



NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

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ARNG-HRR (600)

29 January 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR Recruiting and Retention Commanders of all States, Territories, and the District of Columbia

SUBJECT: SMOM 21-020, Marine to Guard Officer Direct Affiliation Option

1. References:

a. Army National Guard (ARNG) Personnel Policy Division, ARNG-HRH memorandum (PPOM 12-060 Qualifications of Soldiers being Enlisted or Appointed from Other Services, Personnel Policy Operational Message), 2 August 2012.

b. Marine Corps Order 1001R.1L with Change 1 (Marine Corps Reserve Administrative Management Manual), 15 March 2018.

c. Department of the Army Pamphlet (DA PAM) 600-3 (Officer Professional Development and Career Management).

d. National Guard Regulation (NGR) 600-100 (Commissioned Officers – Federal Recognition and Related Personnel Actions).

2. Purpose: This policy establishes guidance for Marine-to-Guard (M2G) Officer Direct Affiliations into the Army National Guard.

3. State and Territory Officer Strength Managers (OSMs) will follow these procedures when directly affiliating a M2G Officer who has reached the End of Active Service (EAS), with the United States Marine Corps (USMC).

4. Marine Officers not selected for retention by the USMC and choosing not to transition into the Marine Reserves are afforded an opportunity to continue service with the ARNG.

5. Transition Counselors and State/Territory OSMs have several responsibilities while directly affiliating a M2G Officer.

a. Marine Officers within 365 days or less of their EAS may contact an ARNG M2G Transition Counselor during the transition readiness process.

b. M2G Transition Counselors will provide Marine Officers with relevant information, opportunities, and State/Territory OSM contacts for affiliation.

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c. As outlined in PPOM 12-060 (reference 1a), Marine Officers who possess a branch of Field Artillery (0802), Infantry (0302), and Military Police (5803), Communication Strategy and Operations [Public Affairs] (4502) are exempt from the Pre-Determination Packet PDP process. Exempt Transitioning Marine Officers can proceed with their application toward attaining a Federal Recognition order into the ARNG.

d. M2G Transition Counselors will assist State/Territory OSMs to determine eligibility for the Marine Officer. Review the Marine Officer's ASVAB, PULHES, Security Clearance and any additional information required by the State for determining the Marine Officer's eligibility.

e. M2G Transition Counselors will coordinate with State/Territory OSMs to identify units with vacant paragraph and line associations for the Marine Officer electing to serve with the ARNG.

f. Following the Marine Officer accepting a position, pending Proponent Pre-determination and State board actions, the State/Territory OSM will request incentives Bonus Control Number (BCN) from National Guard Bureau G-1, Personnel Programs, Resources, and Manpower Division (ARNG-HRM).

g. State/Territory OSMs will coordinate through M2G Transition Counselors to complete a Request for Conditional Release Form (DD Form 368). Blocks 3e and 4d will be dated ***one day following the Marine's EAS date. It is imperative this form is NOT forwarded to the United States Marine Corps Individual Reserve Support Activity (MCIRSA) prior to their EAS (see Enclosure 1).***

h. M2G Transition Counselor must wait until after the Marine has surpassed their EAS date to submit the Marine Officer's DD Form 368 to MCIRSA. The Marine Officer must be received into the MCIRSA before a request for release into the ARNG can be considered.

6. State/Territory G-1s preparing packets to directly affiliate Marine Officer must coordinate the follow subsequent actions with the National Guard Bureau G-1 to ensure the Marine Officer is properly accessed and receives Federal Recognition Orders into the ARNG.

a. M2G Transition Counselors and State/Territory OSMs will locate the ARNG Officer Basic Predetermination Checklist on the ARNG-HRH-O MILSUITE at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-923657>. This checklist will be used for M2G when determining branch qualifications.

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b. State/Territory OSMs will generate a PDP in coordination with State Officer Personnel Managers (OPMs) for all transitioning Marine Officers. M2G Transition Counselors and Marine Officers must provide all PDP documentation to the gaining State/Territory to avoid delays.

c. The State/Territory G-1 will submit a complete PDP to ARNG-HRH digitally. HRH will analyze the packet, acquire relevant Army Branch Proponent recommendations on branch acceptance, equivalent training and experiences, and rank. HRH will provide a written approval or disapproval determination on the Marine Officer's progression toward attaining Federal Recognition into the ARNG.

d. HRH analysis, Branch Proponent analysis, and final adjudication of Marine Officer PDP packets may take three to five months. The PDP process requires M2G Transition Counselors and State/Territory OSMs to manage timeline expectations and advise Marine Officers on effective preparation.

e. Special Forces is not considered a Basic Branch for accessions. Special Forces (18A) will neither be available for selection by Marine Officers, nor listed on PDPs. Marine Officers who desire to pursue a Special Forces (18A) training path will first require Basic Branch determination through the PDP process, and potentially be required to attend professional military education as an Army National Guard Officer prior to attending the Special Forces Qualification Course (SFQC). Special Forces will not be annotated as a Basic Branch on an ARNG Federal Recognition order until the Marine Officer has completed SFQC.

7. Upon receiving the HRH final disposition memorandum, the State/Territory is authorized to offer the Marine Officer a conditional appointment into the ARNG.

a. The HRH final disposition memorandum may include conditions on the Marine Officer's accession. These conditions may include requirements for the Marine Officer to complete Basic Branch qualification training with a pre-described time in order to maintain affiliation.

b. The gaining State/Territory G-1 will access the Marine Officer and assign the approved Basic Branch.

c. State/Territory G1's will submit accessions packets to the ARNG Personnel Division (ARNG-HRP) for Federal Recognition orders.

d. The process map (see Enclosure 2) describes the pathways for both a Marine Officer accessing into an Army Basic Branch and those pursuing a Special Forces career.

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8. Point of contact for this message is LTC Frank Analla at (703) 607-0959 or frank.l.analla.mil@mail.mil.

2 Encls

1. Inter-service Transfer Template
2. M2G Direct Officer Affiliation Process Map

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