



**NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU**  
111 SOUTH GEORGE MASON DRIVE  
ARLINGTON VA 22204-1373

ARNG-HRR (601-210)

20 May 2021

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

SUBJECT: SMOM 21-031, Exception to Policy – Reserve Component Pay Categories and Programs

1. References.

a. Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, SAMR memorandum (Exception to Policy – Reserve Component Pay Categories and Programs), 07 May 2021.

b. Army Regulation 601-210 (Regular Army and Reserve Components Enlistment Program).

c. Army National Guard Personnel Policy Division, ARNG-HRH memorandum (PPOM 20-012, FY20/21 Accession Options Criteria Change 1), 1 April 2020.

d. HQDA EXORD 144-20 with FRAGOs 1 through 8 (Army Wide Preparedness and Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak), 28 February 2020.

e. Army National Guard Strength Maintenance Division, ARNG-HRR memorandum (SMOM 20-039 Exception to Policy – Reserve Component Pay Categories and Programs), 21 May 2020.

2. This memorandum rescinds reference 1e.

3. The COVID-19 outbreak has caused applicant shipper turbulence that requires necessary adjustments to accession policy. The Army National Guard (ARNG) will be required to adjust scheduled ship dates for high school juniors, seniors, and college students due to schools moving graduation dates or adjusting their academic year. Further, all shippers, including graduates, may be impacted by cancelled ship dates due to COVID-19. This will result in possible extended times in the Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP) prior to entrance onto Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT).

4. Current High School Juniors (HSJR)

a. Current HSJR within 14 months of graduation (education code 109) can enlist within 426 days prior to entry on IADT and are authorized up to 56 paid individual drill training

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periods. They must ship to standard training upon high school graduation. Education code will be updated by MEPS GC to 11S to pull standard training based on this new exception to policy.

b. Current HSJR (education code 109) are also still eligible for Split Training Option if otherwise qualified. HSJRs wishing to split train must enlist within 270 days of shipping to IADT training.

c. HSJR that miss their ship date due to COVID-19 impacts are authorized an additional 32 individual drill training periods for up to 88 individual drill training periods (22 months). These RSP Soldiers must be renegotiated to a standard training seat with a ship date after high school graduation.

d. HSJR electing this option must enlist for 6x2 term of service.

5. Current High School Seniors (HSSR):

a. HSSR (education code 11S) must enlist within 365 days prior to entry on IADT and are authorized up to 48 paid individual drill training periods (12 months).

b. HSSR that miss their ship date due to COVID-19 impacts are authorized an additional 16 individual drill training periods for up to 64 individual drill training periods. Renegotiate these RSP Soldiers to the next available training date.

6. All other shippers are authorized an additional 16 individual drill training periods to account for COVID-19 shipping delays.

7. All warriors will be counselled, in writing, using the following statement: "I understand that due to COVID-19 and the current backlog of recruits currently attending initial entry training (IET), my original scheduled ship date of "DATE" has been renegotiated to "DATE". I understand that I will remain in the Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP) until I ship to IET. I further understand that if I was scheduled for STOI training this summer that I will be required to complete both Basic Combat Training (BCT) and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) consecutively upon graduation from high school or at the completion of my next college school year." The signed counselling statement will be retained in the warrior's RSP file.

8. All recruits must be otherwise qualified for accession per AR 601-210, to include temporarily amended criteria.

9. Any applicant receiving an exception to enlist more than 12 months (365 days) out is not eligible for the split training option and must attend basic training and advanced individual training consecutively.

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10. This exception is effective with this memorandum and will expire on 6 May 2022, unless rescinded earlier.

11. Point of contact for this memorandum is MSG Matthew Campbell at 703-607-0944 or matthew.a.campbell22.mil@mail.mil.

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Encl

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