

IN THE CASE OF: ██████████

BOARD DATE: 14 August 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230002572

APPLICANT REQUESTS:

- Add Fellowship in Urologic Oncology to his official military record
- Receive correct pay as a fellowship-trained urologist

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENT(S) CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- The Society of Urologic Oncology (SUO) letter
- SUO Completion Certificate

FACTS:

1. The applicant states, in effect, he completed a fellowship in urologic oncology from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2022. Documentation of the fellowship was not placed in his official military records. The lack of documentation of fellowship training in his record results in incorrect characterization of his skillset. Failure to officially document fellowship training limits his ability to receive correct pay as a fellowship-trained urologist. Recent transitions from digital systems used for personnel records has limited the ability to upload documentation of the completed fellowship.

2. The applicant provides:

a. The Society of Urologic Oncology letter, dated 2 February 2023, authored by Ms. ██████ SUO Executive Director, confirms he had completed an SUO accredited fellowship at the University ██████ Medical Center from 1 July 2020 through 30 June 2022.

b. SUO Completion Certificate, dated June 2022, certifies he completed graduate training in the University ██████ Medical Center and affiliated hospitals Fellowship in Urologic Oncology. As of note, this certificate was also found in his military service file located in the Interact Personnel Electronic Records Management System (iPERMS).

3. A review of the applicant's service record shows:

a. He took the Oath of Office on 9 February 2007 as a Reserve Commissioned Officer, second lieutenant (2LT).

b. On 7 May 2019, the applicant submitted a memorandum to The Surgeon General of the Army, Subject: Request for Health Professions Officer (HPO) Retention Bonus (RB). Paragraph i states, "effective date of agreement for payment is 1 July 2019. The 4 years of continuous active duty obligation that I agree to serve with begin on 1 July 2021." There are no subsequent memoranda found in his service file.

c. As of the date of this writing, the applicant serves as a Urologist with B Company, Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.

4. Office of The Surgeon General advisory opinion, dated 16 November 2023, states the applicant did not include a specific request, but based upon the documents submitted, the assumption is there is a request for retroactive payment for the HPO BCP and HPO IP. A review of supporting documentation, policy, special pay, and finance data, The Officer is not eligible to receive any additional HPO BCP funds as the rate is the same. The payment eligible (HPO BCP) is **\$0.00**. Although there was a higher rate available following graduation from the prescribed fellowship program on 30 June 2022, the Officer was not eligible as the current agreement was still active until 30 June 2023. The Officer signed a new agreement effective 1 June 2023. The amount eligible for the HPO IP is **\$0.00**.

5. The applicant was notified of the advisory opinion provided by the Office of the Surgeon General. He was afforded the opportunity to submit comments on the advisory opinion; however, as of the date of this writing, none have been received.

6. Department of Defense (DoD) 7000.14-R (Financial Management Regulation), Volume 7A: "Military Pay Policy – Active Duty and Reserve Pay," Chapter 5: "Health Professions Officer (HPO) Special and Incentive Pay" establishes policy pertaining to Health Professions Special & Incentive (HPS&I) Pay. Each HPS&I pay is in addition to any other pay or allowance to which an HPO is eligible except as specified in sections 0503 through 0508.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that partial relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered.

a. Add Fellowship in Urologic Oncology to his official military record: Grant. The applicant is advised to use this Record of Proceedings and supporting documents to seek assistance through his Battalion/Brigade S-1 in updating his official records by providing supporting documents and making appropriate input through IPPS-A and IPERMS.

b. Receive correct pay as a fellowship-trained urologist: Deny. The Board reviewed and agreed with the OTSG advisory official's determination that the applicant is not eligible to receive any additional HPO BCP funds as the rate is the same. Although there was a higher rate available following graduation from the prescribed fellowship program on 20220630, the applicant was not eligible as the current agreement was still active until 20230630. The Officer signed a new agreement effective 20230701. The amount eligible for the HPO IP is \$0.00.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

: : : GRANT FULL RELIEF

■ ■ ■ GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF

: : : GRANT FORMAL HEARING

: : : DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for partial relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by adding the Fellowship in Urologic Oncology to his official military record and documenting the certification in his file.

2. The Board further determined the evidence presented is insufficient to warrant a portion of the requested relief. As a result, the Board recommends denial of so much of the application that pertains to any relief in excess of that described above.

8/14/2024

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CHAIRPERSON

I certify that herein is recorded the true and complete record of the proceedings of the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in this case.

REFERENCES:

Department of Defense (DoD) 7000.14-R (Financial Management Regulation), Volume 7A: "Military Pay Policy – Active Duty and Reserve Pay," Chapter 5: "Health Professions Officer (HPO) Special and Incentive Pay" establishes policy pertaining to Health Professions Special & Incentive (HPS&I) Pay. Each HPS&I pay is in addition to any other pay or allowance to which an HPO is eligible except as specified in sections 0503 through 0508. Table 5-4 Medical Corps IP and RB contains the most current rates, see the Medical Corps IP/RB table on DFAS.mil.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//