

**MILPER Message Number
18-233**

**Proponent
RCHS-SVD-PA**

**Title
Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Interservice Physician Assistant Training
Program Application**

...Issued:[7/25/2018 8:56:05 AM]...

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- A. AR 40-501, (Standards of Medical Fitness), 14 June 2017
 - B. AR 601-20, (The Interservice Physician Assistant Training Program), 14 August 2009.
 - C. AR 600-9, (The Army Body Composition Program), 28 June 2013.
 - D. DODI 6000.13, subject: Accession and Retention Policies, Programs, and Incentives for Military Health Professions Officers (HPOs), 30 December 2015 (Change 1, 3 May 2016).
 - E. AR 135-100, (Appointment of Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the Army), 1 September 1994.
 - F. AR 135-101, (Appointment of Reserve Commissioned Officers for Assignment to Army Medical Department Branches), 15 February 1984.
 - G. AR 601-100, (Appointment of Commissioned and Warrant Officers in the Regular Army), 21 November 2006.
 - H. AR 670-1, (Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia), 25 May 2017.
1. This MILPER message will expire NLT 24 July 2019.
 2. Purpose: This message is the FY 2019 announcement of the Interservice Physician Assistant Program (IPAP) board and solicits applications from regular Army (RA) and United States Army Reserve (USAR), for enlisted, commissioned officers, and warrant officers.
 - a. This message solicits applications for IPAP classes to start in January, April, and August 2020 at the AMEDD Center and School located at Joint Base San Antonio –

Fort Sam Houston (FSH), Texas. The January IPAP class start will report to FSH in November 2019. The requirements completion course (RCC) will not be available for the FY 2019 board for FY 2022-2023 accession however, academic delay will be available.

- b. Enlisted students selected for this training will attend in an officer candidate status and will be accessed into the Army Medical Specialist Corps (SP Corps) as commissioned officers upon successful completion of the training.
- c. All selected enlisted applicants must have successfully completed the Basic Leadership Course (BLC) 120 days prior to reporting to FSH for the IPAP class.
- d. Warrant officer students for this training will attend in their current warrant officer grade and will be accessed into the SP Corps as commissioned officers upon successful completion of the training.
- e. Commissioned officer students selected for this training will report with their current rank held (Ref. 4.e.(3)).
- f. Applications from other services for Regular Army seats will not be accepted for the FY 2019 board.
- g. ROTC cadets while in cadet status are not eligible to apply for IPAP.
- h. Army personnel selected for the IPAP are exempt from stop loss, stop movement, and life cycle unit requirements (AR 601-20 2-2.e.)
- i. Civilian personnel are not eligible to apply for IPAP.

3. Responsibilities: (Clarification to AR 601-20 1-4)

Addition to AR 601-20 1-4.d. Unit commanders and immediate supervisors will interview and provide specific recommendations on applicants under their control and/or supervision. Recommending Physician Assistant (PA) will interview and provide specific recommendations on applicants under their control and/or supervision. Physician Assistant recommendations must use USAREC Form 601-37.11 (old USAREC form 195) and include documentation of at least 80 hours of shadowing. Applicants without a unit Physician Assistant may request approval for 80 shadowing hours with a health care professional other than a Physician Assistant by email to the IPAP program manager.

4. Program Information:

- a. Ineligibility (Clarification to AR 601-20 2-1):

(1) Update to AR 601-20 2-1(3): The IPAP program manager will process all waivers to the appropriate waiver authority.

