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USAREC MSG 01-049

180029 March 2001 (EST)

USAREC MESSAGE 01-049

From: HQ USAREC

TO: BDE/BN Commanders
BDE/BN Operations,
All Guidance Counselors
All Recruiters

SUBJECT: Verification of Home School Credentials

1. This is an immediate message and requires dissemination to all recruiting personnel.
2. References:
 - a. USAREC Regulation 601-210, Regular Army and Army Reserve Enlistment Program, dated 28 February 1995.
 - b. USAREC Message 98-073, Home School and National Guard Youth Challenge/GED Credential
 - c. USAREC Message 99-012, Home School Credentials
3. The purpose of this message is to update the recruiting field force on the verification procedures necessary to qualify an applicant as Tier 1 home school graduate (HOME).
4. To qualify for enlistment as a home school graduate, an applicant must meet one of the following criteria to be eligible for enlistment as Tier 1 (HOME).
 - a. A home school diploma and transcript from the state department of education, local school board or state recognized home school organization (association). For a listing of state recognized home school associations and corresponding laws go to the Internet at www.hslda.org. For additional information and guidance contact the battalion education services specialist (ESS).
 - b. A home school diploma and transcript from a private home school or curriculum developer. The transcript provided must include the enrollment date, graduation date and type of curriculum. The curriculum used must involve parental instruction and supervision and should closely pattern the normal credit hours per subject as used in the public schools. Accelerated

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home study programs and lesson packets that award a credential based on testing are not acceptable. Questionable credentials from a private home school or curriculum developer should be referred to the battalion ESS and handled on a case by case basis.

c. A diploma and transcript from an external high school completion program approved by the Distance Education and Training Council (DETC). Students of compulsory school age (up to 18 years old) whose parent(s) or guardian use an external high school completion program approved by DETC to instruct (home school) their son or daughter's education will be classified as Tier 1 (HOME). Applicants who complete a DETC program beyond the compulsory school age are considered adults and will be classified Tier 2.

d. A home school diploma and transcript from the parent(s) or guardian accompanied by third party verification. Additional verification is required to classify an applicant for enlistment using a diploma and transcript from the parent(s) or guardian. The following are examples of third party verification:

(1) A letter from the state department of education or local school board certifying home school registration.

(2) A letter or transcript from a state recognized home school organization (see 4a, above)

(3) A letter or transcript from a private home school or curriculum developer which includes enrollment date, completion date and type of curriculum. (see 4b, above).

(4) A letter or academic assessment report from a certified educational consultant that verifies completion of home school coursework or portfolio.

e. Refer all questionable home school documents and third party verifications to the battalion ESS for further evaluation.

5. Enlistment of seniors is authorized. Verification is the same as above with the exception that the transcripts must be accompanied by a letter from the responsible school official, parent(s) or guardian indicating that the student is in good standing and is a candidate for graduation within 365 days.

6. Guidance counselors will ensure that all home school graduates are coded properly. Education codes used for home school enlistees are:

a. Graduate: REQUEST code 12H

b. Senior: REQUEST code 11S

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Note: It is extremely important to change to the correct education code at the time of DEP OUT.

7. The point of contact for this headquarters is Brian Labashosky, RCRO-PP-E, (502) 626-0496, or DSN: 536-0496.

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