



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND
1600 SPEARHEAD DIVISION AVENUE DEPARTMENT 472
FORT KNOX, KY 40122-5407

AHRC-PDV-PE (RN 600-8-19h)

20 March 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR United States Army, Promotion Work Centers

SUBJECT: HQDA Promotion Point Cutoff Scores (COS) for 01 April 2026 and Semi-Centralized Reminders and General Information for the Active Army

1. Reference:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 600-8-19, Enlisted Promotions and Demotions, dated 06 March 2026, effective 06 April 2026, Click [HERE](#).
- b. Integrated Personnel and Pay System - Army (IPPS-A), User Manual – Version 18, dated: 06 March 2026, Chapter 18, Click [HERE](#).

2. Work Analysis and Integration.

- a. **Purpose:** To reinforce current procedures concerning the above subject.
- b. **Function:** Enlisted Promotions and Demotions.
- c. **Task:** Process monthly Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) promotion point COS and enlisted promotion information.

3. Board Requirements:

- a. Eligible Soldiers who meet the following criteria may appear before a promotion board between 10 February 2026 through 26 February 2026 as follows:
 - b. To Staff Sergeant (SSG) must graduate Basic Leader Course (BLC) prior to board appearance.
 - c. To SSG **primary** zone: Sergeant (SGT) with minimum 70 months time in service (TIS) and 16 months time in grade (TIG).
 - d. To SSG **secondary** zone: SGT with minimum 46 months TIS and 6 months TIG.
 - e. To SGT there is no Professional Military Education (PME) requirement for board appearance.

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f. To SGT **primary** zone: Corporal (CPL) / Specialist (SPC) with minimum 34 months TIS and 10 months TIG.

g. To SGT **secondary** zone: CPL/SPC with minimum 16 months TIS and 4 months TIG.

h. Soldiers must meet all eligibility criteria in accordance with (IAW) [Reference 1A](#), Table 3-1.

4. Pin-On Requirements:

a. To SSG must graduate BLC before they are eligible for promotion pin-on.

b. To SSG **primary** zone: SGT with minimum 72 months TIS and 18 months TIG.

c. To SSG **secondary** zone: SGT with minimum 48 months TIS and 8 months TIG.

d. To SSG **MLI**: SGT with minimum 84 months TIS and 24 months TIG.

e. To SGT there is no PME required for promotion pin-on to SGT.

f. To SGT **primary** zone: CPL/SPC with minimum 36 months TIS and 12 months TIG.

g. To SGT **secondary** zone: CPL/SPC with minimum 18 months TIS and 6 months TIG.

h. Soldiers must meet all eligibility criteria IAW [Reference 1A](#), Paragraph 5-5.

i. Soldiers (*including Soldiers currently in the rank of SGT under the provisions of Mandatory List Integration (MLI)*) who are otherwise eligible, held recommended list status and have all supporting data entered into the systems of record as of 26 February 2026 who meet or exceed the cutoff score as they appear beginning on page 7, may be promoted effective 01 April 2026. These Soldiers will appear on the corresponding HQDA By-Name List (BNL) for SGT / SSG published this same date.

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5. **SPC Waiver Information:** The Directorate of Military Personnel Management (DMPM), Army G1 has announced the variable SPC waiver ceiling percentage is 25%, IAW [Reference 1A](#), Paragraph 2-3, a, (3).

BY THE ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:



OSCAR E. CASTANEDA
SGM, USA
Chief, Enlisted Promotions
Promotions Branch

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REMINDERS / GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. **NEW AR 600-8-19**, Enlisted Promotions and Demotions, dated 06 March 2026, effective 06 April 2026. Click [HERE](#) to access via US Army Publishing Directorate, or click [HERE](#) for the S1 Net SharePoint link.

Significant changes are cited below:

- Establishes policy for the lateral appointment of SPC to CPL (para 1–42a).
- Establishes policy for Soldiers in a recruiting capacity who achieve 24 accessions within a 12-month period to receive a merit promotion (para 1–43b(3)).
- Removes promotion authority to waive secondary zone eligibility requirements (formerly para 3–6b).
- Modifies policy for award of promotion points to MOS 31D (Special Agent) pertaining to weapons qualification (para 3–15a(8)).
- Updates badge policy to include the award of promotion points for award of the Technician Badge (para 3–16b).
- Updates Badges Table with Mariner Badge, Mountaineering Badge, and Technician Badge (Basic, Senior, Master) (table 3-6).
- Updates Airborne Advantage criteria (table 3-7).
- Modifies policy for award of promotion points pertaining to completion of BLC and ALC for Soldiers on promotion recommended roster (para 3–17a).
- Modifies policy in the Defense Language Proficiency Test proficiency ratings in the awarding of promotion points (para 3–18f).

