SUBJECT: Military Service Academies

References: See Enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE. In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive (DoDD) 5124.02 (Reference (a)), this instruction:

   a. Reissues DoDD 1322.22 (Reference (b)) as a DoD Instruction (DoDI) to establish policy, assign responsibilities, and prescribe procedures for DoD oversight of the Military Service academies (MSAs, also referred to in this instruction as “the academies”).

   b. Incorporates and cancels DoDD 1332.23 (Reference (c)); DoDI 1025.4 (Reference (d)); Directive-type Memorandum 07-022 (Reference (e)); and the June 30, 2018 Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Memorandum (Reference (f)).

2. APPLICABILITY. This instruction 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 Inspector General of the Department of Defense (IG DoD), the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD.

3. POLICY. It is DoD policy, pursuant to chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.) (Reference (g)), and consistent with this instruction, that:

   a. The academies provide, each year, newly commissioned officers to each Service that have been immersed in the history, traditions, and professional values of the Military Services and developed to be leaders of character, dedicated to a career of professional excellence in service to the Nation.

   b. The accession of those officers generates a core group of innovative leaders capable of thinking critically who will exert positive peer influence to convey and sustain these traditions, attitudes, values, and beliefs essential to the long-term readiness and success of the Military Services.
c. Active duty service is the primary means of reimbursement for education.

d. Cadets and midshipmen disenrolling or those disenrolled after the beginning of the third academic year from a Service academy normally will be called to active duty in enlisted status, if fit for service.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES. See Enclosure 2.

5. PROCEDURES. See Enclosure 3.


7. SUMMARY OF CHANGE 1. The changes to this issuance:

   a. Provide guidance on how to include the option to maintain parental rights of cadets and midshipmen who become biological parents while attending the Service academies in accordance with section 559A(a) of Public Law 117-81 (Reference (h)).

   b. Amend and adds language to reflect a change in accepted dependency criteria.

   c. Updates the title, organizational symbols, and references for accuracy.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This instruction is effective September 24, 2015.
Enclosures
  1. References
  2. Responsibilities
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(d) DoD Instruction 1025.4, “Service Academy Resources Report,” October 18, 1994 (hereby cancelled)
(e) Directive Type Memorandum 07-022, “Policy for Academy and ROTC Graduates Seeking to Participate in Professional Sports Before Completion of their Active Duty Service Obligation (ASDO),” August 20, 2007 (hereby cancelled)
(f) Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Memorandum, “Military Service Academy Preparatory School Attendance – Clarifying Direction,” June 30, 2017
(g) Title 10, United States Code
(i) DoD Instruction 6130.03, “Medical Standards for Military Service,” date varies by volume
(k) Chapter 4 of Title 5, United States Code (also known as the “Inspector General Act of 1978,” as amended)
(l) DoD Instruction 5400.11, “DoD Privacy and Civil Liberties Programs,” January 29, 2019, as amended
(n) DoD Instruction 1000.30, “Reduction of Social Security Number (SSN) Use Within DoD,” August 1, 2012, as amended
(r) Title 37, United States Code
(s) DoD Instruction 6485.01, “Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) in Military Service Members,” June 7, 2013, as amended
(u) DoD Instruction 1304.25, “Fulfilling the Military Service Obligation,” October 13, 2021
(v) Title 11, United States Code
(w) DoD Instruction 1235.12, “Assessing the Reserve Components (RC),” June 7, 2016, as amended


(y) DoD Instruction 1342.19, “Family Care Plans,” May 7, 2010, as amended
ENCLOSURE 2

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS (USD(P&R)). The USD(P&R):
   
a. Serves as the DoD focal point for matters affecting the academies.

   b. Provides DoD oversight and management of the academies.

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS (ASD(M&RA)). Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P&R), the ASD(M&RA):
   
a. Serves as the Office of the USD(P&R) focal point for matters affecting the academies and resolves matters of conflict that may arise among the Military Departments.

   b. Assesses and monitors academy operations to ensure cost-effective employment of resources in the accomplishment of the academies’ mission.

   c. Develops policy and provides guidance for DoD oversight and management of the academies.

   d. Develops overall DoD policy and provides guidance for the conduct and administration of a uniform academy disenrollment policy.

   e. Approves or disapproves requests to exceed the foreign student limitation from a single country provision in section 4(b) of Enclosure 3 of this instruction.

   f. Approves or disapproves requests to release a cadet or midshipman prior to the completion of 2 years of active service.

3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS. Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P&R), the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs establishes medical standards for applicants to the academies, which are applied through the DoD Medical Examination Review Board, according to DoDI 6130.03 (Reference (i)).

4. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY (USD(P)). The USD(P):
   
a. Oversees the management of admission vacancies for foreign students.
b. Designates countries from which foreign students may be selected.

c. Issues implementing guidance as necessary, including waiver of tuition or fees reimbursement either wholly or partially for management of admission vacancies for foreign students.

5. **UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (USD(C)/CFO).** The USD(C)/CFO establishes and publishes the tuition rate for foreign students.

6. **DIRECTOR, DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE (DFAS).** Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(C)/CFO and with the coordination of the superintendents of the academies, the Director, DFAS is responsible for billing and collecting reimbursements due to the academies for foreign students, except when those reimbursements have been waived by the USD(P).

7. **IG DoD.** The IG DoD evaluates programs, as set forth in DoDD 5106.01 (Reference (j)) and chapter 4 of Title 5, U.S.C. (also known as and referred to in this instruction as the “Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended” (Reference (k)).

