

**Milper Message Number  
15-045**

**Proponent  
ATSS-CD OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT USASMA AND AHRC-OPL-C**

**Title  
FISCAL YEAR 2015 SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

**...Issued: [12 Feb 15]...**

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1. THIS MESSAGE WILL EXPIRE ON 20 MARCH 2015.

2. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: THE SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY (USASMA) FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IS SPONSORED BY THE UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY (USASMA) AND IS AIMED AT SERGEANTS MAJOR WHO HAVE POTENTIAL AND A STRONG DESIRE TO BE AN EDUCATOR FOR OUR FUTURE SERGEANTS MAJOR. SELECTED CANDIDATES WILL PURSUE A MASTER'S DEGREE IN ADULT EDUCATION THROUGH PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY (PENN STATE). THE MASTER'S DEGREE IS A 33 SEMESTER HOUR ONLINE PROGRAM FOCUSING ON THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS REQUIRED TO DEVELOP PROFESSIONALS WHO WORK WITH ADULT LEARNERS: E.G., DISTANCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION; PROGRAM PLANNING, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION OF ADULT LEARNERS; COURSE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT.

3. SELECTION PROCESS: THE U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND (HRC), FORT KNOX, KENTUCKY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM SELECTION PANEL, WILL CONVENE 13 - 17 APRIL 2015 TO ESTABLISH AN ORDER-OF-MERIT LIST TO PRESENT TO THE COMMANDANT, USASMA FOR FINAL SELECTION OF FELLOWS. APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF FINAL RESULTS O/A 30 APRIL 2015. UPON SELECTION NOTIFICATION, FELLOWS WILL BE PROVIDED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON APPLYING TO PENN STATE UNIVERSITY. FELLOWS MUST BE ENROLLED IN CORE COURSES NLT 1 JULY 2015 FOR THE FALL 2015 SESSION (24 AUG - 11 DEC 15).

4. FUNDING: THERE IS NO COST TO SELECTED FELLOWS FOR THIS PROGRAM. ALL COSTS (APPLICATION FEE, TUITION, BOOKS) WILL BE BORNE BY HQDA G-3/5/7; SELECTEES' EDUCATION BENEFITS (I.E., GI-BILL, POST 9-11 EDUCATION BILL, ETC.) WILL NOT BE USED FOR PAYMENT IN THIS PROGRAM.

5. TENURE/LOCATION: ASSIGNMENT WILL BE TO THE USASMA UIC (W3QTB1), FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79918. PARTICIPANTS WILL BEGIN THE FELLOWSHIP WITH A PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION (PCS) TO USASMA AT FORT BLISS, TEXAS BY 10 AUGUST 2015. CLASSES BEGIN 24 AUGUST 2015 AND COMPLETE 10 AUGUST 2016.

6. OBLIGATIONS INCURRED: FOLLOWING THEIR FELLOWSHIP TENURE, FELLOWS WILL INCUR A THREE FOR ONE ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE REMAINING OBLIGATION IAW AR 350-100, PARA 2-8. FELLOWS WILL BE ASSIGNED TO A 36 MONTH UTILIZATION ASSIGNMENT TO THE USASMA UIC (W3QTA1) FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79918 AS SERGEANTS MAJOR COURSE INSTRUCTORS. STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FUNDED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM MAY BE REQUIRED TO REIMBURSE THE US GOVERNMENT THE COSTS IF THEY VOLUNTARILY OR INVOLUNTARILY FAIL TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED 36 MONTH SERVICE OBLIGATION.

7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

A. ACTIVE COMPONENT SERGEANT MAJOR.

B. SERVED AT THE 6 OR 7C OR 7S LEVEL. THIS REQUIREMENT IS WAIVERABLE TO 6S BY COMMANDANT USASMA BASED ON NEEDS OF THE ACADEMY OR STRUCTURE OF CERTAIN CMFS.

C. MUST HAVE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE GPA OF 3.0 OR HIGHER FROM AN ACCREDITED UNIVERSITY.

D. MUST BE ABLE TO COMPLETE FULL FELLOWSHIP AND UTILIZATION WITHOUT INTERRUPTION.

E. MUST HAVE MANDATORY RETIREMENT DATE (MRD) OF 30 JUNE 2020 OR LATER. COMMANDANT, USASMA MAY WAIVER, ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, FELLOWSHIP MINIMUM SERVICE TIME REMAINING REQUIREMENT AS LONG AS RCP/MRD ARE

NOT AFFECTED.

