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Proponent  
AHRC-EPF-S

Title  
**Selection of Regular Army (RA) and U.S. Army Reserve Active Guard Reserve (USAR AGR) Soldiers to Attend the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Course (USASMC), Class 72**

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- A. AR 350-1 (Army Training and Leader Development), 10 December 2017.
  - B. AR 600-8-19 (Enlisted Promotions and Reductions), 16 May 2019.
  - C. AR 601-280 (Army Retention Program), 16 October 2019.
  - D. AR 635-200 (Active Duty Enlisted Administrative Separations), 19 December 2016.
  - E. MILPER Message 19-401, AHRC-PDV-PE, 16 December 2019, subject: FY20 Regular Army (RA)/U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Active Guard Reserve (AGR) MSG Evaluation Board Announcement Message.
  - F. Army Directive 2019-15 (Enlisted Centralized Selection Boards), 4 April 2019.
  - G. Army Directive 2016-19 (Retaining a Quality Noncommissioned Officer Corps), 26 May 2016.
  - H. HQDA Memorandum, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 (DAPE-ZA), 22 November 2019, subject: Fiscal Year 2020 MSG Evaluation Board and Updates to Army Regulation 600-8-19 (Enlisted Promotions and Reductions) and Army Regulation 614-200 (Enlisted Assignments and Utilization Management).
  - I. HQDA Memorandum, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 (DAPE-ZA), 10 October 2019, subject: Expanded Application of Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) Bar to Continued Service.
1. This message outlines selection criteria for the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Course (USASMC) Class 72, for Regular Army (RA) and U.S. Army Reserve, Active Guard Reserve (USAR, AGR) Soldiers and will expire not later than 1 year from date of issue.
  2. Selection to attend the USASMC is a readiness-based decision designed to ensure a sufficient number of noncommissioned officers (NCOs) are trained across all military occupational specialties (MOSs) to qualify them for potential promotion to SGM against future Army requirements. The fiscal year 2020 (FY20) Master Sergeant (MSG) Evaluation Board order of merit list (OML) will inform selection by career progression MOS (CPMOS). Selection requires NCOs meet the selection eligibility criteria not later than the established suspense date. Failure to qualify by the suspense date will result in non-selection, regardless of OML standings.
  3. **Soldiers selected to attend the USASMC will be officially announced on 1 December 2020.** The selection list constitutes official notification of permanent change of station (PCS) assignment instructions (AI) to attend the USASMC. Soldiers selected must comply or, if eligible, request retirement in lieu of PCS, however, approval is not automatic. Retirement actions must be received no later than 31 December 2020. Retirement dates must not be later than 6 months from the date of notification or the first day of the month following the month in which 20 years of active federal service is completed, whichever is later. Requests for retirement received after 31 December 2020 will be returned without action. Refer to reference D, paragraph 12-9, for additional information regarding retirement in lieu of PCS eligibility. Soldiers serving on an indefinite reenlistment will not have the option of submitting a declination of continued service

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statement (DCSS). Non-retirement eligible Soldiers may submit for separation under the applicable provisions of reference D, paragraph 4-11.

4. The primary method for completing training will be by attending the resident course of instruction at the Noncommissioned Officer Leadership Center of Excellence (NCOLCoE), Fort Bliss, Texas. Designation of training paths (resident, distributed learning, or the Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy (JSOFSEA)) will be made by 31 January 2021 into the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS).

5. **The following eligibility criteria must be met not later than 31 October 2020:**

a. **Must be a First Sergeant (1SG)/MSG** and be otherwise established as most qualified or fully qualified by the FY20 MSG Evaluation Board.

b. Must have a basic active service date (**BASD**) **not earlier than 2 September 1995** and a date of birth (**DOB**) **not earlier than 2 September 1965**.

c. **Must have completed the Distributed Leaders Course (DLC) - level 5** (refer to reference I above for DLC-5 requirements and promotion eligibility).

d. Must be in good standing.

e. **Must have a valid interim secret (or higher) security clearance.**

6. **Ineligibility criteria for selection:**

a. Soldiers previously disenrolled from the USASMC for any reason (other than compassionate or medical) are permanently ineligible for further selection to attend the course (reference B, paragraph 4-2c).

b. Soldiers who are suspended from favorable personal actions or ineligible to reenlist.

c. Soldiers not meeting the selection criteria identified above.

7. All Soldiers selected to attend the USASMC are required to meet the Army's personnel suitability screening requirements (reference B, paragraph 4-1h) prior to being considered qualified for enrollment into ATRRS and being placed on AI.

8. All training reservations will be made in ATRRS not later than 31 January 2021.

9. All PCS assignment instructions will be issued not later than 28 February 2021 (except for those who are pending suitability screening).

10. **Important milestones:**

EVENT	DATE
Meet Selection Eligibility Criteria	NLT 31 Oct 20
Announce By-Name Selections	1 Dec 20
Submit Retirements ILO PCS	NLT 31 Dec 20
Training Reservations in ATRRS	NLT 31 Jan 21
USASMC Students on AI	NLT 28 Feb 21

11. **Training Service Obligation:** Soldiers incur a 24-month service remaining requirement (SRR) upon graduation from the resident USASMC or 6-month SRR for the distributed learning course of instruction. Soldiers who become eligible to retire under § 3914 or § 3917, Title 10, United States Code (USC) must agree to meet their SRR to attend the selected course. Soldiers will be required to sign a statement before movement to the school acknowledging they have been informed voluntary retirement will not be approved until the required service is completed after either graduation or termination of class attendance.

12. **Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP):** Soldiers with expired EFMP profiles (date of enrollment older than 33 months) must report to or coordinate with their servicing Military Treatment Facility (MTF) EFMP office to update the expired profile. Locate and contact the nearest MTF EFMP office from the website <https://efmp.amedd.army.mil/TOOLS/CONTACTS.HTML>. No PCS AI will be issued until this is updated.

13. Point of contact at U.S. Army Human Resources Command is Military Schools Branch at email: [usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.epmd-ncoes-smc@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.epmd-ncoes-smc@mail.mil).