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

   a. Establish and maintain a military academy pursuant to chapters 33, 47, 61, 753, 853, and 953 and sections 702 and 2005 of Reference (g) and this instruction. Chapter 47 of Reference (g) is also known as the “Uniform Code of Military Justice,” as amended.

   b. Ensure appropriate oversight and management of the academies. Ensure compliance with DoDI 5400.11 (Reference (l)), DoD 5400.11-R (Reference (m)), DoDI 1000.30 (Reference (n)), and DoDI 6025.18 (Reference (o)) when handling information.

   c. Develop quantified performance goals and measures linked with the schools’ mission statements to annually evaluate the performance of the academies and preparatory schools.

   d. Prescribe a written agreement when providing an academy appointment to U.S. candidates who agree to conditions in section 6 of Enclosure 3 and are otherwise qualified.

   e. Prescribe regulations on:

      (1) A breach of a cadet’s or midshipman’s “agreement to serve” for the purpose of ordering that individual to active duty.
(2) Procedures for determining whether such a breach has occurred.

(3) Standards for determining the period of time for which a person may be ordered to serve on active duty according to section 10 of Enclosure 3 of this instruction. (See also sections 7448(d), 8459(d), and 9448(d) of Reference (g)).

f. Work with the Director, DFAS to establish and maintain jointly developed, uniform accounting procedures for determining the cost of education at their respective academies. These procedures must be consistent with Volume 11A, chapter 6 of DoD 7000.14-R and DoDI 5010.40 (References (p) and (q)). A standard method for computing reimbursement of the cost of education will be in these procedures, and accounts receivable will be recorded as follows:

(1) Establish an accounts receivable for the cost of education when a cadet or midshipman disenrolls or is disenrolled from an academy.

(2) Reduce the accounts receivable proportionately to the period of active duty served by the disenrolled cadets or midshipmen.

g. Prescribe the repayment procedures of an individual’s outstanding debt so that the total amount due—based on section 373 of Title 37, U.S.C. (Reference (r)), monthly repayment schedules, repayment method, and other information—will be clearly explained in writing to the debtor.

h. Ensure that proper credit management and debt collection procedures are followed pursuant to chapter 8 of Volume 5; chapters 2, 38, 50, and 52 of Volume 7A; and chapters 1-4 and 7 of Volume 16 of Reference (p) to include prescribing repayment procedures of an individual’s outstanding academy financial obligation.

i. Develop an organizational capability to collect, maintain, and submit information on resources in support of an academy, the academy preparatory school, and any other associated training programs.
ENCLOSURE 3

PROCEDURES

1. ACADEMIES. Academies are 4-year educational institutions operated by each of the Military Departments to provide successful candidates with degrees of Bachelor of Science and commissions as military officers. The core of the academies’ mission statements will be to educate, train, and inspire men and women to become officers in the Military Services to serve the United States.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE ACADEMIES.

   a. There will be at each academy a superintendent and commandant appointed by the President, a dean of the faculty, a chaplain, permanent professors, an athletic director, and a director of admissions. The Secretaries of the Military Departments may employ as many civilian faculty members as considered necessary.

   b. Incumbents of dean, director of admissions, and permanent professorships held by military personnel will be appointed by the President of the United States by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The superintendent and the commandant will be detailed to those positions by the President.

   c. The immediate governance of the academies is by their superintendents, who also will serve as the commanding officers of the academies and their military posts.

   d. The superintendent is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the academy as well as the welfare of cadets or midshipmen and staff.

   e. The dean of the faculty of the academy directs and manages the development and execution of an undergraduate curriculum that recognizes the requirement for graduates to understand technology, while gaining a sound historical perspective and an understanding of different cultures. The curriculum will be broadly based in the physical and social sciences, the study of languages and cultures in areas in which the DoD is engaged, and the arts and humanities.

   f. The commandant directs and manages military education and training programs and exercises command over cadets or midshipmen, as established by law and determined by the superintendent.

   g. The director of athletics directs and manages the intercollegiate athletic programs and other physical fitness programs, as determined by the superintendent. Intercollegiate athletic programs will be in full compliance with all applicable National Collegiate Athletic Association rules and requirements while maintaining the professional and ethical values of the Services.
h. The academic faculty will consist of civilian and military members in proportions determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. Faculty members will possess a mix of operational experience, academic expertise, and teaching ability. They:

   (1) Exemplify the highest standards of ethical and moral conduct and performance established by the Secretaries of the Military Departments concerned, and the superintendents concerned, consistent with this instruction.

   (2) Participate in the full spectrum of academy programs and activities and the development of their curriculum.

   (3) Actively participate in the professional, moral, and ethical development of cadets and midshipmen as role models and mentors and through the enforcement of standards of behavior and conduct.

   i. Service members will conduct themselves in accordance with the requirement of exemplary conduct as specified in sections 7233, 8167, and 9233 of Reference (g).

   j. The superintendent will ensure that noninstructional staff consists of the minimum number of people consistent with effective achievement of the objectives of the academy and its military post.

   k. Compensation and benefits for civilian faculty members will be sufficiently competitive to achieve academic excellence at pay levels determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

   l. Additional guidance about organization of the academies is in chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g).

3. NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF CADETS AND MIDSHIPMEN.

   a. Nomination, appointment, admission, authorized strength, and allocation of strength among nominating authorities for cadets and midshipmen are prescribed in chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g) and this instruction.

   b. U.S. cadets and midshipmen will be appointed by the President alone. An appointment is conditional until the cadet or midshipman is admitted.

   c. Appointments will be offered on a competitive basis to nominated candidates having the strongest potential for success as cadets or midshipmen and ultimately as commissioned officers. The nominating sources will be notified of candidates selected for appointment.

   d. Those selected for appointment must have demonstrated, through evaluations prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned:
(1) High standards of moral character, personal conduct, and integrity.

