

Introducing the New ConAP Form

April 12, 2001

The ConAP form has undergone its first revision since the program began in 1989. The new form, entitled **College Referral and Intent to Enroll**, dated March 2001, will arrive at recruiting battalions by mid April. Initial distribution of the forms is as follows:

- Each Recruiting Battalion: 3,500 forms
- Recruiting and Retention School: 3,500 forms
- ConAP colleges: 1 form
- Army Education Centers: 7 forms
- USAREC and each Brigade Headquarters: 20 forms
- SOC: 18,870 forms

It is important to understand the reasons for the change and the advantages of the new form.

Question. Why are we changing forms?

Answer. When ConAP began in 1989, we designed a form that new soldiers could use to apply for admission to college concurrent with their enlistment. If they met the college's admission standards, the college would award full or provisional admission and defer enrollment in class for up to two years after the enlistment. In 1989 we lived in a paper-work world, before the Internet and e-mail. Now, times are changing. Colleges want less paperwork in an electronic age, many limit the life span of their applications for admission to one or two years, many no longer offer provisional admission, and most want to stay in touch with their ConAP soldiers by e-mail. We found ourselves increasingly at odds with policies and procedures at ConAP colleges.

Question. What is different about the new form? Answer:

- The new form contains most of the same background information about the soldier with a few exceptions. It no longer includes high school information but adds the soldier's date of birth, e-mail address, MOS code and MOS name. Soldiers no longer apply for admission but only state their intent to enroll during or after the enlistment. By signing the form, colleges acknowledge the soldier's intent to enroll and provide the following guidelines:

- Plan for College. Student's intent to enroll is acknowledged. • Student to make formal application for admission not more than one year before expected date to enter college. Application fee is due at that time. • Student is subject to the college's admission and degree standards, as published in the catalog, at the time of enrollment in class.

- Begin College. See the college Web site for information about the campus, applying for admission, academic programs, costs and more. To begin the college academic experience, student is advised to take courses in mathematics, reading comprehension, and oral and written communications. • Discuss plans for college with a counselor at your Army Education Center. Show the counselor this form.

- Distance Learning. Student may enroll during enlistment if college offers Web-based courses. See College Web site.

- Be Proactive-Stay in Touch by E-mail and College Web site. Contact the ConAP point-of-contact for further information and stay in touch with the college.

Question. What are the advantages of the new form? Answer:

- Soldiers no longer request admission at the time of enlistment. Instead, ConAP colleges advise soldiers to apply for admission not more than one year before the expected date to enter college. This reduces paperwork by eliminating the front-end requirement for an application for admission, application fee and high-school transcript. ConAP soldiers now follow the normal application cycle.
- Soldiers may apply for admission during the enlistment if the college offers distance learning.
- E-mail addresses. Soldiers have the e-mail address of the ConAP point-of-contact. Colleges have the e-mail address of soldiers at the time they enlist. Soldiers also have the college Web address. Staying in touch will help bond soldiers to the college.
- Soldiers still make a plan to attend college and use their education benefits.
- MOS Code and MOS Name. Including this information on the form makes it easier for recruiters to refer ConAP soldiers to colleges that have degree programs similar to the MOS.

Question. What are the disadvantages of the new form?

Answer. Colleges no longer award admission to ConAP soldiers concurrent with their enlistment. Instead, ConAP soldiers are advised to apply for admission not more than one year before they expect to enroll. Recruiters must revise their sales presentation.

Question. What if colleges want to continue using the old form? Is this OK?

Answer. Yes. Colleges can continue using the old form but recruiters should encourage use of the new form.

Question. Is the new form routed the same way as the old form?

Answer. Yes. The enlistee and recruiter fill out the form, and send it to the college point-of-contact. The point-of-contact completes the bottom of the form, keeps the College Copy, and sends the rest back to the recruiter. The recruiter presents the Student Copy to the enlistee, the High School Copy to a high-school counselor if the enlistee is still in high school, and sends the Recruiting Battalion Copy to the Battalion Education Services Specialist. The recruiter advises ConAP soldiers to keep their copy of the ConAP form and show it to an Army Education Center counselor after arriving at their permanent duty station.

Question. Will the USAREC point system remain the same for ConAP?

Answer. Yes. To receive points, a college representative must complete the bottom portion of the form.

Question. How can recruiters, soldiers and college points-of-contact comment on the new form?

Answer. Comments are encouraged and welcomed. Please send by mail, phone or E-mail to:

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