



NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
111 SOUTH GEORGE MASON DRIVE
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ARNG-HRR (601)

8 February 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR Army National Guard (ARNG) Recruiting and Retention Force (RRF)

SUBJECT: SMOM 21-023, REAL ID Requirements for Access to Military Entrance Processing Stations (MEPS) and Travel Requirements

1. References:

a. Army Regulation (AR) 601-210, (Regular Army and Reserve Components Enlistment Program).

b. United States Military Entrance Processing Command (USMEPCOM) Info Message, Policy Guidance (REAL ID Act of 2005 Travel Requirements), 19 December 2018.

c. USMEPCOM Regulation 55-2 (Recruit Travel), 23 October 2018.

2. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will enforce REAL ID Act compliance starting 1 October 2021. Federal agencies, including the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), will only accept a REAL ID compliant state-issued driver's license or photo ID.

3. All shippers must have a REAL ID Act compliant photo ID by 1 October 2021 in order to clear TSA security checkpoints at US airports, travel via ground shuttle, and be permitted to enter a military reservation/federal facilities.

4. USMEPCOM Military Entrance Processing Stations located on Military Installations and Federal Buildings will require REAL ID compliant photo ID for entrance to the MEPS for all applicants and shippers starting 1 October 2021.

5. COVID restrictions have caused delays in scheduling appointments at REAL ID issuing agencies. For this reason, Recruiting and Retention Battalions should implement procedures immediately to ensure all Warrior's receive a REAL ID prior to shipping on or after 1 October 2021. There are no exceptions to the federal law.

6. Point of contact is Gregory Williamson, Chief, Army National Guard Accession Suitability Office (ASO), (502) 684-3245 or gregory.c.williamson.civ@mail.mil.

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