(2) The potential to successfully complete the program of instruction.

(3) An acceptable level of physical fitness.

(4) Medical qualification for appointments to the academies and for commissioning as required in chapter 33 of Reference (g) and further delineated through examination procedures and medical standards defined in Reference (i), DoDI 6485.01 (Reference (s)), and DoDI 1010.16 (Reference (t)).

e. Specific eligibility criteria also guide selection:

(1) Age. Applicants must be at least 17 years of age and not have passed their 23rd birthday on July 1 of the year of entry into an academy.

(2) Citizenship. Except for foreigners admitted to the academies under chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g) and this instruction, those appointed must be citizens or nationals of the United States.

(3) Residence. If nominated by an authority designated in the “Congressional” and “U.S. Possession” categories as defined in chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g), applicants must be domiciled in the constituency of such authorities.

(4) Dependents. On the first day of enrollment, those appointed as cadets, midshipmen, or preparatory school students must not have dependents, be responsible for an existing pregnancy, or be pregnant.

(5) Marital Status. Those appointed as cadets or midshipmen cannot have a spouse while enrolled in an academy.

f. The academies will work to ensure timely medical evaluations of applicants. Issues relating to the administrative management of those evaluations that are not resolved to the satisfaction of the academies and the activity performing the evaluation will be forwarded to the ASD(M&RA) for resolution.

g. To be admitted to an academy, U.S. appointees must take and subscribe to an oath prescribed by law or by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. If a U.S. candidate for admission refuses to take and subscribe to the prescribed oath, the appointment is terminated.

4. CADETS AND MIDSHIPMEN FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

   a. Foreign students may receive instruction at an academy; the number may not exceed the limits in chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g). Such instruction will be on a reimbursable
basis. The USD(P) designates the countries from which candidates may be selected and may waive reimbursement, either wholly or partially.

(1) Although not eligible for a formal appointment, foreign students admitted to the academies for a course of study will be called cadets and midshipmen, will be accountable to policies and procedures that govern attendance, and are entitled to the equivalent pay and allowances of a cadet or midshipmen appointed from the United States and from the same appropriation.

(2) Foreign students will not take the oath addressed in paragraph 3g of this enclosure, are at no time considered to be serving in any status in the Military Services, and will not be eligible for nor offered a commission in the Military Services upon satisfactory completion of their academy course of study nor eligible to be called to active duty if disenrolled.

b. Not more than three foreign students from a single country may be enrolled at a single academy without ASD(M&RA) approval. Requests for such approval will be submitted by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, through the USD(P) to the ASD(M&RA). The enrollment restriction does not apply to students participating in exchange programs of up to two semesters’ duration.

c. By the end of May of each year, the USD(C)/CFO will establish the tuition rate for the succeeding school year and publish that rate to the Secretaries of the Military Departments, the USD(P), and the ASD(M&RA).

d. By the end of June of each year, the USD(P) will publish a list of countries eligible to send students to the academies during the subsequent academic year, specifying reimbursement requirements. That list will be provided to the Secretaries of the Military Departments, the ASD(M&RA), and the responsible U.S. Defense Attaché Offices (USDAOs) or the American embassies, if no servicing USDAO exists.

e. By the end of August of each year, the superintendent of each academy will extend application invitations, through applicable USDAOs (or the American embassies), to each eligible country. Those invitations will describe admissions procedures and define the country’s official sponsorship responsibilities.

f. The superintendent will manage the selection and notification of candidates and, with the assistance of the applicable USDAO or American embassy, obtain written acknowledgment from the sending government of sponsorship responsibilities and their agreement to reimburse tuition costs, when applicable.

g. Questions on enrollment or reimbursement will be forwarded to the ASD(M&RA) for resolution with the USD(P).
5. DEVELOPMENT OF CADETS AND MIDSHIPMEN.

a. Development of cadets and midshipmen is prescribed in chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g) and this instruction.

b. The normal course of instruction at an academy is 4 years, with selected promising cadets or midshipmen pursuing longer terms when required to meet academy educational or other graduation requirements. The Secretaries of the Military Departments will arrange the course of instruction so that cadets or midshipmen are not required to attend classes on Sunday.

c. Besides academic preparation, each academy will provide for development of military and leadership skills and physical fitness.

d. The practice of hazing is prohibited by Department policy and law (see sections 7452, 8464, and 9452 of Reference (g)).

e. An important component in the growth of cadets or midshipmen is the leadership development system. Its purpose is to motivate graduates to seek leadership responsibilities and enable them to think clearly, decide wisely, and act decisively under pressure and in a variety of leadership situations. The leadership development system will be based on:

   (1) Positive leadership, equal opportunity, and respect for one another’s values, beliefs, and personal dignity.

   (2) Elimination of dysfunctional stress. The Secretaries of the Military Departments concerned and superintendents determine knowledge requirements and procedures for the development and indoctrination of cadets and midshipmen. Memorization of trivia, such as complete menus for meals, is generally inappropriate. Establishment of such requirements will be closely monitored by the academies.

   (3) Emphasis on proper bearing, fitness, and posture. These are important to effective leadership and contribute to overall well-being. Exaggerated forms of posture, speech, or movement generally do not constitute proper military bearing. Establishment of such requirements will be closely monitored by the academies and used only with the knowledge and approval of the superintendents.

