

INFORMATION PAPER

AFRC-MD

20 October 1998

SUBJECT: Award of the Comprehensive Dentist (63B) AOC to USAR Dental Officers.

1. Purpose. USAR dental companies and hospitals have 63B authorizations. The unit manning rosters (UMRs) show the 63A, General Dental Officer, as being unqualified. This situation reduces readiness in dental units and limits career progression for many dental officers.

2. Points.

a. Both General Dentists (63A) and Comprehensive Dentists (63B) are branch qualified. The 63B9C Area of Concentration (AOC) is awarded after completion of the Advanced Educational Program in General Dentistry (AEGD) a two-year residency program. These training programs are available only to active component dentists and have no corresponding civilian program. Dentists in the Reserves do not have a mechanism to acquire this AOC.

b. The Deputy Surgeon General/Chief Army Dental Corps assisted the United States Army Reserve (USAR) in addressing the shortage of qualified Comprehensive Dentists with the AOC of 63B in the reserve components. The Commissioned Officer Classification System (AR 611-101) now allows reserve component dental officers with the current AOC of 63A, General Dentist, to be awarded the 63B AOC. The U. S. Army Reserve Personnel Command (AR-PERSCOM) conducts boards to award the 63B AOC.

c. The Board established the following selection criteria based on the Chief, Army Dental Corps guidance.

1. A minimum of seven (7) years clinic experience in the practice of general dentistry and one (1) of the two criteria listed below.

- a. Board certification by the American Board of General Dentistry
- b. Mastership in the Academy of General Dentistry.

Or:

2. Reclassification is awarded for seven (7) years of clinical experience in the practice of general dentistry and two (2) of the three criteria listed below.

- a. Completion of a one-year Advanced Education program in General Dentistry.
- b. Two years of ongoing teaching experience in a general dentistry educational program.
- c. Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry.

d. A duly constituted board of active duty and reserve dental officers convened in August 1998 to review and award the AOC 63B00 to qualified dental officers. The board established specific selection criteria based on The Chief, Army Dental Corps guidance. Completion of a one-year residency program, Fellowship or Mastership in the Academy of General Dentistry, and teaching experience were established as academic accomplishments for this award. There were 115 application packets boarded and 30 were approved. Many of the packets were incomplete or lacked documentation to support the application. Thirty-two officers were disapproved with a recommendation for reconsideration after additional selection documentation is submitted (Partial qualification) and 41 were disapproved.

e. A second 63B00 AOC board convened in August 1999. Eight of 17 applications were approved. There are currently about fifty 63B dental officers in the USAR.

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