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ARMY REGULATION  
No. 601-26

HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON, D.C., 11 December 1967

RESERVE COMPONENTS

USAR OFFICERS DELAYED FROM ENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY TO PARTICIPATE IN AMEDS EDUCATIONAL INTERNSHIP AND/OR RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

Effective 1 February 1968

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Section I. GENERAL

1. **Purpose.** This regulation prescribes policies, procedures, and responsibilities pertaining to the control and personnel management of U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) commissioned officers who are delayed from entry on active duty in order to participate in special medical programs monitored by The Surgeon General.

2. **Applicability.** a. The provisions of this regulation are applicable to all USAR commissioned officers, regardless of branch assigned, who are approved for delay from entry on active duty in order to participate in any of the following programs.

- (1) Medical Service Early Commissioning Program (AR 601-140).
- (2) Armed Forces Physician's Appointment and Residency Consideration Program (Berry Plan) (AR 135-50).
- (3) Armed Forces Reserve Dental Officer Commissioning Program (DOCP) (AR 135-50).

- (4) Armed Forces Veterinary Officer Post-graduate Training Program (AR 135-50).
- (5) Graduates of the Senior Medical Student Program (AR 601-130) who are not matched for an Army internship under the National Intern Matching Program and are relieved from active duty for the purpose of undergoing a civilian internship not to exceed 1 year.
- (6) ROTC graduates who are delayed from entry on active duty to pursue course of study leading to a degree in Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, or Osteopathy.

b. Whenever the instructions set forth herein conflict with AR 135-50, AR 601-25, AR 601-130, and AR 601-140, the provisions of this regulation will apply.

3. **Responsibility.** The following commanders

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are responsible for the administrative action prescribed in this regulation:

- a. Army area and oversea area commanders.
- b. Commanding Officer, U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel Center, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, Ind. 46249 (CO, USARCPC).

4. **Explanation of terms.** As used in this regulation, the following explanation of terms will apply:

a. *Delay.* The postponement of either the date a USAR officer is available to report for his active duty tour or the reporting date specified in his orders to active duty.

b. *ROTC Officer.* A USAR officer commissioned through the ROTC program who has not performed his initial period of active duty in accord-

ance with the agreement executed by him while enrolled in the ROTC program.

c. *Extreme personal hardship.* Conditions under which the officer's entry on active duty would have a substantial adverse effect upon member(s) of the officer's family.

d. *Members of immediate family.* Normally, members of the immediate family will include the following:

- (1) Spouse, divorced spouse, legitimate or illegitimate child, legally adopted child, stepchild, foster child, parent, grandparent, brother, or sister; or
- (2) A person under 18 years of age, or a person of any age who is physically or mentally handicapped, whose support the officer has assumed in good faith.

## Section II. CATEGORIES OF DELAY—DELAY CRITERIA

5. **Delay policies.** Approval of delay will be based upon the applicant's meeting the eligibility requirements or criteria prescribed for the appropriate category.

a. *Period of delay.* The period of delay will vary depending upon the program in which the officer is participating and the period for which the officer continues to participate satisfactorily in the program. However, the initial delay and any renewal(s) of the initial delay will be for a period not to exceed 1 year.

b. *Renewal of delay.* All officers who are granted an initial delay in order to participate in one of the programs listed in paragraph 2a will be required to request renewal of their delay each year until they have completed their program participation and are available to enter on the required tour of active duty.

6. **Category A. a. Definition.** Category A delay consists of all USAR officers who are participating in the Medical Service Early Commissioning Program (AR 601-140) and ROTC graduates who are delayed from entry on active duty to pursue course of study leading to a degree in Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, or Osteopathy.

b. *Period of delay.* Officers may be authorized delay for the periods prescribed below, provided they meet the eligibility requirements of AR 601-140 or, for ROTC officers, AR 601-25.

- (1) *Initial delay.* Period of initial delay may

be for the minimum period required, but not to exceed 1 year.

