



# Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest (MAVNI)

## NAFSA Information Session

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# Program Overview

- Native born citizens
- Naturalized citizens
- Nationals
- Green Card Holders

## Traditional recruiting pool

- Non-immigrant legal aliens
- Refugees
- Asylees
- Temporary Protected Status

## MAVNI recruiting pool

- *NEW* – DACA per USD(P&R) memo 25 SEP 14 memo
  - Market expander
  - Highly motivated, highly propensed applicant pool
    - Highly qualified applicant pool
    - No advertising required



# What is MAVNI

A recruiting program, authorized under Title 10 § 504b(2), allows the enlistment of legal non-citizens including certain visa holders, asylees, refugees and those on Temporary Protected Status, if they are “Vital to the National Interest.”

OSD defined “vital to the national interest” as applicants

## 1. Proficient in strategic foreign languages

- Enlisted Members
- May serve in RA or USAR

## 2. Health Care Professionals (HCPs)

- Officers
- May serve in RA or USAR



# Eligibility Criteria

- Foreign language proficiency or a licensed healthcare professional in a critically short specialty
- 2+ years residence in US in a MAVNI eligible status
- Minimum of a high school diploma
- Test Score Category I-III A (50+ on AFQT)
- Meet enlistment requirements with no conduct waivers
- HCP Only: Score 2+/2+ in English proficiency test
- All MAVNI: Must receive favorable enhanced security background screenings



# Who are eligible?

- Applicants must be an Asylee, Refugee, Temporary Protective Status (TPS) or have been granted Deferred Action under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).
- Or Individuals must be in one of the following categories at the time of their enlistment:
  - non-immigrant categories E, F, H, I, J, K, L, M, O, P, Q, R, S, T, TC, TD, TN, U OR V
- They must be legally present in the U.S. for a minimum of 2 years **without a single** extended **absence of over 90 days**.
- No visitor visa status (B1/B2)



# Term of Service & Citizenship

- Language enlistees:
  - Must enlist for 4 years of active duty (+ 4 years in TPU or IRR) – OR –
  - 6 years in TPU (+2 years in IRR)
  - Not initially placed in MOS that requires security clearance
  - Apply for expedited U.S. citizenship during BCT
- HCPs:
  - Must enlist for 3 years of active duty (+5 years in TPU/IRR) or 6 years in the Selected Reserve (2 years in the IRR)
  - Upon completing 4 Multiple Unit Training Assemblies (MUTAs), their commander will sign the N-426
    - Once received, HCPs will provide N-400 (and all supporting documents) to USCIS who will then initiate the naturalization process

**Citizenship can be revoked if the enlistee fails to serve honorably for total of five years**



# FY15 MAVNI Languages

ALBANIAN	INDONESIAN	SOMALI
AMHARIC	JAPANESE	SWAHILI
ARABIC	KOREAN	TAGALOG
AZERBAIJANI	KURDISH	TAJIK
BALOCHI	LAO	TAMIL
BENGALI	MALAY	THAI
BURMESE	MALAYALAM	TURKISH
CEBUANO	MORO	TURKMEN
CAMBODIAN-KHMER	NEPALESE	UKRAINIAN
CHINESE	PASHTO	URDU <i>(with citizenship / birth certificate from Pakistan or Afghanistan)</i>
CZECH	PERSIAN DARI	UZBEK
FRENCH <i>(with citizenship from an African country)</i>	PERSIAN FARSI	YORUBA
GEORGIAN	POLISH	
HAITIAN CREOLE	PORTUGUESE	
HAUSA	PUNJABI	
HINDI	ROMANIAN	
HUNGARIAN	RUSSIAN	
IGBO	SINDHI	
	SERBO-CROATION	
	SINGHALESE	



# What Medical specialties are recruited?

- **Regular Army (Active Duty):** Oral Surgeons, Comprehensive Dentists, Preventive Medicine, Anesthesiologist, Pediatrician, Psychiatrist, Internal Medicine, Family Practice, General Surgery, Emergency Medicine, Nuclear Science Officers, Entomologist, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Anesthetist
- **Army Reserve:** General Dentist, Comprehensive Dentist, Prosthodontist, Oral Surgeon, Preventive Medicine, Urologist, Anesthesiologist, Ophthalmologist, Otolaryngologist (ENT), Psychiatry, Family Physician, General Surgeon, Thoracic Surgeon, Orthopedic Surgeon, Emergency Medicine, Entomologist, Clinical Psychologists, Physician Assistant, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners
- Medical Specialties list changes yearly to adjust to mission requirements





