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Department of the Air Force

Innovate, Accelerate, Thrive - The Air Force at 75

Medical Factors impacting entry into the military



AF/AFMRA

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DACOWITS RFI #2

- In March 2022, the U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command (USMEPCOM) launched the Military Health System (MHS) GENESIS across the nation. MHS GENESIS highlights potential medical factors for disqualification. MHS GENESIS was developed to increase efficiencies; however, the Committee was informed by recruiters in March 2023, that the adoption of the new platform has impacted the Services contracting production due lengthy processes. The Committee wants to determine whether there are ways to eliminate unnecessary barriers to military service, as well as remove or reduce extended timelines that cause the military to lose out on talent. In addition, the Committee understands the Defense Department is using medical data collected from MHS GENESIS to review whether 38 medical conditions that now disqualify individuals from military service should remain disqualifiers.
- The Committee requests a **briefing** from **the Military Services** on the following:
 - Military Services: Identify unique and the most frequent medical conditions leading to disqualification and waivers (specify both) being reviewed for females.
 - Military Services: Who has authority (e.g., statutory, policy, or regulatory) to authorize medical waivers?



Disqualifying Medical Conditions

- **Top diagnoses leading to disqualification or medical waiver include:**

- Astigmatism/keratoconus
- Asthma
- ADHD
- Atopic dermatitis
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Excessive refractive error
- Suicide attempt
- Food allergies
- Various musculoskeletal issues

- **No gender specificity to top 15 medical conditions for which requests for accession waivers are received**
 - No data supporting difference in rates of waiver or waiver requests between men and women
- **No gender differences in management of waivers for these conditions**



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Medical Waiver Authority

- **Medical waiver authority is delegated to Air Force Recruiting Service, Accessions Medical Waiver Office**
 - DAFMAN 48-123 outlines the AF/SG delegation of waiver authority to the above