DOD INSTRUCTION 1304.35  
MILITARY MARKETING

Originating Component:  Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Effective:  November 1, 2017

Releasability:  Cleared for public release. This issuance is available on the Directives Division Website at http://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/.

Approved by:  A. M. Kurta, Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Purpose:  In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive 5124.02, this issuance:

- Establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for oversight and implementation of DoD recruitment marketing engagement, event contracts, or task orders.

- Implements a formal process to:
  - Facilitate a more effective use of marketing and advertising resources.
  - Address inefficiencies.
  - Ensure information sharing among the Military Services.
  - Eliminate duplication efforts, overlap, and fragmentation that may result from the absence of coordination among the Military Services.

- Sets minimum criterion for metrics or other measurable deliverables by which each Military Department and Military Service can evaluate recruitment marketing success to help achieve recruiting goals.

- Authorizes conduct of marketing related after-action reports, semi-annual contracting reports, and annual internal audits.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION .............................................................................. 3
    1.1. Applicability. .................................................................................................................... 3
    1.2. Policy. ............................................................................................................................... 3

SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES ......................................................................................................... 4
    2.1. Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (ASD(M&RA)). ..... 4
    2.2. Secretaries of the Military Departments. ......................................................................... 4

SECTION 3: MARKETING ACTIVITIES AND REQUIREMENTS ............................................................. 5
    3.1. Contracting Guidelines. .................................................................................................... 5
        a. Review............................................................................................................................ 5
        b. Contract Requirements and Prohibitions. ...................................................................... 5
    3.2. Measuring Marketing Performance. ................................................................................. 6
        a. Objective. ....................................................................................................................... 6
        b. Requirements. ................................................................................................................ 6
    3.3. Coordination Efforts. ........................................................................................................ 7
        a. Objective. ....................................................................................................................... 7
        b. Requirements. ................................................................................................................ 7

GLOSSARY ....................................................................................................................................... 9
    G.1. Acronyms ........................................................................................................................ 9
    G.2. Definitions ....................................................................................................................... 9

REFERENCES .................................................................................................................................. 10
SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

1.1. APPLICABILITY. This issuance applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD (referred to collectively in this issuance as the “DoD Components”).

1.2. POLICY.

   a. In accordance with Sections 3013 (Army), 5013 (Navy), 8013 (Air Force), of Title 10 United States Code, the Secretaries of the Military Departments are responsible for, among other things, recruiting persons for military service in the Active and Reserve Components. In accordance with Section 503 of Title 10, United States Code, the Military Departments will conduct intensive recruiting campaigns to obtain enlistments in the Regular Army, Regular Navy, Regular Air Force, Regular Marine Corps, and Regular Coast Guard. It is DoD policy to enhance the effectiveness of its recruitment programs through an aggressive program of advertising and market research that targets prospective recruits and individuals influencing prospective recruits. This issuance does not apply to the marketing, advertising, and commercial sponsorship programs of Military MWR, the Defense Commissary Agency, or the Military Exchanges governed by DoD Instructions 1015.10, 1330.17, or 1330.21, respectively.

   b. The Military Departments and Military Services will not pay sports-related organizations, sporting events, or professional sports teams to provide recognition ceremonies for Service members.
SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS (ASD(M&RA)). Under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the ASD(M&RA):

   a. Develops policy and oversees implementation of the requirements established in this issuance.

   b. Coordinates reviews and updates to this issuance with the Secretaries of the Military Departments to strengthen marketing program accountability.

   c. Provides a formal process for coordination between the Military Services and the DoD to:

      (1) Review and update existing advertising and marketing programs.

      (2) Share best practices for future advertising and marketing development.

      (3) Reduce duplication, overlap, and fragmentation of efforts and marketing resources.

2.2. SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS. The Secretaries of the Military Departments:

   a. Supervise and ensure their respective departments comply with this issuance.

   b. Recommend changes to this issuance to the ASD(M&RA) as necessary.

   c. Collect and internally maintain required data.

   d. Provide Departmental representation at required meetings. Each Military Department will nominate one marketing representative except for the Navy, which will provide representatives (one each) from the Navy and the Marine Corps.

   e. Establish procedures to:

      (1) Control and inventory all contract no-cost value-added items and opportunities, including all items that are personal in nature.