# PROCESS



# Enlistment Process: Language (1/3)

- Prepare all necessary documents. Necessary documents include copies of passport, visa, I-94s, I-20s (for F-1 students), degree diploma, driver's license, original birth certificate, and all original official transcripts. If there is any history of previous surgery, the surgery record will also be necessary.
- Bring all prepared documents to the recruiter and take the pre-ASVAB test at the recruiting station. If the pre-ASVAB test result is higher than 50, the process continues.
- Recruiter will submit the **G-845** to USCIS for verification of enlistment eligibility



# Enlistment Process: Language (2/3)

- Once the result of G-845 is returned, *IF NECESSARY*, apply for SSN (with recruiter's assistance)
- With SSN is in hand; your Recruiter will schedule the **ASVAB test (AFQT 50 or higher)** and the **OPI test (score 2/2 or higher)** at MEPS
- Take the **Physical Exam** at MEPS (all pre-processing is now complete)
- At the meeting with the Guidance Counselor at MEPS, choose the job (MOS) and sign the contract, take an oath



# Enlistment Process: Language (3/3)

- Report to Basic Combat Training (BCT) at the specified shipping date
- While in BCT, USCIS representatives should contact you to process your citizenship application (**USCIS form N-400**). Bring a completed citizenship packet with you to BCT for processing. The goal is to naturalize all non-citizen by graduation from BCT
- After graduation from BCT, report to Advanced Individual Training (AIT). If you were not granted citizenship by graduation from BCT contact USCIS when you reach AIT
- Once you graduate from AIT, you will receive permanent change of station (PCS) orders and report to your first duty station



# Questions, Answers, and Quick Facts



# Basic Training & Afterwards

- All MAVNIs must spend a minimum of 180 days in the Delayed Entry Pool (DEP) to allow for the background investigative process to be complete
- A MAVNI's date for shipping to training is a combination of the MOS that the MAVNI applicant chooses and the minimum time they must spend in the DEP (180 days)
- Basic Training is 10 weeks long.
- Upon completion on Basic Training, the Soldier will head to their Advanced Individual Training (AIT) - which is anywhere from 8 to 16 additional weeks
- Time spent in BCT counts towards completion of the Soldier's term of service (Unless they signed a Variable Enlistment Contract (VEL) which is the length of the contract plus basic training)



# Citizenship Application Process

Q1: What is the earliest date a MAVNI recruit can file an N-400 application for naturalization with USCIS?

**A1: Upon arrival at BCT, a MAVNI can submit their N-400**

**A1a: HCPs will receive their N-426 after completing 4 MUTAs – which they will then submit, along with N-400, to USCIS.**

Q2: How long does it normally take for USCIS to approve an N-400 for a MAVNI recruit?

**A2: USCIS strives to have all MAVNI applicant's naturalized prior to the end of their Basic Training (within 10 weeks)**

Q3: When is the oath of citizenship typically administered?

**A3: The Oath of Citizenship is typically administered before the completion of basic training. In rare instances where either USCIS or the MAVNI applicant are unable to complete all the procedural steps required to naturalize, then the individual will naturalize at their AIT location --- the Soldier will naturalize before they reach their first unit of assignment**



# Additional Questions

Q4: How does DOD request SSA verification of a Social Security Number?

**A4: US MEPCOM will verify with SSA when we project someone for enlistment via the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program**

Q5: What if a MAVNI applicant does not have a Social Security Number?

**A5: A letter of intent is signed by both the MAVNI Applicant and the Recruiting Battalion Commander. A partnership has been established with Targeted SSA Offices that will accept the letter of intent in order to apply for a Social Security Card.**

Q6: How does DOD request DHS verification of a nonimmigrant's immigration status, which the nonimmigrant does not have an Alien Registration Number? Through a G-485?

**A6: The recruiter completes a G-845 with supporting documentation depending on Visa type(I-797, I20 etc) that prove valid legal status for the preceding two years. The exception to the Two year rule is those in DACA status, in which the EAD Card would be used as supporting Documentation.**





# Additional Questions

Q7: How long does the immigration status check typically take?

**A7: 2 to 4 weeks**

Q8: What if the status check is negative or non-conclusive?

**A8: If the status check comes back negative, the applicant is usually not allowed to enlist. If it comes back as non-conclusive, the Army has means with which to work with USCIS**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- The program does NOT accept overstayed or undocumented aliens, except for DACA eligible persons.
- Applicant MUST be present within the U.S. at the time of application.
- It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to keep your legal status until being shipped to your BCT.
- This program will run, unless extended, through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- You can apply for Officer Candidate School (OCS) once you are enlisted