F. POSSESS INTERPERSONAL SKILLS AND ABILITY TO INTERACT AND FORM RELATIONSHIPS WITH INDIVIDUALS OF DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS.

G. NOT BE PENDING ANY ADVERSE ACTIONS.

H. MEET ARMY HEIGHT AND WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS.

I. MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF AR 614-200, ENLISTED ASSIGNMENTS AND UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT, PARA 6-9 AND 6-12.

J. COMPETING FOR COMMAND SELECT LIST (CSL) OR NOMINATIVE POSITIONS WILL BE AUTHORIZED AFTER SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM AND TWO YEARS AS AN INSTRUCTOR AT USASMA.

8. HOW TO APPLY:

A. NOT LATER THAN 20 MARCH 2015, EMAIL THE FOLLOWING TO [JOEL.D.STROUT.CIV@MAIL.MIL](mailto:JOEL.D.STROUT.CIV@MAIL.MIL) IN \*.PDF FORMAT. SUBJECT TITLE OF EMAIL "REQUEST TO COMPETE FOR THE USASMA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM":

(1) DA FORM 4187 (PERSONNEL ACTION) WITH THE INFORMATION BELOW:

BLOCK 1	TYPE THE ADDRESS OF THE APPROVER THAT WILL SIGN/ENDORSE YOUR DA FORM 4187 REQUESTING TO COMPETE.
BLOCK 2	TYPE IN AHRC, ATTN: MR. STROUT, 1600 SPEARHEAD DIVISION AVE, FORT KNOX, KY 40122.
BLOCK 3	YOUR MILITARY ADDRESS.
BLOCK 4	YOUR LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL.
BLOCK 5	YOUR CURRENT GRADE/RANK AND CAREER FIELD/MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SERIES.
BLOCK 6	YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.
BLOCK 7	LEAVE BLANK.
BLOCK 8	CHECK LINE TITLED "OTHER" AND TYPE IN USASMA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.
BLOCK 9	HAND SIGN OR ELECTRONICALLY SIGN THIS BLOCK WITH YOUR SIGNATURE.
BLOCK 10	TYPE IN THE DATE YOU ARE SIGNING YOUR DA FORM 4187 REQUESTING TO COMPETE.
SECTION IV REMARKS	(A) TYPE IN THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: I REQUEST PERMISSION TO COMPETE FOR THE FY2015 USASMA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.
	(B) MY BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GPA IS _____.
	(C) MY GRADUATE DEGREE GPA IS _____. (IF YOU DON'T HAVE A GRADUATE DEGREE TYPE IN NONE. DO NOT TYPE IN YOUR GPA IF YOU ARE STILL PURSUING YOUR GRADUATE DEGREE.)

	(D) I UNDERSTAND I WILL INCUR OBLIGATIONS AS OUTLINED IN THE MILPER MESSAGE ANNOUNCING THE PROGRAM I AM APPLYING FOR. I AUTHORIZE HRC TO RELEASE ALL DOCUMENTS TO ANYONE WHO MAY REQUIRE THEM IN CONNECTION WITH MY NOMINATION TO THE FY2015 USASMA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.
	(E) I UNDERSTAND I MAY BE REQUIRED TO REIMBURSE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT THE COSTS OF TRAINING IF I VOLUNTARILY OR INVOLUNTARILY FAIL TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED 36 MONTH SERVICE OBLIGATION.
	(F) I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM NOT ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE FOR THE CSL OR NOMINATIVE ASSIGNMENTS UNTIL AFTER SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM AND TWO YEARS AS AN INSTRUCTOR AT USASMA.
	(G) MY EMAIL ADDRESS IS: _____.
BLOCK 11	YOUR CHAIN OF COMMAND COLONEL OR HIGHER MUST RECOMMEND APPROVAL FOR YOU TO SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST TO COMPETE.
BLOCK 12	TYPE APPROVER'S SIGNATURE BLOCK.
BLOCK 13	APPROVER MUST HAND SIGN OR ELECTRONICALLY SIGN THIS BLOCK.
BLOCK 14	TYPE IN THE DATE THE APPROVER SIGNS THIS FORM.

(2) MOST CURRENT DA FORM 705 (ARMY PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST SCORE CARD) AND DA FORM 5500 (BODY FAT CONTENT), IF APPLICABLE. IF DATE OF TEST IS NOT WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS, PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY.

