U.S. Department of Transportation
United States Coast Guard

Commandant
United States Coast Guard

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COMDTINST 1760.10

MAR 9 1998

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 1760.10

Subj: COAST GUARD ACTIVE DUTY COLLEGE FUND PROGRAM

Ref: (a) Chapter 30, Title 38 U.S.C., Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) (NOTAL)
(b) Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) - Active Duty Education Assistance Program, COMDTINST 1760.9A
(c) Coast Guard Recruiting Manual, COMDTINST M1100.2 (Series)
(d) Coast Guard Personnel Manual, COMDTINST M1000.6 (Series)
(e) Allowable Weight Standards for the Health and Well-Being of Coast Guard Military Personnel, COMDTINST M1020.8C
(f) Convening Schedule for Coast Guard Class "A" and "C" Resident and Exportable Training Courses, COMDTNOTE 1540

1. PURPOSE. In order to attract qualified personnel to critical ratings and help meet the Commandant's recruiting goals, this Instruction establishes the Coast Guard Active Duty College Fund Program for recruiting active duty personnel in critical ratings in accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b). This program applies to new enlistments.

2. ACTION. Area and district commanders, commanders of maintenance and logistics commands, commanding officers of Headquarters units, assistant commandants for directorates, Chief Counsel, and special staff offices at Headquarters shall ensure compliance with the provisions of this Instruction.

3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. Enclosure (1) will be incorporated in a change to reference (c).

4. DISCUSSION. Reference (a) authorizes the Coast Guard to offer new active duty Coast Guard members who are qualified participants in the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) additional funding for education purposes (or "kicker"). A "kicker" is an amount to be paid in addition to the basic MGIB benefits. The Coast Guard Active Duty College Fund Program requires members to agree to enlist in ratings designated as critical for a minimum of four (4) consecutive years. Members must

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B		8	20	1	21	10	25	15	8	6	7	7	6	10	2	1	3	15	1	1	12	1	22	1	1	1
C	5	2	3	4	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	1	4		1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
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be eligible for MGIB benefits in accordance with reference (b) in order to receive Active Duty College Fund benefits. Members who lose eligibility for the MGIB also lose all "kicker" benefits.

5. DEFINITIONS. For the purposes of this Instruction, a critical rating is a rating which is understaffed, is projected to be understaffed in the future, or requires an inordinate amount of training to achieve rating strength. The shortages are the result of the Service's inability to attract and retain personnel in the rating.

6. POLICY.

   a. Commandant designates critical ratings. Based on a combination of rating strength forecasts, Class "A" school waiting lists, sea-shore rotation ratios, and length of Class "A" school training, Chief, Workforce Planning and Analysis Division, Commandant (G-WR-2), determines which ratings are critical, may be placed on the guaranteed Class "A" school or the guaranteed "Striker" list, and designated eligible for the Active Duty College Fund benefits. Commandant (G-WR-2) identifies critical ratings semi-annually and updates as necessary.

   b. Active Duty College Fund benefits are linked to a member's recruitment and affiliation with a critical rating by attending the guaranteed Class "A" school, or participating in a guaranteed "Striker" program in that rating, and their eligibility for the MGIB basic education benefits. This program is not available to former or current service members.

   c. For those ratings for which there is no Class "A" school and for which an offering of the Active Duty College Fund benefit is established, a member may be eligible to receive the Active Duty College Fund benefits by qualifying for the rating through the "Striker" program established in reference (d). In these cases, special arrangements shall be made by Commander, Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC-epm) to assign members to appropriate commands with viable "Striker" programs in that rating.

   d. A member may receive only one of the following benefits or incentives: (1) Coast Guard Active Duty College Fund, or (2) Enlistment Bonus Program.

