MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Exception to Policy to Maintain Annual Language Proficiency and Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus for Soldiers and Civilians Worldwide Affected by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

1. References:
   
   b. Memorandum, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2, DAMI-PIO, 02 April 2020, subject: 12 Month Exception to Policy to Maintain Annual Language Proficiency and Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus for Active Army and Army National Guard Soldiers in CMF 18, 37, 38, Worldwide Affected by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).
   
   c. Memorandum, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2, DAMI-PIO, 13 November 2019, subject: Department of the Army Strategic Language List for General Purpose Forces.
   
   d. Army Regulation 11-6, Army Foreign Language Program, 18 February 2016.

2. HQDA, ODCS, G-2 Foreign Language Team authorizes an extension for Soldiers (all Components) and civilians currently serving in a language-capable or language-dependent Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) in accordance with (IAW) Army Regulation (AR) 11-6, Chapter 4-4, a thru c; Soldiers and civilians currently drawing Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus (FLPB) because they occupy a language coded billet; and Soldiers and civilians who test annually in a language on the Army’s FY 20 General Purpose Forces Army Strategic Language List (ASLL) whose annual currency may expire due to an inability to test because of COVID-19.

3. Active Army and Army National Guard Soldiers in Career Management Fields (CMFs) 18, 37, and 38, Warrant Officer MOS 180A, and officer Areas of Concentration (AOCs) 18, 37, and 38 Officers are not covered by this memorandum. These Soldiers are covered by reference b.

4. A 12 month extension is authorized for Soldiers and civilians (listed in paragraph 2) who have a Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) and/or Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) expiring and have their annual testing rescheduled or cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. The extension of FLPB at current levels is not automatic and new orders must be published. All Soldiers and civilians must request new FLPB orders, using their most recent DA330 (Language Proficiency Questionnaire), IAW local processing procedures and will cite this memorandum as the authority for new orders.
6. Soldiers that were receiving FLPB solely for languages that were removed from the ASLL dated 08 August 2019 or 13 November 2019 are not eligible for the extension. Regardless of whether or not the Soldier would have been able to take the DLPT and/or OPI, they would not have been authorized FLPB due to removal from the ASLL. Questions about eligibility should be addressed to Army Human Resources Command’s Incentives and Compensation Branch at: usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-flpb@mail.mil.

7. Affected Soldiers and civilians must continue to conduct virtual/online training and self-study in their respective language(s) and coordinate with their unit Command Language Program Manager (CLPM) to schedule remedial, sustainment, or enhancement language training prior to taking their DLPT and/or OPI. After completing a significant language training event, coordinate with the unit CLPM to schedule a DLPT and/or OPI once the local testing centers reopen.

8. This memorandum supersedes reference a, is retroactive to 25 February 2020, and will remain in effect until 24 February 2021.

9. The Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2 point of contact is Mr. Timothy P. McGovern, DAMI-PIO, (703) 695-1286, e-mail: timothy.p.mcgovern.civ@mail.mil.

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