



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE  
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU  
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NGB-ARM

28 August 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR

The Adjutants General of All States, Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands, Guam and the District of Columbia

The Army National Guard Personnel Secretariat, 111 South George Mason Drive, Arlington, VA 22204-1382

SUBJECT: (All-States Log Number P98-0049 ) Medical Standards for Entry on Active Duty (AD) and Full-Time National Guard Duty (FTNGD) in the Army National Guard (ARNG) Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Program

1. References.

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 135-18, Change 5, 19 July 1996, table 2-1 (rule C), Qualifications for entry into the AGR Program and table 2-3 (rule C), Non-Waivable Disqualification's for entry in the AGR Program.
- b. AR 40-501, Standards of Medical Fitness.
- c. AR 600-60, Physical Performance Evaluation System.
- d. National Guard Regulation (NGR) 40-501, paragraph 12.

2. Purpose. To clarify the physical standards policy contained in AR 135-18, table 2-1, rule C for entry on AD or FTNGD in the AGR program and to provide guidance on previously granted waivers.

3. Applicability. This policy applies to soldiers entering or already on AD (10 USC 12301(d)) and FTNGD (32 USC, 502(f)) in the Army National Guard (ARNG) AGR Program.

4. Background.

a. The physical accession requirements for entry into the AGR Program are contained within Change 5, AR 135-18, table 2-1, rule C. Soldiers who are selected for entry into the AGR program "must meet the procurement physical standards

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per AR 40-501, chapter 2, and as further listed in NGR 600-5 or NGR 600-10. When appropriate, the soldier must also meet the medical fitness standards for flying duty per AR 40-501, chapter 4, or the medical fitness standards per AR 40-501, chapter 5."

b. The procurement physical standards (chapter 2) of AR 40-501 are non-waivable per AR 135-18, table 2-3, rule C.

c. NGB-ARS has been granting waivers to AR 135-18, table 2-3, rule C under the waiver authority specified in NGR 40-501, paragraph 12. This authority permits traditional M-day soldiers to enter the AGR program after a chapter 2 physical has determined that a soldier is medically not qualified for accession. To accomplish this, NGB-ARS has used medical retention standards (IAW AR 40-501, chapter 3) to evaluate soldiers for waivers. Additional factors have been used to determine the appropriateness of changing PULHES of three or greater to allow accession into T10/32. Only when all of these factors are considered is a waiver granted and the PULHES upgraded if necessary and requested.

d. AR 135-18 supersedes NGR 40-501 as the authority to determine waivable and non-waivable entry requirements into the ARNG AGR Program.

**5. Policy.**

a. Effective immediately, all soldiers who enter on AD (10 USC 12301(d) or FTNGD (32 USC, 502(f)) in the ARNG AGR program must meet procurement physical standards per chapter 2, AR 40-501. In accordance with AR 135-18, table 2-3, rule C, this is a non-waivable requirement, therefore, NGB-ARS will no longer process exceptions to waive physical procurement standards to access soldiers into the AGR program.

b. All soldiers previously granted medical waivers for accession into the AGR program with an upgraded PULHES from NGB-ARS (chapter 2 to chapter 3 standards) must have their SIDPERS permanent physical profile information updated to reflect the NGB-ARS administrative upgrade.

c. All soldiers previously granted medical waivers for accession into the AGR program who did not receive an upgraded PULHES profile from NGB-ARS will require evaluation by the appropriate administrative/medical review board. The results of the board (appropriate forms DA Form 3349, DA Form 3947, DA Form 199 or Narrative

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Summary) must be maintained in the soldier's FTS file. The HRO will ensure the profile limitations (if any) do not impact on the soldier's current or future MILITARY duty position. Appropriate documents will be forwarded to SIDPERS for record update, if required.

d. Any soldier who is determined to be unable to satisfactorily perform in their duty position by the appropriate medical evaluation board must be reassigned to a position for which they are physically qualified or released from the AGR program. These soldiers may also be separated militarily if appropriate.

e. Continuation of previously waived soldiers within the AGR program is based on their ability to meet the retention physical standards of AR 135-18, table 2-2, rule C without regard to any previous NGB waiver, which permitted the soldier to enter the program.

f. Previously issued waivers do not abrogate the AGR Management Office's responsibility to ensure soldiers being accessed or continued in the AGR Program are fully deployable in their DMOS/PMOS or AOC. Therefore, soldiers who were accessed into the AGR program without first being cleared by the appropriate medical board procedure must be evaluated for their ability to perform in their current assignment. Any subsequent reassignment of these soldiers to a new duty position (same or different AOC/MOS) may require new medical board procedures to be initiated.

g. AR 600-60 requires all soldiers on AD, therefore FTNGD (in the AGR program), who have a permanent "3" or "4" numerical indicator within their physical profile serial (PULHES), to be mandatorily referred to and evaluated by a MOS Medical Review Board (MMRB). Given this, even soldiers who were previously found qualified by a State Medical Duty Review Board (MDRB) while in an M-Day status are required to go before a MMRB the moment they are accessed onto the AD or FTNGD.

h. If required and deemed necessary by the appropriate AGR program manager, physicals that do not meet the standards of AR 40-501, chapter 2, may be forwarded directly to NGB-ARS for review or validation. Requests for exceptions to AR 135-18, table 2-3, rule c, will be addressed to NGB-ARM for consideration and processing.

i. Soldiers applying for AGR positions are required to have a current chapter 3 (retention standards) physical. Applicants with incomplete or improperly executed physicals will be returned without action.

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l. To decrease the number of AR 40-501, chapter 2 physicals being conducted, it is recommended that only after a soldier has been selected for accession into the AGR program should they be sent for an accession standards physical.

m. All AR 40-501, chapter 2 physicals will be accomplished within 24 months prior to accession into the AGR program.

n. If the soldier does not meet the standards of AR 40-501, chapter 2, the next best-qualified soldier on the selection boards order of merit list will be accessed.

o. If aviation service is a function of the duty position, all Class 2 standards per AR 40-501, chapter 4 will be met prior to entering the AGR program. Waivers to Class 2 standards will only be allowed if previously recommended by the U.S. Aeromedical Center and approved by NGB-ARP-ORP.

6. This policy memorandum has been coordinated with Colonel Lloyd, NGB-ARS. Point of contact is Colonel Demasi, Chief, Full-Time Support Division (NGB-ARM) at 703-607-7130 or DSN 327-7130.

**FOR THE CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU:**



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