      (2) Conduct periodic audits of marketing related contracts.

   f. Provide the ASD(M&RA) with information in response to periodic data requests.
SECTION 3: MARKETING ACTIVITIES AND REQUIREMENTS

3.1. CONTRACTING GUIDELINES.

   a. Review. Appropriate officials, as outlined in this section, will review recruitment marketing contract actions before execution. These reviews will ensure deliverables are appropriate, reasonable, and in compliance with established DoD and government contracting policies.

   (1) Recruiting/Marketing Official Review. A designated official from each Military Service will review each contract valued less than $10,000. The reviewer will verify that the contract action complies with the requirements in this issuance and the terms of the contract are appropriate and reasonable.

   (2) Senior Recruiting/Marketing Official Review. A senior reviewing official from each Military Service, as defined in Paragraphs 3.1a.(2)(a) and 3.1a.(2)(b), will review each contract valued at more than $10,000. The reviewer will verify that the contract action complies with the requirements in this issuance and that the terms are appropriate and reasonable.

   (a) For the Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, the senior reviewing official will be the Service recruiting commander or the recruiting command’s national marketing director.

   (b) For the Army, the senior reviewing official for all Army Components (Regular Army, Army Reserve, and Army National Guard) will be the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

   (3) Contracting Official Review. Contracting officials with oversight and contracting responsibilities for recruit marketing contracts will review each contract to verify the terms and conditions comply with established DoD and government contracting laws and policies.

   b. Contract Requirements and Prohibitions. The Military Departments will ensure all recruitment marketing engagement or event contract actions:

   (1) Do not require the Military Departments to pay, as part of the agreement, for activities to honor Service members. Such activities include but are not limited to paid ceremonies, such as playing of the National Anthem and color guard demonstrations; enlistment; reenlistment (swear-in) ceremonies; or other Service member recognition programs. The Military Departments may only continue to execute such activities pursuant to a contract when the terms of the contract expressly state that the activities are provided at no additional cost to the government.

   (2) List separately goods or services (tangible or of other value) that may appear to be personal in nature.

   (3) Define management controls that provide for the control and audit of items identified in Paragraph 3.1.b.(2). If the controls are not listed as part of the contract, they must be documented separately and attached to the contract for easy reference. The controls must be
established before signing the contract. The control measures will ensure Service members or other government employees receiving these items comply with applicable rules on ethics and standards of conduct.

(4) Define a metric, or several metrics, by which the success of the event or other deliverable will be measured for any contract action exceeding $5,000. The process for documenting and recording the metrics is at the discretion of the Military Departments. If the metrics are not listed as part of the contract, they must be documented separately and attached to the contract for easy reference. The metrics:

(a) Must be established before signing the contract.

(b) Must be documented in writing and must include the rationale for their use.

(c) Will be used to evaluate the return on investment of the contract against its intended purpose.

3.2. MEASURING MARKETING PERFORMANCE.

a. Objective. The Military Departments will measure the performance of marketing efforts. Effective measurements are based on identifying measurable objectives regarding the Military Departments’ broad national and local marketing plans and their individual marketing campaigns. To determine the effectiveness of a marketing effort, it is vital to have both access to the necessary performance data and the ability to analyze the data. Marketing campaigns and engagements are designed and executed with varying objectives, and therefore any number of measures can be used to gauge the effectiveness or return-on-investment of each. Performance metrics should not be based solely on leads (see Glossary), as other performance data may be more appropriate when measuring success.

b. Requirements. The Military Departments will:

(1) In accordance with Paragraph 3.1.b.(4) of this issuance, define a metric, or several metrics, by which the success of an event or engagement can be measured when the total cost to the government is more than $5,000. The metric(s) must be documented in writing, must include the rationale for its use, and must ensure the required data is readily available. These metric(s) will be used to evaluate the return on investment against the event’s intended purpose. The process for documenting and recording the metrics and the results is at the discretion of the Military Departments concerned; performance reports will be provided periodically to ASD(M&RA).