(2) Update to AR 601-20 2-1(3)(a):

Who Requires a TIS waiver to board	Who is Ineligible to Apply (Non-waiverable)
Regular Army Applicants with less than 3 years as of AFS as of 01 January 2020	Regular Army Applicants with over 15 years of total AFS as of 01 January 2020
USAR Applicants with less than 3 years of service credible toward retirement as of 01 January 2020 (based on DA 5016)	USAR Applicants with over 10 years of service credible toward retirement as of 01 January 2020 (based on DA 5016)
	Officers with over 5 years of AFCS as of 01 January 2020

* AFS stands for Active Federal Service

* AFCS stands for Active Federal Commissioned Service

* DA 5016 Chronological Statement of Retirement Points

(3) Clarification to the AR 601-20 2-1(3)(b): Enlisted applicants only: per 10 U.S.C. subsection 532(A)(2) and AR 601-100 PAR.1-9 An original appointment as a commissioned officer in the RA must occur prior to age 42. For the USAR, an original appointment as a commissioned officer must occur prior to the age of 47. In order to be eligible to compete for an active duty IPAP seat, you will have to be under the age of 42 as of 10 June 2022.

(4) Change to AR 601-20 2-1.b: All applicants with P2 profile (except hearing and eyes) are ineligible to apply for IPAP. (An exception to board may be requested through the IPAP program manager to the PA consultant.)

(5) Clarification to AR 601-20 2-1.b: Applicants with a temporary profile are ineligible to board. (An exception to board may be requested thru the IPAP program manager to the PA consultant.)

b. Basic prerequisites: Updates can be found under IPAP Requirements link at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa/>.

(1) Change to AR 601-20 2-2.a: Due to the critical skills war time shortage of 65D in the USAR, soldiers in those components can only apply for their current components IPAP seats.

(2) Change to AR 601-20 2-2.m (1): Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 and a minimum GPA of 3.0 for all science courses. The science GPA will include science courses completed within 10 years of the start of IPAP (prior to Fall 2010) as determined by affiliated university. Applicants must meet all GPA requirements by application deadline 1 March 2019. Coursework completed after

1 March 2019 will NOT count towards the GPA. An example of courses that will count towards the science GPA can be found under IPAP Requirements link at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa>.

(3) All applicants must complete the following mandatory pre-requisite coursework either in-residence or online from a regionally accredited university or college:

a. 3 semester hours of Human Anatomy or Anatomy and Physiology I.

b. 3 semester hours of Human Physiology or Anatomy and Physiology II. If taking Anatomy and Physiology I, applicant must take Anatomy and Physiology II.

c. 3 semester hours of College Algebra or higher level math course. Statistics will not count.

d. 3 semester hours of Psychology. Introductory courses will count.

e. 6 semester hours of General Chemistry or higher level chemistry course. Introductory courses will NOT count.

f. 6 semester hours of English (must include 3 semester hours of composition or writing). The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) English Composition test will be considered for English I and II. Applicants must score above 50 in order to receive 6 semester hours of English.

(4) Applicants must complete all mandatory science courses (Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry) within 8 years of the start of IPAP (prior to Fall 2012). Credit for MOS-related training are as follows: 68K (lab technicians) will receive 6 hours of Chemistry credit; 18D (Special Forces medics), 68WM6/68C (Licensed Practical Nurses), 38BW4 (Special Operations Civil Affairs Medical Sergeants), and 68W with the W1 skill identifier will receive 3 hours of Human Anatomy credit. These applicants must have completed their training within 8 years of IPAP (prior to Fall 2012) to be accepted.

(5) The Medical Terminology course must be completed within 5 years of reporting to IPAP (prior to Fall 2015) by either taking the military correspondence course or a college class.

(6) Highly recommend applicants take labs with mandatory science courses: Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry. Highly recommend applicants take labs with any additional science courses to include but not limited to: Biology, Microbiology, Organic Chemistry, and Biochemistry. Also highly recommend Sociology.

(7) Grade replacement is not accepted for applicants applying to IPAP FY19.

(8) Applicants must complete the online IPAP registration through UNICAS, at <http://ipap.liaisoncas.com>. Online registrations will be open from 1 October 2018

through 1 March 2019. The online registration is mandatory for all interested applicants.