   (4) Positive role models; opportunities to learn, practice, and receive feedback; and access to support. Direct support to leadership development will be provided by concurrent and relevant coursework, athletic competition, and hands-on experience to show the relationship between theories of leadership in the classroom and practice of leadership outside the classroom.

f. The highest ethical and moral standards are expected of the officer corps. The honor systems of the academies will support that expectation by enforcing adherence to standards of behavior embodied in the honor codes or concepts of the academies. Violations of honor standards may constitute a basis for disenrollment.
6. MANAGEMENT OF CADETS AND MIDSHIPMEN.

   a. A U.S. cadet or midshipman entering an academy directly from civilian status assumes a Military Service obligation (MSO) of 8 years, under section 651 of Reference (g) and DoDI 1304.25 (Reference (u)).

   b. Cadet and midshipman pay is prescribed by section 203(c) of Reference (r).

   c. Cadets and midshipmen will meet medical accession standards outlined in paragraph 3d(4) of this enclosure.

   d. As a condition for providing education at an academy, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned will require that each U.S. cadet or midshipman enter into a written agreement in which he or she agrees:

      (1) To complete the course of instruction for graduation specified in the agreement to accept an appointment as a commissioned officer, if tendered, and to serve on active duty for a period specified in the agreement if called to active duty or, at the option of the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, to reimburse the United States for the amount specified by the Secretary of Military Department concerned, as prescribed in this enclosure.

      (2) That if such cadet or midshipman fails to complete the educational requirements specified in the agreement, such person, if so ordered by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, will serve on active duty for a period specified in the agreement.

      (3) That if such person fails to complete the period of active duty specified in the agreement, he or she will reimburse the United States for the amount specified by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned in accordance with the requirements of section 2005 of Reference (g) and section 303a of Reference (r).

      (4) To such other terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Military Department concerned may prescribe to protect U.S. interests.

   e. An obligation to repay the United States under this subsection is, for all purposes, a debt owed the United States. A discharge in bankruptcy under Title 11, U.S.C. (Reference (v)), does not discharge a person from such debt if the discharge order is entered less than 5 years after:

      (1) The date of the termination of the agreement or contract on which the debt is based;

      or

      (2) In the absence of such agreement or contract, the date of the termination of the service on which the debt is based.

   f. The sustainment of high performance standards ensures that cadets and midshipmen who are unwilling or unable to successfully complete the program of instruction at the academy are identified quickly. As defined by the Military Department concerned, cadets or midshipmen
who are identified as “deficient” in conduct, studies, or physical fitness and disenrolled from any academy may not, unless recommended by an academic or academy board, be returned or reappointed to an academy. Those cadets or midshipmen selected for return will be reappointed consistent with the criteria prescribed by the board.

(1) Individuals failing to complete the required course of academy instruction (including disenrollment for academics, conduct, honor code violations, or physical deficiency) will be disenrolled.

(2) If an appointment is terminated before graduation due to a U.S. cadet’s or midshipman’s breaching his or her agreement, or if a U.S. cadet or midshipman refuses to accept a commission following graduation, the 8-year MSO will be fulfilled by the period for which the member is ordered to serve on active duty or in the Reserve Component in an applicable enlisted status. He or she may be ordered to active duty for a period not to exceed 4 years under sections 7448(b), 8459(b), or 9448(b) of Reference (g). Policies that apply to U.S. cadets or midshipmen disenrolled from an academy who entered the academy directly from civilian status are:

(a) Fourth and Third Classmen (First and Second Years). A fourth or third classman disenrolled will retain their MSO (References (g) and (p)) but have no active duty service obligation (ADSO).

(b) Second Classmen (Third Year). A second classman resigning before the start of the second class academic year or disenrolled for cause resulting from actions that occurred only before the start of the second class academic year will be discharged as if he or she were a third classman.

(c) Second or First Classmen (Third and Fourth or Subsequent Years). Any second or first classman who is disenrolled and who is not suited for enlisted Military Service for reasons of demonstrated unsuitability, unfitness, or physical disqualification will be discharged in accordance with the current Military Service regulations that implement this Instruction, to include monetary recoupment. Other second or first class cadets and midshipmen disenrolled after the beginning of the second class academic year, but before completing the course of instruction, may be transferred to the Reserve Component in an enlisted status and ordered to active duty for not less than 2 years, but not more than 4 years, and incur a MSO, in accordance with sections 7448(b), 8459(b), or 9448(b) of Reference (g).

(d) First Classman (Declining Appointment). Any first classman completing the course of instruction and declining to accept an appointment as a commissioned officer may be transferred to the respective Reserve Component in an enlisted status and ordered to active duty for 4 years and incurs an MSO in accordance with sections 7448(b), 8459(b), or 9448(b) of Reference (g) and DoDI 1235.12 (Reference (w)).

(3) The disposition of cadets and midshipmen entering an academy from the Regular or Reserve Component of any Military Service (except those who enter an academy by way of its
preparatory school from civilian status) and then not completing the program will be determined in accordance with section 516 of Reference (g):

(a) Fourth and Third Classmen (First and Second Years). If disenrolled during the fourth or third class year, the cadet’s or midshipman’s Military Service commitment will be equal to the time not served on the original enlistment contract, with all service as a cadet or midshipman counted as service under that contract. Those individuals with less than 1 year remaining in the original enlistment contract may be discharged on approval of the disenrollment by the Military Department concerned.

(b) Second Classmen (Third Year). If disenrolled before the beginning of the second class academic year, the cadet’s or midshipman’s Military Service commitment will be the same as in paragraph 6f(3)(c) of this enclosure.

(c) Second or First Classmen (Third and Fourth or Subsequent Years). If first and second classmen are disenrolled for issues occurring after the beginning of the second class academic year, their Military Service commitment will be the same as in paragraphs 6f(2)(c) and 6f(2)(d) of this enclosure, as appropriate, or will be equal to the time not served on the original enlistment contract (with all service as a cadet or midshipman counted as service under that contract), whichever period is longer.