2. **Soldier Referral Program (SRP) Extension** – The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) extended the SRP for 12 months effective 17 March 2026. A forthcoming MILPER message will offer further clarification.

3. **Promotion Cycle** - IAW [Reference 1A](#), paragraph 3-3, f, promotion points are effective on the 1st calendar day of the following month (for example, a Soldier approved for integration by **26 February 2026**, will compete for promotion against the **1 April 2026** COS). Data changes resulting in a revised promotion point total that are made after the 26th calendar day of the month will impact promotion scores for the follow-on month (for example, a data entry (e.g. weapon score, AFT score) recorded on **3 March 2026** will impact the Soldier's promotion points for use with the **1 May 2026** COS). Army-level promotion decisions (COS and BNL selections) are made based on known requirements and inventory data as of 0200 hours eastern standard time on the 2d calendar day of the month. The Army creates MOS-level Order of Merit List, rank-ordering all Soldiers integrated, from highest promotion score to the lowest, to support Army-level promotion decisions - ([Reference 1A](#), figure 3-1). Click [HERE](#) for job aid.

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4. **Roster Audit History (RAH)** – HR Professionals can access RAH within IPPS-A. The RAH provides a detailed, date-by-date breakdown of a Soldier's promotion points. Each date entry further divides the points by category, such as AFT, weapons, awards, and more. This tool enables an accurate response to Soldier inquiries. HRC Junior Enlisted Promotions (JEP) has published a job aid on both the HRC and SharePoint websites. Click [HERE](#) for the HRC link and [HERE](#) for the SharePoint link.

5. **Promotion Board Timelines** - IAW [Reference 1A](#), paragraph 3-9, a, promotion boards are to be conducted between the 10th and 26th calendar day of the board month. Promotion boards held outside the dates listed above will be considered invalid. HRC JEP will HQDA FLAG all Soldiers appearing before that promotion board.

6. **Invalid Promotion Boards** - Promotion boards conducted with a First Sergeant or Master Sergeant (E8 or below) as the board president are invalid. HRC JEP will initiate a HQDA FLAG for each Soldier that appeared before the promotion board, preventing selection for promotion pin-on. The unit will be contacted for submission of an exception to policy; if applicable - [Reference 1A](#), paragraph 3-10, a, and b.

7. **HRC JEP Enlisted Promotion G1/S1 Training Brief** - as of 27 October 2025. This brief provides detailed guidance on a variety of subjects. Click [HERE](#) for the HRC link and [HERE](#) for the SharePoint link.

8. **HRC JEP – Job Aids / Information Papers** - In order to offer the field clear guidance regarding emerging trends and appropriate corrective measures, HRC JEP has issued multiple job aids and information papers - Click [HERE](#).

9. **ARC / ASC Difference Within IPPS-A** - HR Professionals should note that the term used for a backdated promotion request is now called an "Administrative Systems Correction" (ASC). This often causes unit to submit the incorrect Personnel Action Request (PAR) within IPPS-A. Submitting Administrative Records Corrections (ARC) with the intent of requesting a backdated promotion is **not** the correct path. ARC requests are not pay-impacting and do not publish a promotion order. Backdated promotion requests are processed as ASC actions. Policy on ASC request can be found in [Reference 1A](#), paragraph 3-23.

For guidance on processing **ASC** requests (promotion PAR Code EXP), click [HERE](#) for the HRC link and [HERE](#) for the SharePoint link.

For more guidance on the difference between **ARC** and **ASC**, refer to information paper: HRC – click [HERE](#); S1 Net SharePoint – click [HERE](#).

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10. Integrations No Later Than 26th Day Of The Month – After receipt of the monthly promotion board proceedings ([Reference 1A](#), figure 3-2 and 3-3), the HR Professional should execute all integrations no later than the 26th day of the month. To ensure such integrations have actually executed within IPPS-A, HR Professionals should conduct the follow up task to validate Soldier's record now reflects as "Promote Select" via the IPPS-A path:

Navigation Bar: Menu
Workforce Administration >
Boards >
Reports >
CO CDR/Promotion Auth Approval

Reference 1B

Paragraph 18-36
Table 18-4, Step 4, 5, 6, and 7
Table 18-7

Plan accordingly when integrating Soldiers, as IPPS-A operates on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), which is not the same as Eastern, Central, or Pacific Standard Time.