(9) Applicants must either include official transcripts in sealed and stamped envelope from the university/college within their completed packet to USAREC or need to have their official transcripts mailed from the university/college no earlier than 1 October 2018 but NLT 1 March 2019.

(10) Students selected for IPAP are expected to bring a copy of all transcripts with them when reporting to Joint Base San Antonio – Fort Sam Houston (FSH), Texas.

(11) All applicants must include a complete physical in their packet on DD form 2807-1 and DD 2808. The physical must be within 12 months of the June 2019 board. Original copies of the urine drug screen (UDS), alcohol blood test (ETOH), complete blood count (CBC), human immunodeficiency virus blood test (HIV), and urinalysis (UA) must be included in the packet. Females are required to also have copies of a recent human chorionic gonadotropin test (i.e. pregnancy test). Applicants must also include a copy of their audiogram (i.e. hearing test).

(12) Waivers are processed and forwarded for the appropriate action through the IPAP program manager (pre-board and throughout the entirety of the IPAP program) IAW AR 601-100, AR 135-100, AR135-101, AR 40-501, and local USAREC policy to ensure that soldiers remain eligible for appointment as a commissioned officer.

(13) Packets will NOT board without an approved conditional release (DA form 4187 for RA and DD 368 for USAR). Applicants must maintain command and branch support for attending IPAP, in the form of an approved conditional release throughout the application process to include pre-matriculation into IPAP (non-waiverable administrative requirement). Failure to maintain command support will result in removal from the selection list and from the OML. DA form 4187 for RA must be signed by the applicant's Battalion or Brigade Commander and Branch Chief/Manager. DD 368 for USAR must be signed by the first General Officer within the applicant's chain of command or USARC. DA form 4187 and DD 368 must be received NLT 1 March 2019 (No Exceptions).

(14) ALL applicants must take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) with essay within 5 years of the FY of application (prior to 1 March 2014). Applicants must score a minimum of 450 in both the reading and math section with a cumulative score of at least 1000 and the essay portion MUST be included. The SAT also needs to be taken early enough to ensure receipt of results NLT 1 March 2019. Allow a minimum of 8 weeks for the College Board to grade the examination; schedule the examination prior to 1 January 2019. Copies of SAT scores must be included in the USAREC application (HQ, USAREC ATTN: RCHS-SVD-PA, 1307 Third Ave, Fort Knox, 40121-2726). SAT scores must be sent directly to USAREC, by including code '3994' on your SAT scantron document, and may be submitted as soon as 1 October 2018, but NLT 1 March 2019 (No Exceptions and Non-waiverable). The last available SAT date noted on the College Board website <https://www.collegeboard.org> is 1 December

2018. Graduate Record Exam (GRE) will not fulfill the SAT requirement.

(15) All applicants must provide a memorandum signed by their unit security manager validating their secret clearance or interim clearance within their application. All applicants need a minimum of an interim clearance granted by the application deadline of 1 March 2019 in order to apply (No Exceptions and Non-waiverable).

c. Academic delay versus the requirements completion course (RCC): Update to AR 601-20 can be found under IPAP Requirements link at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa>.

(1) The RCC will not be available for the FY 2019 board for FY 2022-2023 accession.

d. Application deadlines: Updates can be found under IPAP Requirements link at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa>.

(1) Packets must be complete and postmarked to HQ, USAREC NLT 1 March 2019 or they will not be processed. Applications will not be returned to the originator. Do not staple, bind, or place hole punches in the application documents. Do not place in binders or cover sheets. Place all documents in sequence and place in a 2 pocket folder.

e. Program description and service obligation:

(1) Update to AR 601-20 2-4 b(1): Didactic instruction (Phase 1) will be provided at the AMEDD Center and School for a period of approximately 64 weeks.

(2) Update to AR 601-20 2-4 b(2): Clinical training (Phase 2) will occur at selected Army military treatment facilities for a period of approximately 52 weeks.