(d) Disenrolled Cadets or Midshipmen Not Suited for Enlisted Military Service. A cadet or midshipman who entered into an academy from the Regular or Reserve Component of a Military Service who is subsequently disenrolled from an academy and is not suited for enlisted Military Service because of demonstrated unsuitability, unfitness, or physical disqualification will be discharged in accordance with DoDI 1332.14 (Reference (x)) and Military Department regulations that specifically address the disenrollment of cadets or midshipmen.

(e) Military Grade of Disenrolled Cadets or Midshipmen Transferred to the Reserve Component or Active Duty. Whether transferred to the Reserve Component or reverted to active duty status, the disenrolled cadets and midshipmen retain their prior enlisted grade. However, in no case will the cadet or midshipman be transferred to the Reserve Component in a grade lower than would a similarly situated cadet or midshipman who entered the academy from a civilian status.

(4) The disposition of U.S. cadets and midshipmen entering an academy by way of its preparatory school from civilian status and then not completing the program will be managed in accordance with paragraphs 6f(2) through 6f(2)(d) of this enclosure.

(5) A cadet or midshipman tendering a resignation will be required to state a reason for this action. A resignation may be accepted when in the interest of the Military Service. Accepting the resignation will not in and of itself constitute a determination of the U.S. cadet’s or midshipman’s qualification for enlisted Military Service.

(6) U.S. cadets or midshipmen who are not ordered to active duty due to their misconduct or unsuitability, or because their petition for relief from an active duty obligation
was approved by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, must reimburse the United States in accordance with the requirements of section 2005 of Reference (g) and section 303a of Reference (r) for education costs commensurate with time spent at the academy. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may remit or cancel any part of the indebtedness of a cadet or midshipman to the United States. There may be circumstances when neither Active Duty nor reimbursement is appropriate. The Secretaries of the Military Departments will carefully review the circumstances to determine whether waiving Active Duty or reimbursement is consistent with existing statutory requirements, personnel policies or management objectives, and equity and good conscience and is in the best interest of the United States. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, a cadet’s or midshipman’s death, illness, injury, or other impairment that is not the result of the cadet’s or midshipman’s misconduct or needs of the Service.

(7) Change in Status Notification. When a U.S. cadet or midshipman is disenrolled from an academy and discharged from the Service concerned, the Selective Service System will be notified by the Military Department of the individual’s status change.

(8) U.S. cadets or midshipmen who become the parent of a biological dependent as the result of the birth of a child, by becoming pregnant with or fathering a child after the first day of enrollment have the following options under Paragraphs 6f(8)(a)-(d), which apply to both the birth and non-birth parent:

(a) The cadet or midshipman requests a transfer to the Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps (SROTC). Approval and method of transfer are at the discretion of the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. Cadets and midshipmen who are approved to transfer to SROTC, graduate, receive a commission, and fulfill their ADSO are not subject to reimbursement as outlined in paragraphs 6f(2)(a) through (d) of this enclosure; or

(b) The cadet or midshipman implements a family care plan pursuant to DoDI 1342.19 (Reference (y)) and applicable Military Service policies and maintains parental rights for the duration of their remaining time at an MSA. The family care plan is subject to final approval by the MSA Superintendent, but approval authority may be delegated no lower than the Commandant. Pregnant cadets and midshipmen will request a leave of absence for good cause for the delivery and care of their dependent child with the intention to return to the MSA as prescribed by Paragraph 6f(10)(e) of this enclosure.

1. The dependent child will not reside with the cadet or midshipman at the MSA but will reside with the caregiver identified in the family care plan.

2. The family care plan must detail who will be responsible for the logistical, financial, medical, educational, and legal documentation necessary to ensure continuity of care and support for the dependent for the cadet or midshipman’s remaining time at the MSA; or

(c) The cadet or midshipman permanently terminates parental rights through a court, formally giving the dependent up for adoption, transferring legal and physical custody responsibility to a designated caregiver; or
(d) The cadet or midshipman voluntarily resigns. Cadets and midshipmen in good standing who voluntarily resign due to dependency and/or pregnancy and have an active duty service commitment and who do not pursue transfer to the SROTC or implement a family care plan and remain at the MSA concerned may be subject to recoupment or enlisted service.

(9) Cadets and midshipmen who opt to implement a family care plan and maintain parental rights.

(a) The subparagraphs in Paragraph 6f(8) of this enclosure will not be construed to alleviate a cadet or midshipman from parental responsibilities imposed by agreement or State or local law. Cadets and midshipmen are encouraged to consult with military and civilian counsel concerning their options.

(b) A cadet or midshipman who opts to maintain parental rights in accordance with Paragraph 6f(8)(b) will not receive additional benefits, pay, or allowances as a result of their gaining a dependent until commissioned into active duty service; the cadet or midshipman’s dependent will be eligible for TRICARE, commissary, and exchange privileges and any other benefits or entitlements authorized in accordance with applicable laws and regulations for the dependent of a Service member on active duty.

(c) All physical fitness requirements are temporarily waived throughout pregnancy until the cadet or midshipman is medically cleared to resume physical fitness activities. With approval from medical providers, a cadet and midshipman may volunteer to complete a physical fitness requirement without ending the exemption early. The cadet and midshipman will have to meet physical fitness requirements before being allowed to graduate and commission from their MSA.

(10) Disenrollment of cadets and midshipmen for medical disqualification.

(a) Persons separated for being medically disqualified from further Military Service will be separated and will not be obligated for further Military Service or for reimbursing education costs in accordance paragraph 6f(6) of this enclosure.

