

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL
5109 LEESBURG PIKE
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041-3258

*OTSG Reg 15-35

OTSG Regulation
No. 15-35

17 February 1999

Boards, Commissions, and Committees
AWARD OF THE "A" PROFICIENCY DESIGNATOR

1. ESTABLISHMENT. The "A" Proficiency Designator Selection Boards are hereby established as continuing boards.
2. PURPOSE. This regulation establishes procedures to be observed in nominating, selecting, and awarding the "A" Proficiency Designator. This award recognizes the highest level of professional recognition within each AMEDD corps' specialty or subspecialty.
3. APPLICABILITY. This regulation establishes procedures to be used for all individuals to be considered for award of the "A" Proficiency Designator, including Army Medical Department (AMEDD) officers of the Active Army, Army National Guard, and U.S. Army Reserve (USAR).
4. DIRECTION AND CONTROL.
 - a. All active duty personnel meeting the selection criteria indicated in paragraph 6 will be considered for nomination. An annual message will be published by OTSG (DASG-PTZ) not later than 31 January of each year announcing the boards, specifying qualifications, and soliciting recommendations for awarding of the proficiency designator. Recommendations may be made by corps chiefs, consultants, chiefs of U.S. Total Army Personnel Command (PERSCOM) management branches, and commanders using the format in figure 1.
 - b. Each nomination will be sent to the following applicable address.
 - (1) Army Nurse Corps: Commander, PERSCOM, ATTN: TAPC-OPH-AN, Room 9N47, 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria, VA 22332-0417.
 - (2) Dental Corps: Academy of Health Sciences, ATTN: MCCS-HED, 1750 Greeley Road, Bldg. 4011, Suite 205, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6122.
 - (3) Medical Corps: Commander, U.S. Army Medical Command, ATTN: MCHO-CL-C, 2050 Worth Road, Suite 10, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6010.

*This regulation supersedes OTSG Regulation 15-35, 22 August 1990.

(4) Medical Service Corps: Chief, Medical Service Corps, ATTN: MCCS-CM, Suite 276A, 2250 Stanley Road, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6170.

(5) Army Medical Specialist Corps: Chief, Army Medical Specialist Corps, ATTN: MCCS-CA, AMEDD Center and School, Bldg. 2840, Suite 272, 2250 Stanley Road, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6100.

(6) Veterinary Corps: Director, Department of Defense Veterinary Service Activity, 5109 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3258.

c. Recommendations for members of the Reserve Components, not on active duty, will be forwarded as follows.

(1) Nominations for members of USAR Troop Program Units will be sent through the Commander, U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC), ATTN: AFRC-MD, 1401 Deshler Street SW, Fort McPherson, GA 30330-2000, to the appropriate corps address in paragraph b above.

(2) Nominations for Individual Mobilization Augmentation (IMA) and Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) soldiers will be sent through the Commander, U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Command (AR-PERSCOM), ATTN: ARPC-HSPMD-AN, 1 Reserve Way, St. Louis, MO 63132-5200 to the appropriate corps address in paragraph b above.

(3) Nominations for members of the Army National Guard will be sent through the State Adjutant General and the Chief, National Guard Bureau, ATTN: NGB-ARS-PO, 111 South George Mason Drive, Arlington, VA 22204-1382 to the appropriate corps address in paragraph b above.

d. Recommendations should be forwarded to arrive at the aforementioned addresses not later than 31 March of each year, using the format in figure 1.

e. The proceedings of the boards, to include a list of individuals being nominated for award of the "A" Proficiency Designator and a list of those recommended and considered, will be submitted to The Surgeon General for approval or disapproval.

f. Corps selection boards will convene annually during the third quarter of the fiscal year to consider candidates nominated for award of the "A" Proficiency Designator within the criteria established by this regulation.

g. Assistance from the appropriate PERSCOM branch will be

requested and coordinated by each of the corps if additional personnel records are required for board proceedings. Additional personnel records for Army Reserve Troop Program Unit members, if required, will be obtained from the member's unit of assignment. Additional personnel records for IMA and IRR soldiers will be obtained from AR-PERSCOM (ARPC-HSPMD-AN).

5. COMPOSITION. The boards will be conducted by each of the corps chiefs in accordance with policies established by that corps chief.

6. SELECTION CRITERIA. The following criteria have been established consistent with the provisions of AR 611-101. On an individual basis, these criteria may be waived when they are clearly not applicable to a particular area of concentration (AOC). All requests for waivers must be fully justified and accompany the nomination to The Surgeon General. The individuals must—

a. Be considered eminently qualified to chair a department, division, or service or have attained full professional status, and have obtained national prominence in their field.

b. Have held or have been qualified for a "B" Proficiency Designator for a period of not less than 5 years, except for officers of the Medical, Dental, or Veterinary Corps, who must hold the "B" Proficiency Designator, and have not less than 3 years time in grade as a lieutenant colonel as of 1 October of the year considered.

c. Have a total of not less than 15 years professional experience, at least 10 years of which must have been on active duty in the AMEDD, as of 1 October of the year considered. The 15-year period and the active duty requirement may be recommended for waiver under exceptional circumstances by the unanimous decision of all board members, subject to the approval of The Surgeon General, where it is determined that contributions of the individual have been of such overriding significance as to merit early professional recognition. Members of the Reserve of the Army not on active duty may meet the 10-year active duty requirement with active duty, active Reserve Component affiliation with the AMEDD, or a combination thereof.

