

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES

PERSONNEL OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM



POM 12-005  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 11 January 2012

---

By Order of the Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service:

VADM Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA

---

TO: All Regular and Reserve Corps Officers on Extended Active Duty

SUBJECT: Global Health Initiative Service Medal

1. This Personnel Operations Memorandum (POM) establishes the operational procedures and guidelines to implement the Commissioned Corps Instruction CC27.1.1, "Awards Program", dated 6 August 2007 as amended by Personnel Policy Memorandum (PPM) 09-003 dated 18 December 2008, "Global Health Initiative Service Medal (GHISM)". Requests are initiated by one of the following:
  - a. The Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (OFRD) will submit to the Director, Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR) a list of officers deployed to the event who meet the criteria in PPM 09-003;
  - b. The OPDIV/STAFFDIV or non-HHS organization emergency response coordinator, if the officer was deployed directly by the OPDIV/STAFFDIV or non-HHS organization, will submit to the Director, DCCPR a list of officers deployed to the event who meet the criteria in PPM 09-003. DCCPR will validate each officer's readiness status and approve/disapprove awarding of the GHISM.
2. Eligibility.
  - a. Deployments to the following missions:
    1. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) or the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008;
    2. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI);
    3. Partnerships for the Americas, Joint Services mission embarked on the USNS *Comfort* (T-AH20);
    4. Pacific Partnership, Joint services mission embarked on the USNS *Mercy* (T-AH19) or the USNS *Peleliu* (LHA-5); and
    5. Continuing Promise, Joint Services mission embarked on the USS *Boxer* (LHD-4)

- b. Officers providing direct assistance to a mission are considered deployed for the mission, regardless of location, and are therefore eligible for the GHISM. Officers or other personnel who “fill in” at the primary duty station, thus allowing another to deploy and provide eligible support, are not eligible for the GHISM. Officers eligible for the Global Health Campaign Medal are not eligible for the GHISM for the same deployment.
  - c. Requests for consideration of missions not covered by PPM 09-003 and this POM should be sent to the attention of the Chief of Staff, Office of the Surgeon General.
3. Requests for the GHISM:
- a. Must include:
    - 1. Officer Name;
    - 2. Rank
    - 3. PHS Serial Number;
    - 4. Direct Access Employee ID Number;
    - 5. Mission Designation (e.g., Pacific Partnership);
    - 6. Number of days deployed and whether those days were consecutive or non-consecutive
    - 7. Copies of travel order(s) and voucher(s) are required to document the assignment(s)

-signed-  
Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA  
VADM, USPHS  
Surgeon General