(b) Persons separated for reasons in addition to being medically disqualified from further Military Service may be obligated for reimbursing education costs at the discretion of the Military Department concerned.

(c) Cadets and midshipmen who become medically disqualified for appointment as a commissioned officer during their senior year, who otherwise would be qualified to complete the course of instruction and be appointed as a commissioned officer, and who are capable of completing the academic course of instruction with their peers, may be permitted by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned to complete the academic course of instruction with award of an academic credential determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.
(d) Pursuant to section 1217 of Reference (g), when the Secretary of the Military Department concerned determines that a U.S. cadet or midshipman is medically disqualified for appointment as a commissioned officer due to injury, illness, or disease aggravated or incurred in the line of duty while entitled to cadet or midshipman pay, the Secretary may retire the cadet or midshipman with retired pay in accordance with chapter 61 of Reference (g).

(e) A cadet or midshipmen who becomes pregnant may be granted a leave of absence for good cause by the MSA Superintendent. This authority may be delegated no lower than the Commandant. In most cases, a 1-year leave of absence will be sufficient. In unique circumstances, the MSA Superintendent can grant a leave of absence not to exceed 2 years (730 days). Each MSA must establish a leave of absence policy in accordance with section 702(b)(1)(C) of Reference (g). The leave of absence policy will require the following to be considered before any determination on the length of a leave of absence:

1. Advice of the pregnant cadet or midshipman’s medical provider.
2. Curriculum, training, and graduation requirements of the MSA.
3. Commissioning requirements.

7. **GRADUATION AND COMMISSION.**

   a. Cadets and midshipmen who complete all requirements prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned for graduation and appointment may be awarded a bachelor of science degree, and U.S. cadets and midshipmen who meet medical accession standards outlined in paragraph 3d(4) of this enclosure are eligible to be commissioned, in accordance with chapters 33, 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g).

   b. Graduation leave will be administered in accordance with section 702 of Reference (g).

   c. Officers appointed from cadet or midshipman status will not be voluntarily released from active duty principally to pursue a professional sports activity with the potential of public affairs or recruiting benefit to the DoD during the initial 2 years of active commissioned service. A waiver to release a cadet or midshipman prior to the completion of 2 years of active service must be approved by the ASD(M&RA). Exceptional personnel with unique talents and abilities may be authorized excess leave or be released from active duty and transferred to the Selective Reserve after completing 2 years of active commissioned service when there is a strong expectation their professional sports activity will provide the DoD with significant favorable media exposure likely to enhance national recruiting or public affairs.

      (1) **Approval Authority and Processing Requirements.** Secretaries of the Military Departments will establish the approval authority and specific processing requirements for all requests for excess leave and early release from active duty under this program.

      (2) **Excess Leave.** Officers may apply for excess leave, after serving a minimum of 24 months of the current obligated active duty period, for a period not to exceed 1 year, for the
purpose of pursuing a professional sports activity with potential recruiting or public affairs benefits to the DoD. The agreement between the individual and the professional sports team or organization must reflect the intent of both parties to employ the individual in a way that brings credit to the DoD. Personnel are not entitled to pay and allowances while in excess leave status, nor are they entitled to receive disability retired pay if incurring a physical disability while in excess leave status. Officers must:

(a) Remain subject to recall to active duty.

(b) Be in good standing, to include meeting all physical fitness requirements and standards.

(c) Have secured an actual contract or binding commitment with a professional team or organization guaranteeing the opportunity to pursue an activity with potential recruiting benefits as described.

(d) Acknowledge that time served in excess leave will not be used to satisfy an existing ADSO.

(3) Early Release. Officers may request early release from their ADSO for the purpose of pursuing a professional sports activity with potential recruiting or public affairs benefits for the DoD. The agreement between the individual and the professional sports team or organization must reflect the intent of both parties to employ the individual in a way that brings credit to the DoD. Military Departments will notify the ASD(M&RA) when an officer is released early from active duty under this program. In addition to any further requirements as determined appropriate by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, applicants for early release must, at a minimum:

(a) Have served 24 months of the original ADSO.

(b) Be in good standing, to include meeting all physical fitness requirements and standards.

(c) Have secured an actual contract or binding commitment with a professional sports team or organization guaranteeing the opportunity to pursue an activity with potential recruiting benefits as described.

(d) Be assigned to a Selected Reserve unit and meet normal retention requirements based on minimum participation standards in accordance with sections 10147 and 10148 of Reference (g) and be subject to immediate involuntary recall for any reason to complete the period of active duty from which early release was granted.

(e) Acknowledge that the officer is subject to monetary repayment of educational benefits at a prorated share based on the period of unfulfilled ADSO and that such recoupment is in addition to the two-for-one Selected Reserve obligation required in paragraph 7e(3) of this enclosure. Officers subject to recoupment under the provisions of section 2005 of Reference (g)
for receipt of advanced education assistance must reimburse the United States a pro-rata share of the cost of their advanced education assistance based on the period of unfulfilled active duty service.

(f) Agree that, in the event that the officer is no longer under a contract or binding agreement with a professional sports team or organization, the officer will either return to active duty to complete the remaining ADSO or continue in the Selected Reserve for a period of not less than two times the length of their remaining ADSO, as determined by their Service.

d. At the discretion of the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, first class cadets or midshipmen not medically qualified for commissioning may be placed on limited duty status, as defined by the Military Department concerned, for up to 1 year until medical commissioning requirements of this section and the Military Service are met. If all requirements are met, the cadet or midshipmen may be commissioned. If these requirements are not met, the cadet or midshipmen will be disenrolled subject to recoupment as discussed in paragraph 6f(2)(c) and 6f(10) of this enclosure.

8. ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOLS.

a. Academy preparatory schools provide an avenue for effective transition to the academy environment. The academy preparatory schools prepare selected candidates for admission who are judged to need additional preparation in academics, physical fitness, or character development.

(1) Each school’s programs of instruction will focus on academic preparation and on those areas of personal and physical preparation that reflect the mission of both the academy and the Service concerned.

(2) The core of the academy preparatory schools’ mission statement will be “To motivate, prepare, and evaluate selected candidates in an academic, military, moral, and physical environment, to perform successfully at the ________ Academy.”

b. Faculty members will possess academic expertise and teaching prowess. They will exemplify high standards of conduct and performance. Faculty members will be expected to participate in the full spectrum of the school’s programs, to include providing leadership, exemplary conduct and moral behavior for cadet candidates and midshipman candidates to emulate, as well as involvement in the development of curricular and extracurricular activities. Curriculum design will recognize academic preparation as the priority; associated programs will capitalize on economies and efficiencies.

c. Preparatory school programs will provide tailored individual instruction to strengthen candidate abilities and to correct deficiencies in academic areas emphasized by the academies. Additionally, preparatory school programs will provide supplementary instruction in military orientation, physical development, athletics, leadership, character development, and other specific areas of interest determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.
d. Candidates attending a preparatory school come from two distinct sources: first, current enlisted Service members from the Active or Reserve Components; and second, civilians with no previous military status. Such civilians who become candidates slated to attend a preparatory school will be enlisted as a member of the Reserve Component of the applicable Military Service using Department of Defense Form 4, “Enlistment/Reenlistment Document Armed Forces of the United States,” available on the DoD Forms Management Program Website. Such civilians will then be ordered to voluntary active duty for training pursuant to section 12301(d) of Reference (g) to serve as candidates at their respective preparatory school.

9. REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT.

a. Service academies will establish quantified performance goals and measures, linked with their respective school’s mission statement to annually evaluate the performance of the academies. Metrics will include graduation rate for enrolled candidates. The graduation rates of those entering the academies should be at least 75 percent.

b. Preparatory schools will establish quantified performance goals and measures, linked with the schools’ mission statements to annually evaluate the performance of the preparatory schools. At a minimum the metrics will include:

   (1) Academy Preparatory School to Academy Entrance Ratio. The ratio of the number of preparatory school students entering the academy to the number that entered prep school should be 70 percent or greater.

   (2) Preparatory Student and Direct Appointee Graduation Rate. The preparatory school students’ academy graduation rate should not drop more than 5 percent below the direct appointees’ graduation rate.

c. Boards of Visitors of the academies are established and procedures prescribed by chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g) to inquire into the efficiency and effectiveness of academy operations. The designated federal officer for each Board of Visitors will provide the ASD(M&RA) a copy of each report required by Reference (g) within 60 days of the report’s submission to the President.

d. Oversight by the IG DoD will be provided in accordance with Reference (j) and the Inspector General Act of 1978. When required, the ASD(M&RA) recommends to the IG DoD any areas of academy operations that merit specific review during the subsequent fiscal year.

e. Annual meetings of the superintendents will be hosted by the academies on a rotating basis and include the commandants, the deans, the directors of admissions and athletics, and others designated by the superintendents. Meeting attendees will discuss performance measures and other matters of collective interest. Meeting attendees will identify plans to address areas requiring corrective action. Following the meeting, the host superintendent will provide the ASD(M&RA) a summary of issues and actions discussed and each Service academy will provide an assessment of their respective academy and preparatory school.
10. INTER-SERVICE COMMISSIONING

a. To be qualified for inter-Service appointment, applicants must meet all graduation requirements and all requirements for commissioning in the gaining Service; and both the gaining and losing Secretaries of the Military Departments concerned must concur in the appointment. In accordance with chapter 33 of Reference (g), not more than 12.5 percent of a graduating class from any academy may be commissioned in the Military Services not under the jurisdiction of the Military Department administering that academy.

b. Once all requirements for inter-Service appointments have been met, endorsements from the losing academy will contain the applicants’ current academic transcripts; order of merit standing; record of physical fitness; and, if applicable, results of the gaining Service’s testing for flight training or other qualification. Applications supported by the losing Military Department will be forwarded to the gaining Military Department no later than November of the calendar year before graduation. The gaining Secretary of the Military Department concerned will act on applications no later than the end of December of the year prior to commissioning and will immediately notify the losing Secretary of the Military Department concerned of decisions. Affected cadets or midshipmen will be quickly notified of the disposition of applications.

c. Those selected for transfer will be integrated within active duty lists of the gaining Military Service. When seniority on that list relies on academy class standing, they will be initially integrated immediately following the cadet or midshipman holding equal numerical class standing at the academy of the gaining Military Department.
ENCLOSURE 4

APPLICANT BRIEFING ITEM ON SEPARATION POLICY

1. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY. Service members represent the Military Services by word, actions, and appearance. Their unique position in society requires them to uphold the dignity and high standards of the Military Services at all times and in all places. In order to be ready at all times for worldwide deployment, military units and their members must possess high standards of integrity, cohesion, and good order and discipline. As a result, military laws, rules, customs, and traditions include restrictions on personal behavior that are different from civilian life. Service members may be involuntarily separated before their enlistment or term of service ends for various reasons established by law and military regulations. These are some of the circumstances that may be grounds for involuntary separation from the academy:

   a. Infractions. The individual establishes a pattern of disciplinary infractions or discreditable involvement with civil or military authorities, causes dissent, or disrupts or degrades the mission of his or her unit. That may also include conduct of any nature that would bring discredit on the Military Services in the view of the civilian community.

   b. Dependency.

