



The RMG CHRONICLE

HEADQUARTERS READINESS MANAGEMENT GROUP, ROBINS AFB, GEORGIA

The Ultimate Resource for Individual Mobilization Augmentees



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POLICY

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IMA program to grow by 400

By Capt. Kimberly Champagne
HQ RMG Public Affairs

With 400 new funded billets and recent attrition rates in Fiscal Year 2010, the Air Force Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentee Program is looking to hire 1,600 people by September.

"We're hiring and that is terrific news on several fronts," said Col. Nancy Zbyszinski, commander, Readiness Management Group, which oversees the Air Force's 8,700 Individual Mobilization Augmentees and 1,500 Participating Individual Ready Reservists. "The IMA program offers a unique opportunity to serve in Reserve status for those who are not located near a traditional Guard or Reserve unit, for anyone who cannot commit to one weekend every month, or for anyone who wants to participate in new Air Force missions."

The hiring initiative gives members of the PIRR the chance to come back to

the program and get paid for their annual duty. Guard or Reserve members who need more flexibility in location, duty dates, or types of missions, will find what they're looking for in the IMA program.

Reserve members can refer potential IMAs using the Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service's bold rewards program, "Get 1 Now," for Reservists who recruit people into the Air Force Reserve.

From iPods to flat-panel televisions, the prizes make a statement about how important "Get 1 Now" is in assisting the recruiting service in meeting their goals. Submit referrals any time at Get1Now.us. Awards are totaled between Oct. 1 and Sept. 30. For more information or a web password call 1 (877) 786-2372.

To learn more about IMA vacancies, see the Air Force Personnel Center vacancy listings via Air Force Portal. For more information on becoming an IMA, visit www.afreserve.com.



IDT forms to transition to Web Oct. 1

By Lt. Col. Gwyn Pooch
Managing Editor, RMG Chronicle

Military pay paperwork for Inactive Duty Training will transition to a paperless, Web-based program Oct. 1. Thereafter, Reserve pay offices will no longer process Air Force Forms 40a, *Record of Individual Inactive Duty Training*, for Individual Mobilization Augmentees and

Participating Individual Ready Reservists. For personnel who lack a personal computer, however, the manual process will still be available. The implementation date for Mobilization Assistants is still yet to be determined.

In order to receive pay and points for IDTs, Individual Reservists (IMAs and

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CCAF recognizes 350,000th degree recipient

By Staff Sgt. Eric Donner
Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. -- An Air Force reservist earned the distinction as the 350,000 graduate of the Community College of the Air Force on May 5.

Tech. Sgt. Brannen Parrish received an associate in applied science public affairs degree during the 2010 Senior Enlisted Leader Summit at the Senior NCO Academy, Gunter Annex.

Sergeant Parrish is an Air Force Reserve individual mobilization augmentee on active duty with Air University Public Affairs.

He earned a bachelor's degree in hospital administration from the University of Alabama in August 2006.

The 350,000th degree emphasizes

CCAF's mission of offering and awarding job-related associate in applied science degrees and other academic credentials.

This recognition enhances mission readiness, contributes to recruiting, assists in retention and supports the career transitions of Air Force enlisted members.

"In front of this distinguished audience, we had the opportunity to award a milestone Community College of the Air Force associates degree, the 350,000th diploma to a member of this spring's graduating class," said Lt. Col. Tim Albrecht, Community College of the Air Force commandant.

"The Air Force gives you every opportunity to continue your education with tuition assistance, the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post-9/11 Bill," said Sergeant Parrish.



U.S. Air Force photo/
Melanie Rodgers Cox

Tech. Sgt. Brannen Parrish, a public affairs specialist at Air University, receives the 350,000th CCAF degree at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., May 5.

"You need to take advantage of the opportunities."

NEWS BRIEFS

Mass RPO switch begins June 15

Lieutenant General Charles Stenner, commander, AFRC, has authorized a one-year Consolidated Reserve Pay Office test at the Headquarters Readiness Management Group.