7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA. To be eligible for Active Duty College Fund benefits, members must:

   a. Enter initial active duty in the Coast Guard after 1 January 1998.

b. Meet standard enlistment qualification criteria.

c. At the time of enlistment, be offered the opportunity to participate in the Coast Guard Active Duty College Fund, qualify for and agree to affiliate with a designated critical rating, and agree to serve an initial active duty enlistment for a minimum of 4 consecutive years.

d. Not receive an enlistment bonus.

e. Have no prior active duty military service.

f. Affiliate with the agreed upon rating by completing the associated Class "A" school or the authorized "Striker" program for those ratings without a Class "A" school and earn the rating designator.

g. Enroll in the basic MGIB program and agree to a pay reduction of $100 per month or the current monthly rate for each of the first 12 full months of active duty required by reference (b). Members who lose entitlement to MGIB benefits for any reason also lose eligibility for the associated Coast Guard Active Duty College Fund benefits; the basic pay reduction cannot be refunded, suspended, or stopped.

8. LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY. Members enlisted under the Active Duty College Fund Program, as specified in this paragraph, will lose their eligibility if they:

a. Are disenrolled from the qualifying Class "A" school or assigned "Striker" program or otherwise fail to qualify in the rating for which they were enlisted (members will not be guaranteed assignment to another Class "A" school or "Striker" program, and will be required to complete the minimum 4 year active duty commitment).

b. No longer qualify or serve in the rating for which the Active Duty College Fund was authorized. Members will be considered not qualified for the Active Duty College Fund if for any reason within the members' control, they:

(1) No longer serve in the rating for which the college fund was authorized.

(2) Lose their rating designator.

(3) Are precluded from current or future assignment in the rating.

c. Lose their eligibility for the basic MGIB education benefits.

9. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. Commandant (G-WPM):

(1) Oversees Active Duty College Fund Program policy.

(2) Coordinates with Commandant (G-WR-1) for funding resource allocation.

(3) In consultation with Commandant (G-WR-2), directs the number of applicants who may be offered eligibility for the Active Duty College Fund benefits for affiliation with each critical rating.

(4) Promulgates the list of selected critical ratings eligible for Active Duty College Fund benefits. Specifically, provides the Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC-epm) (copy to the Coast Guard Recruiting Cener (CGPC-CGRC)) with "quotas" of enlistment applicants who may participate in the Active Duty College Fund.

(5) Determines the level of the College Fund (i.e., the "kicker").

(6) Maintains liaison with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and Department of Defense (DoD).

b. Commandant (G-WR-2):

(1) Periodically reviews the list of ratings designated as critical for the purposes of this Instruction and recommends which ratings shall be added or deleted from participation in the Active Duty College Fund Program.

(2) Provides an updated list of eligible ratings to Commandant (G-WPM-1) semi-annually or as needed.

c. Commanding Officer, Human Resources Service and Information Center (HRSIC):

(1) Ensures compliance with reference (b).

(2) Establishes and maintains a system for tracking Active Duty College Fund Program participants.

(3) Establishes a system to transfer eligibility and disqualification data to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) via the Department of

Defense Manpower and Data Center (DMDC) as necessary.

d. Commander, Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC-epm):

(1) Apportions guaranteed Class "A" school quotas, including those for which the Enlistment Bonus and Active Duty College Fund have been authorized by Commandant (G-WPM), based on the availability of Class "A" school quotas listed in reference (f).

(2) Balances the number of guaranteed Class "A" school quotas eligible for the Active Duty College Fund and Enlistment Bonus Programs with the number of quotas available to personnel already on the school waiting lists.

(3) For members recruited into an eligible "Striker" program, upon graduation from recruit training the Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC-epm) shall assign members to an appropriate command with a viable "Striker" program in that rating. The Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC-epm) shall coordinate assignment as needed to ensure the receiving command has the capacity to accommodate assignment within the established personnel allowance.

e. Director, Coast Guard Recruiting Center (CGPC-CGRC):

(1) Ensures compliance with the provisions of reference (b).

(2) Designs and executes a marketing plan for the Active Duty College Fund Program as part of an overall effort to accomplish Coast Guard recruiting missions and goals.

(3) Ensures eligible members' enlistment contracts set forth the terms under which Active Duty College Fund benefits may be paid by completing enclosure (1) for each member enlisted under the Active Duty College Fund Program.

(4) Ensures a member enlisted under the Active Duty College Fund Program is not also enlisted under the Enlistment Bonus Program.

