

March, 2020

Army Team,

In response to COVID-19, we've made some important changes to enlisted promotion and retention policies to take care of our People and keep our Army ready. We are taking unprecedented and immediate action to keep the right people in the right rank when we need them most.

**Reenlistments** and Extensions for Regular Army

With approval from their immediate commander, a Soldier may request to reenlist or extend for a period of 3 to 23 months. Soldiers who extend for 12 months or more are also entitled to stabilization at their current duty station.

-Contact your career counselor for more information.

-Enlisted Promotions for Regular Army and Army Reserves

**Options for Local Promotion Boards:** BN Commanders have the option to authorize either virtual promotion boards, or may recognize recommendations for promotion based off the input of the chain of command and NCO support channel.

**APFT:** While the APFT will be maintained as a promotion eligibility requirement, the one year expiration for an APFT is suspended. Commanders are not to flag Soldiers during this suspension. Soldiers who were previously flagged, remain flagged until they successfully pass the APFT.

**Weapons Qualification:** The 2-year expiration of the weapons qualification is suspended. The Soldier's last weapons qualification is valid.

**ALC and SLC Requirements:** Effective promotion month May 2020, the promotion pin-on requirements for SSGs to complete ALC and SFCs to complete SLC is suspended.

- \* PME qualified NCOs will promote first
- \* NCOs promoted to SSG and SFC must be otherwise qualified
- \* NCOs must meet the PME requirement prior to PZ eligibility for next grade
- \* Ineligible for further promotion until PME requirement is met
- \* Subject to Bar to Continued Service if PME is not completed before PZ eligibility for next grade
- \* Deployment-based ETP process for SSG and SFC is suspended

**MLC and BLC Requirements:** For promotions to SGT and MSG, TRADOC is going to continue to train BLC and MLC via distance learning.

Contact your S1 for more information.

Lastly, I'm proud of everything YOU are doing to look out for your Squad and Kill the Virus!

People First! Army Strong!

-SMA