      (1) Unauthorized Dependency. Any person for whom an individual has a legally recognized obligation to provide support including but not limited to biological children conceived or born before enrollment; spouse, adoptive, or stepchildren acquired before or during enrollment; or failing to have an approved family care plan for biological children with whom they became pregnant or by whom they fathered after enrollment as a cadet or midshipmen. See paragraphs 3e(4) and (5) and 6f(8) of Enclosure 3 for additional details on biological children acquired while a cadet or midshipmen.

      (2) Non-compliant Authorized Dependency. Failing to implement or otherwise not adhering to a family care plan for a biological child with whom they became pregnant or by whom they fathered after enrollment as a cadet or midshipman. See paragraph 6f(8) of Enclosure 3 for additional details on biological children a cadet or midshipmen.

   c. Physical fitness and body fat. The individual fails to meet the physical fitness or body fat standards.

2. HAZING, HARASSMENT, OR VIOLENCE NOT TOLERATED. The practice of hazing is prohibited by law (sections 7452, 8464, and 9452 of Reference (g)). A cadet or midshipman dismissed from an academy for hazing may not be reappointed as a cadet or midshipman at an academy. The Military Services do not tolerate harassment or violence against any Service
member for any reason. Cadets and midshipmen must treat all Service members, at all times, with dignity and respect. Failure to do so may result in the individual being disciplined or involuntarily separated before his or her term of service ends.
GLOSSARY

PART I. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADSO</td>
<td>active duty service obligation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASD(M&amp;RA)</td>
<td>Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFAS</td>
<td>Defense Finance and Accounting Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>DoDD</td>
<td>DoD directive</td>
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<tr>
<td>DoDI</td>
<td>DoD instruction</td>
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<tr>
<td>IG DoD</td>
<td>Inspector General of the Department of Defense</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSA</td>
<td>Military Service academy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSO</td>
<td>Military Service obligation</td>
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<tr>
<td>SROTC</td>
<td>Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>USD(C)/CFO</td>
<td>Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDAO</td>
<td>U.S. Defense Attaché Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD(P)</td>
<td>Under Secretary of Defense for Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>USD(P&amp;R)</td>
<td>Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness</td>
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PART II. DEFINITIONS

These terms and their definitions are for the purposes of this instruction.

**academic year.** The time period beginning the first day of the fall semester and ending on the last day of the spring semester.

**academy(ies).** The U.S. Military, the U.S. Naval, and the U.S. Air Force Academy.

**academy preparatory schools.** Postsecondary educational institutions operated by each of the Military Departments to provide enhanced opportunities for selected candidates to be appointed to the academies.

**active duty lists.** A single list of certain officers serving on active duty. Officers are carried on the active duty list of the Military Service of which they are members in order of seniority. (See section 620 of Reference (g) for additional information).

**ADSO.** A commitment of active military service for a specified period of time.
agreement. The document signed by a U.S. cadet or midshipman in accordance with sections 2005, 7448(a), 8459(a), and 9448(a) of Reference (g).

appointment. U.S. applicants who are selected for admission to the academies are appointed by the President as cadets or midshipmen. Those U.S. cadets and midshipmen who complete the course of instruction at an academy may be appointed as a commissioned officer in a Military Service. Foreign students admitted to the academies for a course of study pursuant to chapters 753, 853, and 953 of Reference (g) and this instruction are not formally appointed as cadets or midshipmen.

Boards of Visitors. Boards that visit the academies annually and provide a report to the President of their views and recommendations about the academies. Chapters 403, 603, and 903 of Reference (g) define the composition and purpose of those boards.

cadets and midshipmen. U.S. citizens having been appointed to one of the academies and having taken the oath as cadets or midshipmen. Although not eligible for a formal appointment, foreign students admitted to the academies for a course of study will be called cadets and midshipmen and will be accountable to policies and procedures that govern attendance and will receive all compensation commensurate with a U.S. citizen cadet or midshipman. Foreign students will not take the oath of office, are at no time considered to be serving on active duty in the Military Services, and will not be eligible for nor offered a commission in a Military Service upon satisfactory completion of their academy course of study nor be eligible to be called to active duty if disenrolled.

cost of education. Those costs attributable directly to educating a person at an academy under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned and approved by the ASD(M&RA) and USD(C)/CFO. Such costs include a reasonable charge for the provided education, books, supplies, room, board, transportation, and other miscellaneous items furnished at government expense. Excluded are the costs for cadet or midshipman pay and allowances in accordance with section 203 of Reference (r), uniforms, military training, and support for nonacademic military operations.

dependency. Any person for whom an individual has a legally recognized obligation to provide support, including but not limited to spouse and biological, adoptive, or stepchildren.

disenrollment. The voluntary or involuntary termination of a cadet or midshipman from one of the academies.

excess leave. Leave granted that exceeds accrued and advance leave and for which the Service member is not entitled to pay and allowances. Generally, a negative leave balance at the time of release from active military duty, discharge, first extension of an enlistment, desertion, or death shall be considered excess leave regardless of the authority under which the leave resulting in the negative balance was granted.

hazing. Any unauthorized assumption of authority by a cadet or midshipman whereby another cadet or midshipman suffers or is exposed to any cruelty, indignity, humiliation, oppression, or the deprivation or abridgment of any right. The Secretaries of the Military Departments or
academy superintendents may issue regulations that augment this definition to amplify or clarify local guidelines.

**honor code (concept).** A prescribed standard of ethical behavior applicable to cadets or midshipmen, as determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

**MSO.** A commitment of military service for a specified period of time.