



PERSONNEL AND
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OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DO 20301-4000

JAN 21 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (M&RA)
DIRECTOR, JOINT STAFF

SUBJECT: Recruiting Priority for Home School Diploma Graduates and National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program GED Graduates

This Directive-type memorandum clarifies recruitment policy with regard to home school diploma graduates and National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program graduates who hold a General Educational Development (GED) Certificate.

Home school diploma graduates and National Guard Youth ChalleNGe GED holders manifest favorable attributes such as reduced frequency of moral disqualification: as such, they shall be afforded priority in enlistment programs such that no practical limit shall apply with regard to enlistment, provided that applicant is fully qualified for enlistment and is qualified in Armed Forces Qualification Test Categories I-III A.

There is no requirement in Department policy, no law, demanding that home school diploma graduates hold a GED certificate as a precondition of enlistment, nor shall such a criterion be established as part of the recruitment policies of the Military Departments. All education qualifications shall be coded in compliance with OSD definitions and guidelines.

As a point of clarification, neither law nor DoD policy establishes a prohibition with regard to the award of enlistment incentives, nor eligibility for membership in the Delayed Entry Program (DEP), for any education credential, including home school diploma graduates and National Guard Youth ChalleNGe GED holders.

My points of contact for their policy are Capt Christopher Arendt, (703) 695-5525, and Dr. Jane Arabian, (703) 697-9271.

Charles S. Abell
Principal Deputy

Cc:
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs)

(To see a copy of actual letter, go to www.thsc.org/pdf/DoDLetter.pdf.)