(5) Provides by the fifth (5th) day of each month, a list of personnel recruited using the Active Duty College Fund incentive. Provides each recipient's name, social security number, enlistment and shipping date, rating affiliation (e.g., guaranteed Class "A" school or guaranteed "Striker" program), and course convening date to which assigned, and other pertinent identifying data. The original report will be submitted to

Commander, Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC-c) with copies to the Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC-epm), Commandant (G-WPM-1), Commandant (G-WR-1), Commandant (G-WR-2), Commandant (G-WR-3), HRSIC (MAS), TRACEN Cape May (apr), RTC Yorktown (PERSRU), and ISC Cleveland (PERSRU).

(6) Incorporate enclosure (1) as a change to reference (c). This form documents the eligibility criteria and conditions under which an Active Duty College Fund benefit is paid and is the source document to begin tracking member eligibility.

f. Commanding Officer, Training Center Cape May: Ensures compliance with the provisions of reference (b). In particular, ensures members recruited with the benefit of the Active Duty College Fund are enrolled in the MGIB basic education benefits.

g. Commands receiving members under the Active Duty College Fund Program as a guaranteed "Striker":

(1) Ensure members satisfy all requirements of the "Striker" program in accordance with reference (d). Members failing to make satisfactory progress may be disenrolled from the "Striker" program using standard criteria for unit "Striker" program administration. However, this period may not exceed two years from the date the member graduated from recruit training.

(2) Send message reports, with relevant dates and basis of disenrollment, to the Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC-epm) with a copy to Commandant (G-WPM-1), Commandant (G-WR-2), Commandant (G-WR-1), and HRSIC (MAS) if the member is disenrolled from the unit's "Striker" program.

10. FORM AVAILABILITY. Enclosure (1), the Statement of Understanding for the U. S. Coast Guard Active Duty College Fund (CG-3301W (02-98)) shall be entered as a change to reference (c) and may be locally reproduced.

G. G. PICHE
Director of Personnel Management

Encl: (1) Statement of Understanding

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

U. S. COAST GUARD ACTIVE DUTY COLLEGE FUND

An original and six copies of this form shall be prepared. It will become an Annex to the Enlistment/Reenlistment Document, Armed Forces of the United States (DD-4).

Recruiting Office:_____Date:_____

Prior to enlisting in the United States Coast Guard and establishing eligibility for Active Duty College Fund benefits, I, _____ understand that:

1. I have been offered Active Duty College Fund benefits of up to a total of approximately $30,000 to affiliate with the _____ rating. Active Duty College Fund benefits include those normally obtained from basic MGIB benefits plus additional Coast Guard funded benefits up to approximately $30,000.

2. I agree to enlist for a minimum of four (4) consecutive years and serve in the rating for which the Active Duty College Fund benefits eligibility was offered. Therefore, I will be assigned to Class "A" school or "Striker" program for the rating identified above.

3. In order to be eligible to obtain the Active Duty College Fund benefits, I must elect to participate in the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) program. I will have my monthly base pay reduced $100.00 (or the current monthly rate) for each of the first 12 months on active duty. If I lose entitlement to the basic MGIB program for any reason, I will also lose eligibility to the associated additional Coast Guard Active Duty College Fund benefits.

4. To maintain eligibility for Active Duty College Fund benefits, I must:

   a. Not receive an enlistment bonus.

   b. Have no prior active duty military service.

   c. Affiliate with the agreed upon rating by completing Class "A" school or authorized "Striker" program and earn the rating designator.

   d. Maintain my eligibility for the MGIB basic education benefits.

5. I will lose my eligibility for Active Duty College Fund benefits if, for any reason within my control, I:

a. Am disenrolled from the qualifying Class "A" school or "Striker" program or otherwise fail to qualify in the rating for which I was enlisted (I will not be guaranteed assignment to another Class "A" school or "Striker" program and will be required to complete the minimum 4 year active duty commitment).

b. Lose my rating designator.

c. Am unable to perform the duties of the rating for which I agreed to serve (e.g., injuries or a loss of security clearance due to my own fault).

d. Lose my eligibility for the basic MGIB education benefits.

_____ _____

Signature of Enlisting Officer Signature of Enlistee (full name)

Date: _____

Copy: Parent or Guardian
Enlistee
HRSIC (MAS)
CGPC-epm
COMDT (G-WPM-1)