- (2) *Renewal of delay.* Renewal of delay may be granted in increments of 1 year, subject to restrictions outlined in (3) below.
- (3) *Maximum period of delay.* Maximum period of delay may be for that period needed to complete the studies for which delay is required but not to exceed a total of 48 months from date of appointment, except as otherwise provided in c below.

c. *Exceptions to maximum period of delay.* Exceptions to the maximum period of delay authorized in b(3) above, may be granted only upon specific approval of Headquarters, Department of the Army. Requests for such exceptions must include full justification for further delay. Such justification may include, as appropriate, any communications from appropriate officials of graduate school or applicant concerning his degree program and progress, or forecasting remaining period required to complete the program. If officer has experienced abnormal difficulty in completing classroom work, experiments, or research because of personal hardship, illness, experiment failure, or similar reasons, explanation thereof should be provided to include substantiating documents from institution officials, family doctor or minister as appropriate to the circumstances.

**7. Category B. a. Definition.** Category B delay consists of the following USAR officers:

- (1) Those participating in the Armed Forces Physician's Appointment and Residency Consideration Program (Berry Plan) (AR 135-50).
- (2) Those participating in the Armed Forces Reserve Dental Officer Commissioning Program (DOCP) (AR 135-50).
- (3) Those participating in the Armed Forces Veterinary Officer Postgraduate Training Program (AR 135-50).
- (4) Those graduates of the Senior Medical Student Program (AR 601-130) who are released from active duty to complete civilian internship.
- (5) Those ROTC graduates and graduates of the Medical Service Early Commissioning Program (AR 601-140) who are reappointed or branch transferred to the Medical Corps and who do not participate in the Armed Forces Physicians' Appointment and Residency Consideration Program (Berry Plan) (AR 135-50).
- (6) Those ROTC graduates and graduates of the Medical Service Early Commissioning Program (AR 601-140) who are reappointed or branch transferred to the Dental Corps and who do not participate in the Armed Forces Reserve Dental Officer Commissioning Program (DOCP) (AR 135-50), who are approved by Headquarters, Department of the Army to participate in civilian internship as an exception to normal policy.

**b. Period of delay.** Officers may be authorized delay for the periods prescribed below:

- (1) *Initial delay.* Period of initial delay may be for the minimum period required, but not to exceed 1 year.
- (2) *Renewal of delay.* Renewal of delay may be granted in increments of 1 year, subject to restriction outlined in (3) below.
- (3) *Maximum period of delay.*
  - (a) *Internship.* Maximum period of delay for internship will be for that period needed to complete internship but not to exceed 1 year, except as otherwise provided in *c* below.
  - (b) *Residency.* Maximum period of delay

for residency may be for that period needed to complete the residency period which was tentatively approved at time of initial delay for residency. Residency training delay for Doctors of Osteopathy, may not be approved at this time. Maximum period of delay for Doctors of Medicine approved for residency training will be the minimum specified by the appropriate specialty board or the teaching hospital concerned, as listed in the Directory of Approved Internships and Residencies, American Medical Association.

**c. Exceptions to maximum period of delay.**

- (1) *Internships.* Exceptions to the maximum period of delay authorized for internship in *b(3)(a)* above, may be granted only upon specific approval of Headquarters, Department of the Army. Request for such exceptions must include full justification for further delay. If officer has experienced abnormal difficulty in completing internship because of personal hardship or illness, explanation thereof should be provided to include substantiating documents from family doctor or minister as appropriate to the circumstances.

- (2) *Residency.* Doctors of Medicine must obtain advance approval to enter into a residency program that exceeds the requirements of the specialty board or the teaching hospital concerned, as listed in the Directory of Approved Internships and Residencies, or add subspecialty training. Doctors of Medicine must obtain advance approval to enter into a residency program for which he was originally approved. Requests for such exceptions will be submitted through CO, USARPC to The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPT-MP, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. 20315.

**8. Category C. a. Definition.** Category C delay consists of those officers who have completed their Category A and/or B delay, and who would suffer extreme personal or community hardship as a result of entry on active duty.

*b. Period of delay.*

- (1) *Initial delay.* Period of initial delay may be for the minimum period required, but not to exceed 6 months.
- (2) *Renewal of delay.* Renewal of category C delay is authorized for the minimum period required, but not to exceed 6 months. Only one renewal of category C delay is authorized.
- (3) *Maximum period of delay.* Maximum period of category C delay is 12 months. Delay is normally authorized for a period not to exceed 6 months when the hardship condition is of a temporary nature and can be alleviated with the 6-month period. In exceptional cases, one renewal, not to exceed 6 months, may be authorized when it is determined that the hardship condition can be alleviated within the renewal period.

