



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

APR 24 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP

SUBJECT: Review of Medical Conditions Disqualifying for Accession into the Military

The standards for accession into the U.S. military are high, uncompromising, and clear. Young Americans seeking to serve in the greatest fighting force in history must be physically and mentally capable of performing their duties in the harshest conditions.

Currently, per Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6130.03, Volume 1, "Medical Standards for Military Service: Appointment, Enlistment, or Induction," applicants for Military Service may receive medical waivers for many significant conditions, including schizophrenia, paraphilic disorders, congestive heart failure, and chronic use of oxygen. While the desire to serve the United States is honorable, individuals with such conditions are generally unlikely to complete initial military training or their first term of service.

I direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) to conduct a review of existing medical standards for enlistment, induction, or appointment into Military Service within 30 days. As part of this review, the USD(P&R) will identify any medical conditions that should be ineligible for a medical accession waiver and identify any medical conditions for which a medical accession waiver should only be granted by the Secretary of a Military Department. The USD(P&R) will prepare, for my approval, any necessary updates to DoDI 6130.03, Volume 1, stemming from that review.

We must never compromise our high standards, and that requires ensuring that each new Service member that joins our ranks meets those standards. Requiring anything less poses an unacceptable risk to the mission, to those Service members themselves, and to their fellow Service members.

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