

## The Joint Qualification System (JQS)

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### Summary

The Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act (GNA) of 1986 set the criteria for joint positions that the Defense Department used until 01 OCT 2007. A new Joint Qualification System (JQS) was announced on 30 JUL 2007 which keeps in place the tenets of GNA, but also allows for the post-9/11 operating environment. The new system took effect 01 OCT 2007 and offers both a standard path and an “experience-based” track with a point system for recognizing joint service.

The objective of the JQS is to ensure a systematic, progressive, career-long development of Officers in joint matters and to ensure that officers have the requisite experience and education to be highly proficient in joint matters, as directed in Title 10, USC, Chapter 38.

All Officers (Active and Reserve) can apply for retroactive credit for positions served since 11 Sep 2001. Additionally, Reserve Component (RC) Officers, who served in qualifying joint assignments from 01 Oct 1986 until 30 SEP 2007, may be awarded joint duty credit if they self-nominate via the [JQS Website](#). In these cases, RC Officers (T10/T32) must apply prior to 30 SEP 2013 to gain credit.

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### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Q. How is Joint Matters defined?

- A. Joint Matters are matters related to the achievement of unified action by multiple military forces in operations conducted across domains such as land, sea, or air, in space, or in the information environment including matters relating to:
- National military strategy;
  - Strategic planning and contingency planning;
  - Command and control of operations under unified command;
  - National security planning with other departments and agencies of the United States; and
  - Combined operations with military forces of allied nations

In the context of joint matters, the term “multiple military forces” refers to forces that involve participants from the armed forces and one or more of the following:

- Other departments and agencies of the United States
- Military forces or agencies of other countries
- Non-governmental persons or entities

For additional Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to [The Joint Qualification Handbook, Fourth Edition, July 2010, Section 5](#).

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## Links

- [Joint Officer Management Office](#)  
This website provides all information regarding the JQS, including information on military technicians, credit for civilian experience, proper documentation, etc.
- [Joint Qualification System - Self-Nomination Website](#)  
This website provides Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps Officers an opportunity to nominate their past assignments/duties for consideration as joint experience and accumulate points toward achieving the various levels of joint qualification.

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## References

### Regulations

- [Title 10, United States Code – Armed Forces, Chapter 38, Joint Officer Management](#)

### Documents and Forms

- [The Joint Qualification Handbook, Fourth Edition, July 2010](#)

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## Points of Contact

- Joint Officer Management Program Staff  
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