(2) Establish a metric, or several metrics, by which the success of a Service or Service Component overall marketing plan can be measured, to include measurable goals. The metric(s) must be documented in writing, must include the rationale for its use, and must ensure the data required are readily available. These metric(s) will be used to evaluate the success of the plan to achieve its objective(s). The process for documenting and recording the metrics and the results is at the discretion of the Military Departments concerned.
(3) Provide to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy, on a semi-annual basis (January 30 and July 31), a list of recruitment marketing engagement or event contract actions signed during the previous 6 months. The list should include:

(a) The name of the contract, date signed, the reviewing official, the value of the contract, end date of the contract, and the contract’s overall objective.

(b) An after-action statement summarizing each recruitment marketing engagement or event contract actions completed.

(4) Ensure that the contract lists items that may appear to be personal in nature, including their value (tangible or otherwise), separately when, as part of a recruitment marketing engagement or event contracts or task orders, the Military Departments or other Service components receive such goods or services. Annually, the Military Departments will conduct an internal audit of these items and notify the respective Military Department’s ASD(M&RA), who will notify the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy no later than January 15 each year.

(5) No later than 60 days after the end of the contract or task order’s period of performance, produce an after-action report summarizing each recruitment marketing engagement, event contract, or task order for which the cost to the government exceeds $10,000. Retain this report for at least 2 years. The summary must include:

(a) A brief description of the event.

(b) The intended purpose.

(c) Any concerns or problems that arose during the event.

(d) A list of contract deliverables (goods or services) that may appear personal in nature and control measures used to ensure proper distribution and accountability of such goods or services.

(e) The metrics to measure the success of the event.

3.3. COORDINATION EFFORTS.

a. Objective. Information sharing regarding marketing campaigns, efforts, and programs between the Military Services may provide efficiencies and allow sharing of best practices among the Military Services and Components. Additionally, because of the overlap in responsibilities and outreach efforts, coordination with appropriate public affairs agencies is important. The following actions are required to facilitate communication between DoD, the Military Services, and other agencies as identified in Paragraph 3.3.b.

b. Requirements. Representatives from the Accession Policy Directorate of the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy and Military Services will:
(1) Meet quarterly to discuss ongoing marketing efforts. DoD will arrange the meetings, which may be in-person, via video-conference, or a conference call.

(a) Each Military Service must provide a representative for each meeting.

1. Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force representatives should be the recruiting command’s national marketing director or his or her deputy.

2. The Army representative should the Army Marketing Research Group’s Director of Marketing or his or her deputy.

(b) Additionally, the Joint Advertising Marketing Research and Studies group will provide a representative.

(c) The National Guard Bureau may designate a representative of the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard to attend the meetings.

(2) Have a recruiting or marketing representative coordinate, as appropriate, with the local public affairs officer when conducting a recruitment marketing engagement/event or other community events. It is the Military Department’s responsibility to establish the policy, guidelines, and procedures to facilitate communication between recruiting personnel and their local Public Affairs officer.
Glossary

G.1. Acronyms.

ASD(M&RA)  Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs

G.2. Definitions. These terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this issuance.

Advertising. The paid or unpaid persuasive message by a Military Service, to the public, promoting military service. Advertising is a single component of the marketing process. Advertising includes the placement of an advertisement in such mediums as newspapers, direct mail, billboards, television, radio, and the Internet.

Lead. An age eligible prospect who has indicated some interest in joining military service.

Management controls. Processes and procedures approved by leadership that facilitate the proper accountability of items in recruitment marketing engagements, event contracts or task orders.

Marketing. The systematic planning, implementation, and control of a mix of activities intended to bring together recruits and the Military Services to facilitate enlistment or commissions in a Military Service.

Personal in nature. A description of items (tangible or of other value) that may appear to be used for personal gain and are not a necessary part of an official government function (e.g., tickets, very important person passes, free parking, signed memorabilia).

Recruitment marketing engagements, event contracts, or contract actions. Any contract actions, modification, task order, delivery orders, etc., that is based on an event or engagement whose purpose is to enhance a Military Service’s recruiting efforts or targeted recruiting campaigns. This does not include a contract solely used to purchase radio, television, print, digital, signage, or internet advertising.
REFERENCES

DoD Instruction 1330.17, “DoD Commissary Program,” June 18, 2014
DoD Instruction 1330.21, “Armed Services Exchange Regulations,” July 14, 2005
United States Code, Title 10