

Chapter 2 – Component Selection and Branching

2-1. Definition

Selection is the process by which a Cadet/lieutenant is assigned to a duty component status (AD, RD, or DL) and *branching* is the process by which the Cadet/lieutenant is assigned to basic and control branches.

2-2. Component/Branching Files

a. The PMS is responsible for the preparation of electronic accession files in accordance with the annual U.S. Army Cadet Command (USACC) Circular 601-XX-1 (pending). Component/Branching files will be submitted for Cadets and ECP officers whose graduation/commission dates fall within the accession zone designated in the annual HQDA/ROTC Accessions Guidance and/or USACC accessions regulations and circulars.

b. A Cadet who was not branched during the regular board process may be reviewed by a standby board provided:

(1) The Cadet's graduation and commissioning dates meet the suspense date identified in USACC Circular 601-XX-1 (pending).

(2) Extenuating circumstances existed which prevented the Cadet from being accessed during the regular HQDA/ROTC Selection and Branching Board.

(3) The Cadet's component/branching file is received at USACC G1, Accessions and Security Division (ASD) prior to the suspense date established in USACC Circular 601-XX-1 (pending) of the Fiscal Year (FY) in which the Cadet will be commissioned. Files received after the established cutoff date will be returned and held by the ROTC Program for submission and consideration at the next Fiscal Year (FY) HQDA/ROTC Selection and Branching Board.

2-3. Branching and Commissioning Policies

a. Guaranteed Reserve Force Duty (GRFD) scholarship. Recipients of a GRFD scholarship must execute an ROTC Cadet Command Form 203-R, Guaranteed Reserve Force Duty (GRFD) Scholarship Cadet Contract Endorsement, IAW USACC Regulation 145-10. These Cadets are ineligible to apply for active duty since revocation of the GRFD endorsement is not authorized.

b. Cadets with a Cadet Command Form 202-R, Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty (GRFD) Non-Scholarship Contract Endorsement, cannot apply for AD unless they have completed Cadet Command Form 204-R, Revocation of the Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty (GRFD) Cadet Contract Endorsement, IAW USACC Regulation 145-10. The CG, USACC, is the approving authority for revocations. A copy of the approved request must be maintained at the ROTC Program in the accession hard-copy file.

c. Branching: All Cadets selected for Regular Army (RA) appointment/active duty component will be branched based on the OML and Talent Management process. All other Cadets assigned to Reserve Forces Duty (RFD) either to the United States Army Reserve (USAR) or Army National Guard (ARNG) will be branched based on qualifications and the vacancies which they are to fill in the United States Army Reserve or by the Army National Guard Officer Strength Manager in the state where they plan to fulfill their military service obligation.

2-4. Campus Order of Merit List (OML)

The PMS will use the following factors to establish the Campus OML: ROTC Program participation, campus activities, and academic performance.

2-5. Distinguished Military Student (DMS)/Graduate (DMG)

a. At the beginning of each school year (SY), the PMS will use an OML to rank all Cadets who attended CLC the preceding summer. This OML will be used to designate the DMS within the ROTC Program.

b. The CG, USACC, is the designation authority for DMG and USACC HQS, Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), G1, Accessions and Security Division (ASD), Accessions Branch, is responsible for obtaining and completing the DMG certificates while ROTC Programs complete the DMS certificates.

c. Designation as a DMG.

(1) Criteria for DMG selection:

(a) Cadet is ranked in the top 20% of the National OML and meets the criteria in paragraphs (b) and (c) below. USACC HQS will announce DMG selections when board results are released.

(b) Successfully completed Advanced camp. (Previously named Cadet Leader Course.)

(c) Graduated with a baccalaureate degree, or has a statement from the head of the institution that all requirements for a baccalaureate have been completed and the degree will be conferred at the next regular commencement.

(2) USACC HQS will issue the certificate, DA Form 2164, signed by the CG, Cadet Command, and forward to the PMS. When the Cadet is otherwise qualified, the PMS will add his/her signature block to the form, sign, date, and present the certificate to each selectee. The date on the form is the effective date upon which full and complete graduation occurs, the date of the statement from the head of the institution in the case of other than end-year students who fall within the intent of paragraph c(1)(c) above, or the date of Advanced camp completion if the Cadet has graduated.

“Graduated” in this context includes academic graduation or completion of requirements for graduation as evidenced by a statement from the appropriate school official and successful completion of Advanced camp.

(3) If the PMS determines a basis exists to withdraw the DMG designation from a Cadet, a request for withdrawal detailing the basis must be submitted through Brigade to USACC G1, Accessions and Security Division USACC HQS (ATCC-PAS-A).

2-6. Cadet Command Outcome Metrics List (OML) Model

a. The National OML is established each year for all Cadets and ECP lieutenants who have commissioning and/or graduation dates that fall within a specified accession zone established by the Department of the Army (DA). The OML serves as the primary input for the HQDA/ROTC Selection and Branching processes, which determine component (RA, USAR, ARNG, or DL), as well as basic and control branches.

b. Background: The requirement for a National OML was directed for development in 2003 by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. In Fiscal Year 2016 the Order of Merit Model was significantly changed and renamed the Outcome Metrics List (OML) Model. Key components of the OML model were adjusted to measure Academic and Leadership outcomes. The OML remains a tool used to measure the accomplishment of learning outcomes of each Cadet through the MS III year (MS IV for MJC Cadets). The model calculates an Outcome Metrics Score (OMS) for each Cadet. For each annual accessions cohort, the respective OMSs generate a merit-based ranking of the Cadets (highest to lowest) to be used in determining Component Selection and Branching. USACC Circular 601-XX-1 (pending) is published annually to announce changes to the OML Model, announce accessions and talent management timelines, and general administrative procedures pertinent for completing each Cadet’s CCIMM electronic accession file.

c. Talent Management: The USACC Talent Management Program is a tool to assist the Army through the component and branching process. It will play a significant factor in the HQDA/ROTC RA Branching process. The goal is to better assess, educate, inform, and mentor Cadets to identify their unique talents, develop those critical talents the Army desires, and assist Cadets in making informed component and branching decisions. This program will provide Cadets with a greater level of information about the three Components of the Army and the 17 basic branches. The Talent Management website is where the Cadet begins self-education, self-assessment, and contact mentors in specific branches. The website is accessed through the internet.