



## NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

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ARNG-HRR

12 December 2019

### MEMORANDUM FOR Army National Guard (ARNG) Recruiting and Retention Force (RRF)

SUBJECT: SMOM 20-014, 17A Cyber Branch Application Process for Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Cadets and Officer Candidate School (OCS) Candidates

#### 1. References.

- a. AR 350-1, Army Training and Leader Development, 10 December 2017.
- b. AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, 6 November 2014.
- c. AR 621-1, Training of Military Personnel at Civilian Institution, 28 August 2007.
- d. DA Pamphlet 611-21, Military Occupational Classification and Structure, Chapter 3, Section 3-17.
- e. DA Pamphlet 600-3, Commissioned Officer Professional Development and Career Management.
- f. NGR 600-100 Officer Federal Recognition and Related Personnel Actions, 15 April 1994.
- g. Memorandum, ARNG-HRR, subject: PPOM 17-001, Fiscal Year 2017 Army National Guard (ARNG) 17A Cyber Branch Transfer Panel Application Instructions, 24 January 2017.

#### 2. SMOM 17-028 is rescinded.

#### 3. Summary of Changes.

- a. This message establishes the prerequisite requirement of possessing an interim TS/SCI security clearance or higher prior to attending Cyber Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC), reference SMOM 17-028, paragraph 3a.
- b. Cyber Questionnaire version 3.1.

#### 4. Background. This message provides guidance for ROTC Cadets and OCS Candidates to apply for the ARNG 17A Cyber Branch. Area of Concentration (AOC) 17A

ARNG-HRR

SUBJECT: SMOM 20-014, 17A Cyber Branch Application Process for Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Cadets and Officer Candidate School (OCS) Candidates

officers will serve as Section Leaders, Team Leaders, Cyber Defense Managers, Operation Officers, Cyber Operation Planners, Army Cyber Institute Researchers, Executive Officers, Commanders, and in various other organizational positions in ranks 2LT through COL.

5. Eligibility. AOC 17A is open to all cadets and candidates selected to commission in the ARNG with a valid paragraph and line number in an ARNG Cyber unit. The ARNG-CY selection panel will assess applicants with a diversity of talent in cyber-related fields.

a. Applicants must be U.S. citizens with a favorable Special Background Investigation.

b. Applicants must obtain and maintain a Top Secret (TS) security clearance with eligibility for access to Sensitive Compartmentalized Information (SCI). An interim TS/SCI security clearance is required prior to attending the Cyber Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC).

c. Applicants must be able to successfully pass a counter-intelligence scope polygraph based on specific unit assignment requirements. For instance, National Security Agency account and/or facility access is required for designated Cyber Mission Force assignments.

d. A Bachelor's of Science or higher degree in Mathematics, Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Computer Information Systems, Physics, Chemistry, Cybersecurity, Cyber Operations, Behavioral Science, Data Science, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Information Technologies, or Information Systems Security, with a minimum of 6 credit hours of structured programming is preferred but not required for all applicants.

e. Programming and software development experience are not required, but preferred for all applicants and should be specifically highlighted in the Cyber Branch Questionnaire (e.g. C++, Java, Python, Visual Basic, .NET, Ruby).

f. Applicants should read the Cyber Branch chapters in the latest versions of DA Pamphlets 611-21 and 600-3 to ensure they understand the criteria and qualifications. The DA Pamphlets are located at:

<https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/smartbookdapam611-21> and

<https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/smartbook-da-pam-600-3>.

6. Application procedures. All applicants for Cyber must complete the Cyber Branch

ARNG-HRR

SUBJECT: SMOM 20-014, 17A Cyber Branch Application Process for Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Cadets and Officer Candidate School (OCS) Candidates

Assessment and Selection Process governed by the Office of the Chief of Cyber (OCC). The process includes but is not limited to an interview, aptitude assessment exam, questionnaire, initial security screening, and packet submission. Application packets will be submitted by Officer Candidates to MAJ John Trumbull, ARNG-CY, in a single PDF file. Do not use PDF portfolio format. ROTC Cadets will interview with the OCC (Cyber personnel proponent) during advanced camp. If an ROTC Cadet failed to complete the Cyber Branch Assessment and Selection Process at advanced camp, they must request an exception to policy (ETP) from the OCC through MAJ John Trumbull, ARNG-CY. ETPs can be submitted as a simple statement explaining the circumstances that prevented the Cadet from completing the assessment process at advanced camp. If the ETP is approved, the Cadet will also need to submit an application packet to MAJ John Trumbull, ARNG-CY. The packet may be submitted at the same time as the ETP request. For application packets, ensure all documents are submitted in the order listed below.

- a. Letter of Acceptance into a valid Cyber 17A vacancy, signed by the State Officer Strength Manager.
- b. Completed Cyber Branch Questionnaire (v3.1).
- c. Official transcripts that show bachelor's degree awarded or approved degree plan with a projected graduation date upon commissioning.
- d. Current civilian and/or DoD resume.
- e. Security Clearance Verification (Memo from Security Manager; must include Investigation type, Investigation date, Code, and clearance date).
- f. Copies of relevant industry certifications and/or other documents that support applicant's cyber-related experience (e.g. MCSE, CCNA, work evaluation, work experience, etc.).

## 6. Processing.

- a. ARNG-CY will receive, consolidate, and forward complete packets to the OCC for adjudication. Applicants will receive an eligibility status of either "Accepted to attend CYBOLC" or "Not eligible to attend CYBOLC".

ARNG-HRR

SUBJECT: SMOM 20-014, 17A Cyber Branch Application Process for Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Cadets and Officer Candidate School (OCS) Candidates

b. Due to operational mission requirements, ARNG-CY will be the approval authority for scheduling applicants for CYBOLC.

c. States will contact ARNG-CY before scheduling OCS candidates for CYBOLC. ROTC graduates will be scheduled by Mrs. Margaret Pickel, Cyber Career Management Officer, once the training seat is approved by ARNG-CY.

d. An ECP (Early Commissioning Program) Lieutenant should not request to branch Cyber until all requirements for the ECP outlined in DA Form 597-4 are complete.

7. Address questions or concerns about the ARNG 17A Cyber Branch application process to the following points of contact: This message remains valid until 12 December 2020.

a. AOC 17A ARNG Officer Branch (ARNG-CY): MAJ John Trumbull, (703) 607-9355 or [johnathan.m.trumbull.mil@mail.mil](mailto:johnathan.m.trumbull.mil@mail.mil).

b. Officer Accessions Section Chief (ARNG-HRR): MAJ Jason Boothe, (703) 607-9634 or [jason.s.boothe.mil@mail.mil](mailto:jason.s.boothe.mil@mail.mil).

c. CYBOLC Career Management Officer for ROTC graduates (ARNG-HRR): Mrs. Margaret Pickel at [margaret.t.pickel.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:margaret.t.pickel.ctr@mail.mil).



Encl

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