



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

ARNG-HRH (600-8-19c)

6 March 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR The Adjutants General of the States, Territories, Commanding General of the District of Columbia, Army National Guard T10 Program, and Recruiting and Retention Battalion Commanders

SUBJECT: Update to the Army National Guard (ARNG) Stripes for Buddies and Announcement of the New Army Recruiting Ribbon (PPOM 23-006a)

1. References:

- a. Army Directive 2023-01 (Army Recruiting Ribbon Program), 20 January 2023
- b. Army Regulation 600-8-19, (Enlisted Promotions and Reductions)
- c. National Guard Bureau, ARNG-HRH, memorandum, (Announcement of the Army National Guard Accession Options Criteria (PPOM 22-044)), 28 October 2022

2. Applicability. This policy applies to all ARNG Traditional Enlisted Soldiers. The term "States" in this memorandum refers to all States, Territories, District of Columbia, ARNG T10 program and Recruiting and Retention Battalions (RRBNs).

3. Background. The ARNG fell short of the enlistment goals in FY22. With the new programs outlined in this initiative, the intent is to provide a mechanism towards meeting or exceeding accession objectives for FY23. Commanders are encouraged to brief this new program outlined in this policy at their earliest formation.

4. Purpose. This policy provides revisions to the ARNG Stripes for Buddies and new admin promotion points toward promotion to Sergeants/Staff Sergeants (SGT/SSG) for the award of the Army Recruiting Ribbon.

5. Policy. The following modifications are made to the ARNG Stripes for Buddies program outlined in reference 1b retroactive to 1 October 2022. The Army Recruiting Ribbon is effective in accordance with reference 1a.

- a. Unit Commanders may advance Soldiers one enlisted grade per referral that enlist into the ARNG, not to exceed the grade of E4. Soldiers must be in a promotable status in accordance with reference 1b. Other eligibility requirements in Chapter 2 of reference 1b are waived to permit these advancements.

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b. Advancements for Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP) Warriors under the “ARNG Stripes for Buddies” will be issued on a special action Personnel Action Request (PAR) through the RRBN to the State G1 office. All referrals must be reflected and validated utilizing DD Form 1966, Record of Military Processing – Armed Forces of the United States. Referral credit must be captured in the remarks section, along with the newly accessed warrior DD Form 4 series.

c. Advancements for Soldiers assigned to MTOE and TDA units will be issued on a special action Personnel Action Request (PAR) through personnel channels to the State G1 office. All referrals must be reflected and validated utilizing DD Form 1966, Record of Military Processing – Armed Forces of the United States. Referral credit must be captured in the remarks section, along with the newly accessed warrior DD Form 4 series.

d. Army Recruiting Ribbon. The Army Recruiting Ribbon will be awarded to all Soldiers who provide a valid referral to the ARNG of an individual who both enlists and ships to Initial Military Training (IMT).

(1) Soldiers may receive the Army Recruiting Ribbon up to four times during their career. Additional awards are identified with a numerical device added to the ribbon.

(2) With each award of the Army Recruiting Ribbon, Soldiers will also be awarded 10 points toward promotion to SGT/SSG. Soldiers may receive up to 40 total promotion points for four valid referrals during their career. Currently, the maximum promotion points for military awards is 50 per reference 1b.

(3) The Soldier’s Battalion Commander is the approval authority for award of the Army Recruiting Ribbon. Award referrals will be submitted through the chain of command to the State’s RRBN for referral validation. The RRBN is responsible for validating each referral as well as the departure of the trainee to IMT. The RRBN will provide a memorandum to serve as supporting documentation of the award. Once approved, the Army Recruiting Ribbon and validation memo will be uploaded to the Soldier’s OMPF and updated in the Soldier’s IPPS-A record.

6. Tracking Referrals. All unit referrals will be tracked by each state’s RRBN. States will be requested to provide an end of year roll up of the number of referrals, enlistments, promotions, and the number of those enlistments who shipped to IMT. The annual report will be submitted to MAJ Chris Hill at christopher.b.hill8.mil@army.mil NLT 15 October 2023.

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7. Legitimate Referrals. All referrals must be obtained by the individual Soldier outside of official duties with the RRBNs. Soldiers on orders (ADOS/AGR) in an official capacity with RRBNs or recruiting events are not authorized to benefit from referrals obtained during these periods/events.

8. This policy will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded.

9. My point of contact for this memorandum is Mr. Gregory W. Heffner, Chief, Enlisted Policy Branch at 703-607-0023, or gregory.w.heffner.civ@army.mil.

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