d. Have been assigned to positions requiring their primary AOC for at least 50 percent of active duty time following their receipt of the "B" Proficiency Designator, or attainment of the qualifying experience, and have performed in an outstanding manner in these assignments. Those who have had assignments or

change of AOC to functional areas such as administration, education, or research since receipt of the "B" Proficiency Designator (or attainment of the qualifying experience), must have made significant contributions to these areas and performed in a singularly outstanding manner in these assignments. For members of the Reserve Components not on active duty, a majority of the individual's professional experience (civilian or military) must be consistent with the specialty in which a recommendation is being made.

e. Be leaders in their specialty, and have made significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge in a particular field through extensive publication and active national professional organization membership.

f. Be a distinct asset to the AMEDD, both as officers and as professional specialists.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.

a. Minutes of the proceedings will be prepared by each of the boards and forwarded to The Surgeon General for approval or disapproval.

b. The corps minutes will be prepared in a manner that permits authentication and comment by The Surgeon General. A nominating memorandum in accordance with the format in figure 1 will be prepared for each nominee and submitted along with the minutes.

c. Each corps chief will ensure that DA Form 2442 (Certificate of Achievement), as modified, and letters of commendation are prepared and dispatched for each individual whose award of the "A" Proficiency Designator has been approved by The Surgeon General. Sufficient notification will be given DASG-IMO to ensure availability of certificates. Notification will be made to the appropriate PERSCOM branches for record update. For USAR members, a copy of the action announcing the award will be sent to USARC or AR-PERSCOM (for IRR or IMA members). For National Guard members, a copy of the action announcing the award will be sent to the National Guard Bureau.

8. INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS.

a. All references in AR 611-101 that describe eligibility for the 9A, 9B, 9C, and 9D proficiency designator in terms of a "Ph.D." are to be interpreted to refer to any doctoral degree. Therefore, degrees such as Ed.D., D.N.S., Dr.P.H., and D.B.A. are considered equivalent to a Ph.D for eligibility purposes.

b. "Professional experience," "years of experience," and "years experience," as applied to the eligibility for the 9A, 9B, 9C, and 9D professional designator in AR 611-101, are to be interpreted as actual duty performance in the specialty area. These terms do not include any period of formal, full-time educational endeavor in pursuit of either a degree or certification, with the exception that for officers of the Medical Corps, Dental Corps, Veterinary Corps, Medical Service Corps, and the Army Medical Specialist Corps, postdoctoral fellowship or residency experience in the specialty area is considered professional experience and will be considered as actual duty performance in the specialty area. In the case of a Medical or Dental Corps subspecialty, experience in the parent specialty is considered professional experience for this purpose. Short courses are considered as professional experience and may be included in an individual's years of experience.

(Appropriate Letterhead)

OFFICE SYMBOL (611)

DATE

MEMORANDUM THRU

COMMANDER, AR-PERSCOM, ATTN: ARPC-HSPMD-AN, 1 RESERVE WAY, ST. LOUIS, MO 63132-5200; or STATE ADJUTANT GENERAL (appropriate address) and CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU, ATTN: NGB-ARS-PO, 111 SOUTH GEORGE MASON DRIVE, ARLINGTON, VA 22204-1382

FOR CHIEF OF APPROPRIATE AMEDD CORPS (See para 4b for addresses)

SUBJECT: Nomination for Award of Proficiency Designator 9A (name of officer)

1. References:

a. AR 611-101, 26 Jun 95, Personnel Selection and Classification, Commissioned Officer Classification System.

b. OTSG Regulation 15-35, 17 February 99, Award of the "A" Proficiency Designator.

2. In accordance with references 1a and 1b, the following named _____ Corps officer is recommended for award of the "A" Proficiency Designator.

- a. Name:
- b. SSN:
- c. Rank:
- d. DOB:
- e. EAD: (current active duty officers only)
- f. Primary AOC:
- g. Number of years qualified for "B":
- h. Number of years professional experience:
- i. Number of years and/or months of active duty:

Figure 1. Format for nomination memorandum

- j. Number of years of other qualifying duty: (good retirement years not on active duty)
- k. Education: (schools, location, degree, date)
- l. Board certification: (organization, date)
- m. Curriculum Vitae (Medical Corps only):
- n. Teaching appointments: (academic rank, institution, date)
- o. Consultant: (title, location, date)
- p. Affiliations and professional society memberships:
- q. Decorations and awards: (military and/or professional awards)
- r. Publications, research: (title, authorship, where published)
- s. Key assignments:
- t. Recommendation: (a short narrative recommendation)

AUTHORITY LINE (if appropriate):

Encl
(list if appropriate)

(Signature of appropriate
nominating official)

Notes:

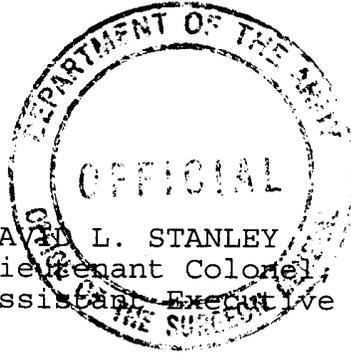
1. Each nomination will be typed separately using this format guide. All data indicated must be included. If negative, so indicate (N/A).
2. Reserve Component officers will include an official photo and a biographical summary or curriculum vitae.
3. Data will be as of 1 October of the calendar year in which the board is to meet.
4. Include any request for waiver of criteria which are clearly not applicable to a particular AOC. This request must be fully justified.

Figure 1. Format for nomination memorandum--continued

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DASG-PTZ (9 Feb 99)

FOR THE SURGEON GENERAL:



DAVID L. STANLEY
Lieutenant Colonel, MS
Assistant Executive Officer

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