*c. Standby Reserve in lieu of delay.* Delay is not authorized when the hardship condition appears to be of a long duration and cannot be alleviated by a temporary delay. Under these conditions, actions will be taken to screen the officer from the Ready Reserve in accordance with AR 135-133.

*d. Criteria for hardship conditions.*

- (1) *Extreme personal hardship.* Illness of a member of immediate family. When, in the opinion of the attending physician, the illness of the member is such that—
  - (a) Fatality appears to be imminent; or
  - (b) Presence of the officer is an important factor in the recovery of the patient

and his immediate departure would have a serious effect upon the patient.

- (2) *Extreme community hardship.* In general, this requirement will be met only when all of the following conditions are determined to exist:
  - (a) The service performed by the officer is essential to the maintenance of health, safety, or welfare of his community.
  - (b) The service cannot be performed by other persons residing in the area concerned.
  - (c) The officer cannot be replaced in the community by another person who can perform such services.

**9. Category D. a. Definition.** Category D delay consists of those Doctors of Osteopathy who have completed their category A and/or B delay and are required to undergo State examination for licensing in their professional field.

*b. Period of delay.*

- (1) *Initial delay.* Period of initial delay may be for the minimum period required, but not to exceed 6 months.
- (2) *Renewal of delay.* Renewal of category D delay is not authorized.
- (3) *Maximum period of delay.* The maximum period of category D delay is 6 months.

**10. Category X.** Category X consists of those officers who have completed their category A, B, C and/or D delay, including any renewals thereof, but who will not enter on active duty with EDCSA during the same quarter in which delay was terminated. This is an administrative delay category to be used solely for accounting purposes.

## Section III. PROCEDURES

**11. Responsibilities. a. The Surgeon General.** The Surgeon General is responsible for the overall monitorship of USAR commissioned officers who are delayed from active duty to participate in any of the programs indicated in paragraph 2a.

*b. Army area and oversea area commander.* The Army area or oversea area commander, as appropriate, is responsible for the control and personnel management of those USAR commissioned officers who receive an initial appointment in the USAR with an approved category B delay to participate in one of the programs listed in paragraph 2a(2)

or (3), who are designated for entry on active duty upon completion of formal schooling leading to a degree in Dentistry or upon completion of civilian medical or dental internship. Control and personnel management will consist of, but is not limited to, the following:

- (1) Maintaining control over the officers, their personnel records, and strength accountability for such officer.
- (2) Processing a request for initial category C delay and making final decisions thereon.

- (3) Forwarding request for renewal of category C delay to the CO, USARCP, ATTN: RCPO.
- (4) Forwarding those requests for initial category C delay which appear to justify transfer to the Standby Reserve to the CO, USARCP, ATTN: RCPO.
- (5) Notifying the officer of the decision on requests for initial or renewal of category C delay and furnishing a copy of the notification to The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPT-MP.
- (6) Notifying the officer of his responsibility to report any change which may influence the continuation of his delay status.
- (7) Insuring that the officers are scheduled for active duty based on instructions furnished by The Surgeon General.

*c.* The CO, USARCP is responsible for the control and personnel management of USAR commissioned officers who are delayed from entry on active duty in order to participate in any of the programs indicated in paragraph 2*a* except those who are under the control of the area or oversea commander as indicated in *b* above. Control and personnel management will continue until the officer is relieved from the jurisdictional control of the CO, USARCP and will consist of, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Maintaining control over the officers, their personnel records, and strength accountability for such officers.
- (2) Processing requests for renewal of category A delay and requests for initial or renewal of category B, C, or D delays submitted by officers whose category A and/or B delay has terminated, and taking action thereon in connection with information furnished by The Surgeon General.
- (3) Notifying the officers of the decisions on their delay requests.
- (4) Making final decisions on delay requests forwarded by area or oversea commanders and notifying the commander accordingly.
- (5) Notifying the officer of his responsibility to report any change which may influence the continuation of his delay status. The

following are some types of changes required to be reported:

- (*a*) Failure to continue the education for which delay was granted.
  - (*b*) A move or transfer from the educational institution.
  - (*c*) Deviation in pursuit of study.
  - (*d*) Change from full-time to part-time study.
  - (*e*) Unsatisfactory grades.
  - (*f*) When conditions necessitating delay no longer exist.
  - (*g*) Upon obtaining a degree.
  - (*h*) Upon completion or termination of internship or residency.
- (6) Processing reappointment, branch transfer and promotion actions, as appropriate, and taking final action on same.
  - (7) Providing officers with required forms to request renewal of category A and B delay and advising the officers when the forms must be submitted.
  - (8) Insuring that the officers are scheduled for active duty based on instructions furnished by The Surgeon General.

