteopathic, and dental graduates by Subsection (a) (7) and (8), of Title 37, US Code.

12. Academic monitoring. To monitor the academic progress of student participants, each program member will complete two copies of DA Form 2125 (Report to Training Agency) (exempt report para 7-2g, AR 335-15) at the time of registration for each academic session, i.e., semester, quarter, term, or summer session and forward to HQDA (SGPE-PD), Forrestal Building, WASH, DC 20314. This report will include a list of the courses which the student will take during the upcoming academic session, as approved by the faculty advisor or other appropriate school official. The anticipated date of graduation will also be included. Any change to the DA Forms 2125 will be noted on subsequent reports.



1 June 1977

AR 301-141

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 and Blank Forms) direct to: HQDA (SGPE-PD), WASH DC 20314.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

BERNARD W. ROGERS
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

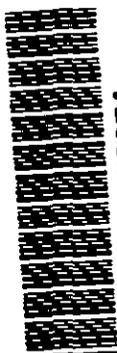
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