11. Army Directive 2025-06 - Army Fitness Test (AFT), dated 17 April 2025 - Detailed guidance can be found within MILPER Message [25-201](#), Timeline for Semi-Centralized Promotion Cycle to Support the AFT Implementation, dated 22 May 2025.

12. MILPER Messages – HR Professionals and Soldiers should review:

[25-201](#), Timeline for Semi-Centralized Promotion Cycle to Support the Army Fitness Test Implementation

[26-031](#), Special MOS Alignment Promotion Program (SMAPP) – within Regular Army Precision Retention – 27 January 2026

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PROMOTION QUALIFICATION COS FOR PROMOTION IN APRIL 2026

MOS	CUT-OFF SCORES		ELIGIBLES ON LIST		PROMOTIONS (ESTIMATE)	
	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG
11B	256	457	1031	1188	318	145
11C	452	552	358	207	24	20
12B	24	394	64	385	64	34
12C	24	564	7	75	7	3
12D	24	24	0	1	0	1
12H	N/A	266	N/A	25	N/A	6
12K	24	N/A	3	N/A	3	N/A
12M	199	24	3	0	3	0
12N	407	529	180	264	27	20
12P	24	688	0	72	0	1
12R	798	N/A	6	N/A	0	N/A
12T	24	24	2	2	2	2
12W	240	N/A	16	N/A	4	N/A
12Y	24	264	4	16	4	6
13B	24	328	40	148	40	24
13F	24	406	34	223	34	41
13J	204	182	94	47	37	27
13M	24	166	15	17	15	14
13R	309	533	28	9	3	2
14E	798	438	56	63	0	4
14G	798	687	209	115	0	1
14H	798	798	63	90	0	0
14P	423	568	109	133	7	2
14T	473	501	240	198	8	7
15B	697	798	106	42	1	0
15C	537	573	151	56	14	7
15D	798	798	131	62	0	1
15E	798	798	49	35	0	0
15F	798	798	58	24	0	0
15G	715	798	74	52	1	0
15H	798	798	22	18	0	0
15M	433	623	30	30	4	3
15N	499	798	30	60	2	0
15P	448	685	102	125	3	2
15Q	52	92	8	7	7	6
15R	798	798	499	300	0	1
15T	499	559	517	453	11	7
15U	384	619	175	178	24	8
15W	24	798	1	60	1	0

Note 1: COS of 24 signifies not enough eligible soldiers.

Note 2: COS of 798 signifies no promotions needed.

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	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG
15Y	798	798	125	135	0	0
17C	798	24	65	8	0	8
17E	247	798	20	42	7	0
19C	798	798	218	208	0	0
19D	24	24	45	9	45	9
19K	24	265	61	114	61	18
25B	614	719	912	689	31	17
25D	N/A	24	N/A	0	N/A	0
25E	N/A	798	N/A	0	N/A	0
25H	521	630	652	605	40	22
25S	178	660	39	206	18	15
25U	509	703	767	717	75	45
27D	380	604	107	137	10	12
31B	408	569	400	467	30	6
31D	24	24	0	1	0	1
31E	234	595	21	125	5	2
31K	531	607	58	35	4	1
35F	560	563	617	368	48	34
35G	533	605	135	133	10	10
35L	24	798	5	9	5	0
35M	798	620	207	107	0	5
35N	402	447	161	169	11	5
35PAD			SEE	35PAZ		
35PAE			SEE	35PAZ		
35PAP			SEE	35PAZ		
35PAV			SEE	35PAZ		
35PAZ	24	798	4	4	4	0
35PCM	24	24	5	2	5	2
35PDG			SEE	35PAZ		
35PFR	617	798	15	3	1	0
35PKP	798	798	1	41	0	0
35PPF	798	444	15	17	0	4
35PPG			SEE	35PPF		
35PPV			SEE	35PPF		