(3) STATEMENT OF PURPOSE ADDRESSED TO COMMANDANT, USASMA EXPLAINING REASON(S) WHY YOU ARE APPLYING FOR THIS PROGRAM. (TYPED IN MEMORANDUM FORMAT, IAW AR 25-50, NO LONGER THAN 500 WORDS.) PLACE YOUR NAME/GRADE ON STATEMENT. THE SUBJECT OF THIS MEMORANDUM WILL BE "WHY I SHOULD BE SELECTED AS USASMA FELLOW."

(4) LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION (LOR). MINIMUM OF TWO AND A MAXIMUM OF THREE. ONE LOR MUST BE FROM CURRENT COMMAND. (LOR CAN BE IN LETTER OR MEMORANDUM FORMAT. ADDRESS LOR TO THE COMMANDANT, USASMA. FORMAT MUST BE IAW AR 25-50.)

B. DOCUMENTS RECEIVED AFTER 20 MARCH 2015 WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED OR INCLUDED IN YOUR APPLICATION PACKET. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS NOT LISTED IN PARAGRAPH EIGHT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

C. CANDIDATES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THEIR OFFICIAL MILITARY PHOTO AND ENLISTED RECORD BRIEF (ERB) ARE CURRENT. CANDIDATES ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THEIR EVALUATIONS ARE UP TO DATE IN IPERMS. UPDATES MUST BE POSTED PRIOR TO SUBMITTING FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION.

D. CANDIDATES ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE TO ENSURE THEIR COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS ARE UPLOADED INTO THEIR IPERMS ACCOUNT AND THAT THEY ARE READABLE, PRIOR TO CONVENING OF THE HRC SELECTION PANEL.

9. CONCLUSION: THE PURPOSE OF FELLOWS (OFFICER OR NCO) IS TWO-FOLD. BOTH ARE AS EQUALLY IMPORTANT. FIRST, FELLOWS ARE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, EVEN AMBASSADORS FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF AND THE SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE ARMY. IN THIS ROLE, THEY PROVIDE THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY WITH A SENSE OF WHAT THE ARMY IS DOING AND HOW THEY SERVE AS PERSONAL ENVOYS FOR SENIOR LEADERS. SECONDLY, THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IS THE ARMY'S RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INSTRUCTIONS WHICH REQUIRE EACH SERVICE TO HAVE THESE OUTREACH PROGRAMS. THE OSD GUIDANCE RECOGNIZES THAT FELLOWSHIPS PROVIDE "UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES" FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WHICH IS NOT AVAILABLE WITHIN OUR OWN PME SYSTEMS AND THEREFORE, THE NCO PROGRAM AT PENN STATE WILL BRING A DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITY. FELLOWS ARE FUTURE ARMY SENIOR LEADERS AND MUST BE CAPABLE OF INTERACTION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND ACADEMIA. THE TITLE OF FELLOWS SAYS: I AM AN AMBASSADOR OF THE ARMY; I WAS SPECIFICALLY SELECTED FOR THIS PURPOSE, I HAVE THE PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CREDIBILITY TO BE HERE. THIRTEEN YEARS OF CONFLICT HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT THE FUTURE BATTLE SPACE WILL CONTINUE TO GROW IN COMPLEXITY AND BRING AMPLIFIED INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGES THEREFORE, AN EDUCATED FORCE OF LEADERS AND SENIOR LEADERS

IS REQUIRED. CSA WAYPOINT 2, ADAPTIVE ARMY LEADERS FOR A COMPLEX WORLD" OUTLINES THE GAPS WE ARE ADDRESSING...WE MUST BE "CULTIVATING STRATEGIC PERSPECTIVE AND LEADERSHIP FROM SENIOR NCOS"..."EDUCATE AND DEVELOP ALL SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS TO GROW THE INTELLECTUAL CAPACITY TO UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEX CONTEMPORARY SECURITY ENVIRONMENT". THE PENN STATE PROGRAM ALONG WITH THE OTHER STRATEGIC BROADENING SEMINARS IS BUT ONE STEP OF MANY TO BUILD A CADRE OF FUTURE SENIOR NCO'S THAT ARE CAPABLE OF PROVIDING SOUND STRATEGIC LEVEL ADVICE TO THEIR LEADERS.

10. PLEASE READ THIS MILPER COMPLETELY, PRIOR TO SUBMITTING YOUR QUESTIONS TO:

A. HRC POC: MR. JOEL D. STROUT; [JOEL.D.STROUT.CIV@MAIL.MIL](mailto:JOEL.D.STROUT.CIV@MAIL.MIL).

B. USASMA POC: MR. SYLVESTER SMITH; [SYLVESTER.L.SMITH.CIV@MAIL.MIL](mailto:SYLVESTER.L.SMITH.CIV@MAIL.MIL).

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