**12. Reserve assignment.** *a.* Upon appointment as a USAR commissioned officer and approval of delay from entry on active duty to participate in one of the programs indicated in paragraph 2*a*, the appointing authority will issue Special Orders assigning the officer to the USAR Control Group (Officer Active Duty Obligor) (OADO) at USARCP, except those who are participating in one of the programs listed in paragraph 2*a*(2) or (3), who are designated for entry on active duty upon completion of formal schooling leading to a degree in Dentistry or upon completion of civilian medical or dental internship, who will be assigned to the USAR Control Group (OADO) at the area headquarters that has jurisdiction of the area in which the officer is undergoing his schooling or internship.

*b.* Graduates of the Senior Medical Student Program (AR 601-130) who are relieved from active duty for the purpose of undergoing a civilian internship will be reappointed or branch transferred, as appropriate and be assigned by Special Orders to the USAR Control Group (OADO) at USARCP by the commander responsible for the

officer's release from active duty. Copies of the assignment order will be furnished to The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPT-MP and MEDPT-MS.

**13. Requests for initial delay and renewal of delay.** Applications for initial delay and renewal of delay will be submitted as follows:

*a. Initial category A delay.*

- (1) Potential ROTC graduates will apply for initial category A delay in accordance with the provisions outlined in AR 601-25. Requests for renewal of delay and any subsequent delay will be processed in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.
- (2) All other individuals who desire an initial category A delay in order to participate in the Medical Service Early Commissioning Program will apply for participation in the program in accordance with AR 601-140. Approval for participation in the program is an automatic approval of an initial category A delay.

*b. Initial category B delay.*

- (1) All individuals who desire an initial category B delay in order to participate in one of the programs listed in paragraph 2a(2), (3), and (4) will apply for participation in the program in accordance with AR 135-50. Approval for participation in the program is an automatic approval of an initial category B delay.
- (2) Graduates of the Senior Medical Student Program (AR 601-130) who are relieved from active duty to undergo civilian internship are automatically granted an initial category B delay when relieved from active duty. Request for initial delay is not required.
- (3) ROTC graduates and graduates of the Medical Service Early Commissioning Program (AR 601-140) who are reappointed or branch transferred to the Medical Corps and who do not participate in the Armed Forces Physicians Appointment and Residency Consideration Program (Berry Plan) (AR 135-50) are automatically granted an initial category B delay upon graduation from medical school or school of Osteopathy only for

the purpose of completing a 1-year civilian internship. Request for initial delay is not required. Renewal of category B delay for residency training is not authorized for these officers.

- (4) ROTC graduates and participants of the Medical Service Early Commissioning Program (AR 601-140) who are reappointed or branch transferred to the Dental Corps and who do not participate in the Armed Forces Reserve Dental Officer Commissioning Program (DOCP) (AR 135-50), who desire to apply for residency training, as an exception to normal policy, will submit a letter request (in triplicate) in accordance with format shown in figure 1 to the CO, USARCPC.

*c. Initial category C or D delay.*

- (1) *How submitted.* Application for initial category C or D delay will be submitted in letter form (in triplicate) in accordance with format shown in figure 1. Requests for category C delay will be accompanied by documentary evidence (in triplicate) substantiating the hardship condition.
- (2) *To whom submitted.* Requests for initial category C or D delay will be submitted as follows:
  - (a) Officers who were initially appointed in the USAR to participate in one of the programs listed in paragraph 2a(2) or (3), who are designated for entry on active duty upon completion of formal schooling leading to a degree in Dentistry or upon completion of civilian medical or dental internship, will submit their requests to the commander of the area headquarters to which the officer is assigned.
  - (b) All other officers who were approved for participation in one of the programs listed in paragraph 2a, will submit their requests to the CO, USARCPC. ATTN: RCPO.
- (3) *When submitted.* Applications for category C or D delay will be submitted immediately upon the occurrence of the situation whereby the officer may be eligible for delay.



AR 601-26

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

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