

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 10 June 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240001589

APPLICANT REQUESTS: reenrollment in the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Course (SMC)

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DA Form 2823 (Sworn Statement), 22 August 2023 – reflective of the applicant's response to questions asked during an AR 15-6 investigation concerning allegations of plagiarism in the SMC; he denies intentionally plagiarizing any assignments
- Command and General Staff College (CGSC) Bulletin Number 912 and attachments – reflective of the established policy for academic misconduct investigations and student dismissal procedures for CGSC
- Letter of Referral – reflective of the applicant being dismissed from the SMC due to academic misconduct; not eligible to re-enter the course due to this infraction
- CGSC Bulletin 920 – reflective of guidance for all CGSC and compliance measures when a possible ethics violation is discovered
- Memorandum – Subject: Intent to Dismiss from Sergeants Major Academy (SMA), 24 October 2023 – reflective of the applicant being advised that the results of the AR 15-6 determined that he engaged in academic misconduct; being considered for dismissal from the SMA; if dismissed - -precluded from reenrollment
- Memorandum – Subject: Dismissal from the SMA – reflective of the applicant being advised of his disenrollment from the SMC for engaging in academic misconduct; no opportunity for reenrollment
- DA Form 1059 (Service School Academic Evaluation Report), 31 July 2023, - reflective of the applicant being dismissed from the SMC for failing to achieve course standards; ineligible for reenrollment

FACTS:

1. The applicant states in part:

- He was dismissed from the SMC 13 months after being accused of academic misconduct (plagiarism)
- Initially counselled on 22 November 2022; advised to continue completing course work while the allegations were reviewed
- August 2023 – there was an appointment of an AR 15-6 Investigating Officer
- On 4 December 2023 – he was notified of his dismissal for academic misconduct
- Denies missing any assignments throughout the duration of his enrollment

2. A review of the applicant's service record reflects the following:

- On 27 April 1988 – he enlisted in the Army National Guard
- On 18 September 2019 (Orders Number 261-813) – he was promoted to the rank/grade of master sergeant (MSG/E-8), effective 26 September 2019
- On 1 August 2022 – he was enrolled in the SMC
- On 4 August 2022 (Orders Number 1964401) he was promoted to the rank/grade of sergeant major (SGM/E-9), effective 11 July 2022 (he must complete the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy as a condition of promotion)
- On 31 July 2023 – he was dismissed from the SMC for failing to achieve course standards; ineligible for reenrollment due to academic misconduct
- On 2 February 2024 (Orders Number 7161410) - he was reduced in rank to MSG, effective 8 December 2023
- On 5 May 2024 (Orders Number 8043011) he was voluntarily retired, effective 2 May 2024

3. On 16 January 2025, the National Guard Bureau, Chief, Special Actions Branch provided an advisory opinion recommending disapproval of the applicant's request noting that in accordance with Army Regulation 350-1 (Army Training and Leader Development) Paragraph 3-15f, "Soldiers disenrolled from the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA) for any reason other than compassionate or medical reasons will not be eligible to re-enter the course." CGSC Bulletin 912 provides that "Serious breaches of academic ethics may be cause for academic disqualification or other adverse action. Violations of this Bulletin will be processed in accordance with CGSC Bulletin No. 912. The following are prohibited: 6c(1) cheating; 6c(3) plagiarism."

4. On 16 January 2025, the applicant was provided with a copy of the advisory opinion and afforded 14 days to provide comments. He did not respond.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. The Board concurred with the National Guard Bureau's advisory official finding that serious breaches of academic ethics may be cause for academic disqualification or other adverse action. The Board concluded there was no error or injustice and therefore denied relief.

BOARD VOTE:

<u>Mbr 1</u>	<u>Mbr 2</u>	<u>Mbr 3</u>	
:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:XX	:XX	:XX	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. Therefore, the Board determined the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

X //signed//

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.

REFERENCE:

Army Regulation 350-1 (Army Training and Leader Development) Paragraph 3-15 (Student Dismissal and Disenrollment) provides that under certain conditions, students may be dismissed from courses before course completion. To protect students from unfair, illegal, or prejudicial practices, school commandants and commanders will publish policies and establish procedures to determine if students should be dismissed from training. Policy and procedures will ensure timely execution of review. Students may be considered for dismissal from courses for misconduct, lack of motivation, academic deficiency, will be recorded on the individual's DA Form 1059. Soldiers dismissed from the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy (SGM-A) for any reason other than compassionate or medical reasons will not be eligible to re-enter the course.

a. Paragraph 3-39 (Sergeants Major Course (SMC)) provides that successful completion of the SMC is a requirement for promotion to SGM and appointment to Command Sergeant Major. ARNG Soldiers selected for promotion to SGM who are not graduates of the SMC will be conditionally promoted upon confirmed reservation for SMC.

b. Paragraph 3-7 (Student Dismissal and Disenrollment) provides that ARNG Soldiers dismissed from SMC may not re-enter the course.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//