

MILPER MESSAGE NUMBER : 09-027
AHRC-PDP-T
TRANSITION SERVICES FOR SOLDIERS UNDERGOING PROCESSING FOR
MEDICAL SEPARATION OR RETIREMENT

...Issued: [02/12/2009]...

A. MEMORANDUM, HQ, HRC, AHRC-PDP-T, DATED 29 APR 08, SUBJECT: REVISED POLICY REGARDING TRANSITION SERVICES TRAINING FOR SOLDIERS IN WARRIOR TRANSITION UNITS.

B. MILPER MESSAGE 07-225, SUBJ: TRANSITION SERVICES FOR SOLDIERS ASSIGNED TO WARRIOR TRANSITION UNITS AND ADJUSTMENT OF VA BENEFITS BRIEFING DELIVERY, DATED 22 AUG 07 IS **RESCINDED**.

C. MILPER MESSAGE 08-131, SUBJ: AMENDMENT TO TRANSITION SERVICES FOR SOLDIERS ASSIGNED TO WARRIOR TRANSITION UNITS (WTU), DATED 13 MAY 08 IS **RESCINDED**.

1. THIS MILPER MESSAGE WILL EXPIRE IN FEB 2011. THE PROCEDURES WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL SUPERSEDED OR RESCINDED.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO UPDATE CURRENT GUIDANCE AND CLARIFY EXISTING TRANSITION PROGRAM PROCEDURES FOR SOLDIERS UNDERGOING PROCESSING FOR MEDICAL SEPARATION OR RETIREMENT (MEB/PEB).

A. ALL AC SOLDIERS AND THOSE RC SOLDIERS ON ACTIVE DUTY BEING PROCESSED FOR A MEDICAL EVALUATION BOARD (MEB) OR A PHYSICAL EVALUATION BOARD (PEB) MUST COMPLETE THE MANDATORY PRESEPARATION COUNSELING AND PROVIDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED DD FORM 2648 (AC SOLDIERS) OR DD FORM 2648-1 (RC SOLDIERS) TO THE PHYSICAL EVALUATION BOARD LIAISON OFFICER (PEBLO) AT THE INITIATION OF THE SOLDIER'S MEB/PEB. THESE SOLDIERS ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL TRANSITION SERVICES PRIOR TO THEIR SEPARATION OR RETIREMENT: ATTEND A TAP EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP (2.5 DAYS), PARTICIPATE IN A VA BENEFITS BRIEFING (4 HOURS) AND A VA DISABILITY TAP WORKSHOP (2 HOURS). INDIVIDUAL ONE-ON-ONE COUNSELING AND EMPLOYMENT TOOLS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE TO THESE SOLDIERS BASED UPON THEIR DESIRES AND NEEDS. SOLDIERS WHO MAY BE MEDICALLY RETIRING NEED TO ATTEND A PRE-RETIREMENT BRIEFING FROM THEIR SUPPORTING RETIREMENT SERVICES OFFICE (RSO).

B. RC SOLDIERS NOT NOW ON ACTIVE DUTY AND WHO ARE PLACED ON ACTIVE DUTY ORDERS FOR A SHORT DURATION (1-10 DAYS) FOR THE PURPOSE OF BEING PROCESSED FOR AN MEB/PEB ARE NOT REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A DD FORM 2648-1 (PRESEPARATION COUNSELING CHECKLIST) AND HAVE THE COMPLETED FORM IN THE MEB/PEB PACKET BEING PROCESSED BY THE INSTALLATION PEBLO. RC SOLDIERS IN THIS CATEGORY ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ANY ACAP/TRANSITION SERVICES.

C. THE INSTALLATION ARMY CAREER AND ALUMNI PROGRAM (ACAP) OFFICE IS THE DESIGNATED AGENCY TO PROVIDE THE MANDATORY PRESEPARATION COUNSELING, SCHEDULING FOR WORKSHOPS AND VA SERVICES, AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL ACAP SERVICES. FOR THOSE INSTALLATIONS THAT DO NOT HAVE AN ACAP PRESENCE AND CONDUCT THEIR OWN TRANSITION PROGRAM, THE GARRISON COMMANDER SHOULD APPOINT A POC TO ENSURE THAT THE REQUIRED PRESEPARATION COUNSELING, TAP EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP, VA BENEFITS BRIEFING, AND VA DISABILITY WORKSHOP ARE AVAILABLE TO THESE SOLDIERS.

D. TO ENSURE THAT AC AND ELIGIBLE RC SOLDIERS RECEIVE STANDARDIZED PRESEPARATION

COUNSELING, THE ARMY CAREER AND ALUMNI PROGRAM (ACAP) HAS DEVELOPED POWERPOINT SLIDES AND SCRIPTS SUPPORTING BOTH THE ACTIVE AND RESERVE COUNSELING FORMS. INSTALLATIONS/AGENCIES THAT DO NOT HAVE A SUPPORTING ACAP OFFICE CAN REQUEST COPIES OF THE SLIDES AND SCRIPT BY CONTACTING THE POC FOR THIS MESSAGE.

E. SOLDIERS ASSIGNED/ATTACHED TO A WARRIOR TRANSITION UNIT (WTU) MAY RECEIVE A VA BENEFITS ORIENTATION AS PART OF THEIR IN-PROCESSING. THIS ORIENTATION DOES NOT MEET THE MANDATE TO ATTEND A VA BENEFITS BRIEFING AND DISABILITY WORKSHOP. SOLDIERS IN THE MEB/PEB PROCESS SHOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY FOR ALL MANDATORY AND DESIRED TRANSITION SERVICES.

3. VA BENEFITS BRIEFINGS ARE BEING PROVIDED AT MOST CONUS AND OCONUS INSTALLATIONS BY QUALIFIED VA COUNSELORS. THERE IS A HIGH DEMAND FOR THESE VALUABLE BRIEFINGS BY SEPARATING AND RETIRING SOLDIERS. AT MANY INSTALLATIONS THERE ARE SEVERAL AGENCIES (ACAP, RSO, TRANSITION CENTER AND OTHERS) THAT SCHEDULE VA BENEFITS BRIEFINGS AT THEIR LOCATION. THIS RESULTS IN EXTRA WORK FOR THE VA COUNSELORS AND HAS THE EFFECT OF SOLDIERS ATTENDING THE SAME BRIEFING NUMEROUS TIMES. TO REDUCE THE BRIEFING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VA AND AVOID REPETITIVE BRIEFINGS TO SOLDIERS, ONE AGENCY SHOULD BE DESIGNATED TO COORDINATE ALL VA BENEFITS BRIEFINGS ON AN INSTALLATION. AT THOSE INSTALLATIONSWITH AN ACAP OFFICE, ACAP WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING, SCHEDULING, AND HOSTING THE VA BENEFITS BRIEFINGS. THE FREQUENCY AND LOCATION OF THE BRIEFINGS MUST BE COORDINATED BETWEEN THE INVOLVED SERVICE PROVIDERS. INSTALLATIONS WITHOUT ACAP ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONSOLIDATE THEIR VA BENEFITS BRIEFING SCHEDULES. ALL SEPARATING AND RETIRING SOLDIERS MUST BE GIVEN EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND VA BENEFITS BRIEFING.

4. POINT OF CONTACT IS MR. HERB SCHWAB AT (AC) 703 325-2574, DSN 221-2574, E-MAIL ADDRESS IS HERBERT.G.SCHWAB@US.ARMY.MIL.

Use this URL to link to this document

<http://PERSCOMND04.ARMY.MIL/MILPERmsgs.nsf/All+Documents/09-027?OpenDocument>