(3) Clarification to the AR 601-20 2-4 d(4): Commissioned officers will attend IPAP in their current officer grade held and 'detailed' into the SP Corps. Upon successful completion of Phase 2 training, eligible graduates are tendered a RA or USAR appointment as a commissioned officer in the SP Corps, with their rank determined by their individual constructive service credit calculated IAW DODI 6000.13, Enclosure 3 and policy established by the OTSG. (one-half day of credit for each day of active commissioned service as a commissioned officer but not in the profession in which the person is being appointed and then day-for-day credit while participating in IPAP).

(4) Update to AR 601-20 3-1 e(3): The basic application memorandum for commissioned officers will consist of the following statement adjustments, "I understand that I will attend IPAP in my current Officer grade held, and will be 'detailed' into the SP. Upon successful completion of Phase 2 training, I may be tendered a RA appointment as a commissioned Officer in the SP with a rank determined by my individual constructive service credit calculation IAW DODI 6000.13 and policy established by OTSG. (one-half day of credit for each day of active commissioned service as a

commissioned officer but not in the profession in which the person is being appointed and then day-for-day credit while participating in IPAP).

(5) Update to the AR 601-20 4-1.C: Commissioned officers will report with their current rank held.

(6) Commissioned officers, while attending IPAP, will be assigned to B Company 187th Medical Battalion for command and control during this period of training. They will be responsible for in/out processing, personal finances, UCMJ authority, academic tracking, and enforcement of program policy.

(7) Officers will be under the control of their basic branch for promotions and career status integration while attending IPAP.

(8) All regular Army IPAP students will incur a 54 month obligation for the training.

(9) United States Army reservists will have a total of an 8 year obligation for the IPAP training: the Selective Reserve (SELRES) obligation of 6 years and an Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) obligation of 2 years.

(10) All enlisted Soldiers attending IPAP will be required to attend the Direct Commission Course (DCC) upon successful completion of IPAP.

(11) Application: Basic application guidelines to included examples of required documents that must be within the IPAP packet can be found under IPAP Requirements link at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa>. All documents within an applicant's packet must be dated within 12 months of the June 2019 board.

f. Milestones in processing applications:

(1) Effective upon publication of this message, application will be accepted if postmarked by 1 March 2019. Note: All packets must have a copy of the SAT results in the packet prior to being certified by the PSB, S1, or the Commander and the official SAT results must be received by USAREC (RCHS-SVD-SP) NLT 1 March 2019 (No Exceptions and Non-waiverable).

(2) Applicants must include ALL required documents in their packet on the initial submission NLT 1 March 2019. Applicants must ensure that their Commander's global email address is on their letter of recommendation. Upon receipt of an incomplete packet, the applicant and their Commander will be notified of the inability to process the packet. Incomplete packets will not be boarded.

(3) All documents within an applicant's packet must be dated within 12 months of the June 2019 board.

(4) Applicants must complete the online IPAP registration through UNICAS, at

<http://ipap.liaisoncas.com>. Online registrations will be open from 1 October 2018 through 1 March 2019. The online registration is mandatory for all interested applicants and must be submitted even if applicant is pending transcript receipt from the colleges/universities he/she attended. (No Exceptions and Non-waiverable).

(5) Selections will be announced by USAREC (RCHS-SVD) via a worldwide MILPER message after June 2019. This link can be found via Army Knowledge Online. It is located on the home website home website of Human Resource Command (HRC) – Fort Knox, KY. <https://www.hrc.army.mil/milper/>.

5. Inquiries and assistance:

For additional assistance, contact the IPAP program manager, HQ, USAREC (RCHS-SVD-PA), 1307 Third Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121-2726. 1-800-223-3735 EXT. 60386; Commercial (502) 626-0386 or DSN: 536-0386, email: adrienne.m.kramer.mil@mail.mil or visit www.usarec.army.mil/armypa.