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	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG
35PQB	798	798	25	35	0	0
35PQI			SEE 35PAZ			
35PQL			SEE 35PAZ			
35PRU	24	798	3	21	3	0
35S	24	513	9	61	9	1
35T	375	502	69	62	7	4
36B	672	708	194	94	6	6
37F	N/A	24	N/A	5	N/A	5
42A	582	618	859	887	36	19
42R	798	798	88	145	0	1
42T	N/A	24	N/A	0	N/A	0
46S	798	798	22	75	0	0
46T	506	658	24	23	3	3
46V	631	798	62	83	1	1
51C	N/A	24	N/A	0	N/A	0
56M	444	720	88	166	7	4
68A	468	521	65	59	13	9
68B	798	798	24	12	0	0
68C	368	562	69	197	13	6
68D	540	556	92	73	10	6
68E	642	784	169	112	12	5
68F	24	590	2	49	2	1
68G	599	798	47	56	1	0
68H	24	798	0	3	0	0
68J	471	562	73	73	4	2
68K	614	798	122	148	4	0
68L	24	798	0	26	0	0
68M	340	798	25	27	5	0
68P	605	598	101	72	3	1
68Q	630	651	69	58	2	1
68R	798	786	103	124	0	3
68S	24	798	3	47	3	0
68T	651	627	70	71	1	1
68V	24	631	0	93	0	2

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	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG
68X	468	578	90	103	6	3
68Y	24	798	0	8	0	0
74D	283	478	187	405	38	32
79S	N/A	798	N/A	0	N/A	0
88H	514	798	122	163	9	0
88K	24	798	2	1	2	0
88L	24	798	2	6	2	0
88M	247	637	272	1265	73	41
88N	537	700	118	201	2	4
89A	106	N/A	3	N/A	3	N/A
89B	516	456	179	127	6	7
89D	24	310	5	50	5	19
91A	24	798	9	108	9	0
91B	431	599	1130	1463	94	42
91C	462	798	134	251	8	1
91D	499	602	238	248	13	7
91E	412	726	69	134	7	4
91F	798	788	133	190	0	1
91H	24	476	3	99	3	2
91J	571	N/A	70	N/A	1	N/A
91L	246	465	10	51	2	3
91M	24	798	11	107	11	0
91P	24	384	0	13	0	2
91S	24	533	15	96	15	4
92A	474	775	729	1078	59	19
92F	502	786	558	846	36	10
92G	419	798	66	382	3	0
92L	572	N/A	30	N/A	2	N/A
92M	24	798	0	6	0	0
92R	406	663	53	124	5	3
92W	456	702	97	125	14	4
92Y	495	653	946	1344	66	27
94A	263	387	1	5	1	1
94D	208	24	2	0	1	0

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MOS	CUT-OFF SCORES		ELIGIBLES ON LIST		PROMOTIONS (ESTIMATE)	
	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG	SGT	SSG
94D	208	24	2	0	1	0
94E	487	523	57	37	5	4
94F	798	798	94	35	0	0
94H	24	798	0	6	0	0
94M	526	537	35	22	3	2
94P	146	405	3	9	1	1
94R	798	798	19	11	0	0
94S	24	798	3	9	3	0
94T	610	500	28	10	2	1
94Y	798	798	2	3	0	0
TOTALS			18003	22553	1843	980

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The STAR MOS listing is a management tool. These are MOSs in which more Soldiers may have been promoted on 01 April 2026 if more had been reflected in IPPS-A with an eligible date and promotion point score. Soldiers possessing an MOS listed as a STAR MOS are still required to meet or exceed an announced HQDA cutoff score.

SGT

12B, 12C, 12D, 12K, 12P, 12T, 12Y, 13B, 13F, 13M, 15W, 19D, 19K, 31D, 35L, 35S, 68F, 68H, 68L, 68S, 68V, 68Y, 88K, 88L, 89D, 91A, 91H, 91M, 91P, 91S, 92M, 94H, 94S.

SSG

12D, 12M, 12T, 17C, 19D, 25D, 31D, 37F, 42T, 51C, 94D.

NOTE: IAW [AR 350-1](#), Paragraph 3-35, b, (2), (a), dated 01 June 2025, Soldiers holding a STAR MOS should be given a high priority for BLC attendance due to increased promotion potential.

The Star Languages for the language dependent MOS 35P
MOS 35P and Language (by LIC)

SSG: CM

SGT: AZ, CM, RU

NOTE: IAW [AR 350-1](#), Paragraph 3-35, b, (2), (a), dated 01 June 2025, Soldiers holding a STAR MOS or 35P STAR Language should be given a high priority for BLC attendance due to increased promotion potential.