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RESERVE AFFAIRS

17 OCT 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MANPOWER, RESERVE AFFAIRS, INSTALLATION AND ENVIRONMENT)
DIRECTOR, RESERVE AND TRAINING, USCG

SUBJECT: Policy Guidance on Reserve Service Credit for Participation in DoD Health Professions Scholarship and Financial Assistance Program

This directive type memorandum provides guidance for the implementation of section 2126(b) of title 10, United States Code, as amended by section 544 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000. This section permits service performed by Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship and Financial Assistance programs participants who meet the eligibility criteria described below to be counted for retirement points and years of satisfactory service for Reserve retirement under chapter 1223 of title 10, United States Code.

Service credit may be awarded to program participants provided they serve in the Selected Reserve after completing the active duty service obligation incurred for receiving program benefits and serve in a skill critically needed in wartime, as determined by the Secretary concerned. For each year a former program participant performs satisfactory service in the Selected Reserve, as described above, the member shall be credited with 50 retirement points and one year of service credit for retirement purposes under section 12732(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code, for one of the years that the member participated in the program. The number of years of retirement credit a member may be awarded for service in the Selected Reserve under this provision can equal the number of full academic years the member participated in the program, up to a maximum of four years. The points credited for the participation shall be recorded in the member's records as having been earned in the most recent full year of the member's participation in the program for which the member has not already received retirement credit. Service credit awarded under this provision shall count as satisfactory years of service for Reserve retirement, but shall not count for longevity pay purposes.

Members who meet the criteria for award of service credit under this provision may be credited with appropriate retirement points for each complete year of service in the Selected Reserve that commenced on or after September 23, 1996. The dates that the member participated in the program have no effect on the award of this service credit, but no service