Phase I of the Consolidated RPO test began Feb. 15 and affects Mobilization Assistants, Individual Mobilization Augmentees and Participating Inactive Ready Reservists. Phase II began May 15 with the transition of the Peterson AFB and Shriever AFB RPO to RMG/RPO. Phase III will begin June 21 with the transition of the Wright-Patterson AFB RPO to RMG/RPO. This test is the result of a command-wide requirement to assess and improve operating processes.

During this test, military pay services will transition from the Wright-Patterson AFB RPO to the RMG RPO located at Robins AFB, Ga.

Mobilization Assistants, IMAs and PIRRs affected by this transition must elect RMG as their new RPO by logging in to Air Force Reserve Orders Writing System,

known as AROWS-R, and selecting RMG RPO.

To accommodate customers transitioning during this period, the RMG RPO's Customer Support hours are extended from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST.

For more information, contact Calvin Shelby, chief of RMG/RPO, at (478) 327-2385 or e-mail rmg/rpo@afrc.af.mil.

Board to select members for courses

The Air Force Reserve School Selection Board will convene at Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center in July to select Reserve officers to attend developmental education, officer professional development and joint courses. Chief and senior master sergeants may apply for the Reserve Component National Security Course. The courses vary in duration, with classes starting in October and ending in April. Instructions, criteria and deadlines for submissions are available on the ARPC Web site at <http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=14362>.



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PIRRs) and their active duty supervisors will use the Unit Training Assembly Participation System, known as UTAPSWeb. The IRs will also use this system to build their required individual duty calendars for Fiscal Year 2011.

Now available, the new system is designed to streamline the processes of paying members and posting retirement points to their records by automatically feeding information to the Military Personnel Data System. Information will be more accurate and available faster. Supervisors will have improved visibility and accountability, and will be able to approve schedules, certify duty and forward to pay online. UTAPSWeb will also reduce the environmental burden of annually printing thousands of paper forms.

"Use of UTAPSWeb rolls out just in time for members to use it to build their required IDT schedule that is due in August," said Col. Nancy Zbyszinski, commander, Readiness Management Group. "We want to increase quality of life

for our members. This program will help us pay them faster, and post their points faster with fewer errors. Plus, it still provides flexibility to perform IDTs on short notice."

Members who need reimbursement for travel and lodging will be able to print out Forms 40a from UTAPSWeb to file with their standard Form 1164, *Claim for Reimbursement for Expenditures on Official Business*.

"Although the UTAPs will trigger the military pay disbursement, it will not automatically generate travel pay disbursements," said Lt. Col. Cassandra Puryear, chief, IMA Travel. "Members need to print the digitally signed 40a from UTAPs for travel and lodging reimbursement."

The UTAPSWeb will also prevent loss of funds to pay IRs. Fraudulent filling of Forms 40a is one way funds are lost. Another is when members fail to file pay or points paperwork for their service.

"We have members who serve out of a love for their country and the Air Force mission, but for some reason they do not file IDT documentation with their Reserve

pay office," said Ms. Linda Dixon, RMG Comptroller. "While their sacrifice is commendable, it causes financial and accounting discrepancies. If we do not execute the funds, we could possibly lose them for next year. Also, by law, we are required to compensate members for performing duty either by pay or points or both."

Like Air Force Reserve Orders Writing System (AROWS-R), UTAPSWeb is accessible from home or Air Force computers. Users accessing through the .mil environment (including Virtual Private Network) will use their common access card.

Users accessing from the .com environment will access UTAPSWeb through an AROWS-R interface.

The UTAPSWeb tutorial checklist can be searched through the Air Force Portal or Air Force Knowledge Now Web sites, or by visiting the RMG Community of Practice, searchable under "Readiness Management Group COP."

"The UTAPSWeb brings us into the 21st century by allowing us to file Forms 40a in an automated fashion," said Colonel Zbyszinski. "We've been stuck in the '80s, filing by fax, so UTAPSWeb is the next logical step in the evolution of the Air Force Financial Services. We are taking a very structured approach to our transformation to ensure a smooth transition and minimal customer service degradation."

For specific questions about the UTAPSWeb program, contact the help desk at (478) 327-2311, or by DSN at 497. For more information on the transition to UTAPSWeb, contact your local base IMA administrator or PM staff.