



CCI 511.02
EFFECTIVE DATE: 17 July 2020

By Order of the Assistant Secretary for Health:

ADM Brett P. Giroir, M.D.

SUBJECT: Award of Uniformed Services Decorations

1. PURPOSE: The purpose of this Instruction is to prescribe the manner in which uniformed services ribbons, medals, and decorations are eligible to be awarded to officers of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps, as awarded from other Uniformed Services.
2. APPLICABILITY: This instruction applies to all members of the Regular Corps and Ready Reserve Corps.
3. AUTHORITIES:
 - 3-1. [42 U.S.C. § 202](#), "Administration and Supervision of Service"
 - 3-2. [42 U.S.C. § 213\(b\)](#), "Military Benefits, Award of Decorations"
 - 3-3. [42 U.S.C. § 216](#), "Regulations"
 - 3-4. [Executive Order 11140](#), "Delegating certain functions of the President relating to the Public Health Service," dated 30 January 1964
 - 3-5. [68 FR 70507](#), dated 18 December 2003
 - 3-6. [DoD Manual 1348.33-M](#), Manual of Military Decorations and Awards
 - 3-7. Memorandum Signed by Secretary, HHS, "Delegations of Authorities Relating to the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps," dated 24 July 2003
 - 3-8. Department of Defense (DoD) Memorandum Signed by the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel & Readiness), dated 29 June 2009; "Award of Military Decorations to U.S. Public Health Service Officers"
 - 3-9. [COMDTINST M.1650.25E](#), "Coast Guard Military Medals and Awards Manual"
 - 3-10. [NOAA Corps Directive, Chapter 12, Part 7](#), "Awards"
4. PROPONENT: The proponent of this Instruction is the Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH). The responsibility for ensuring the day-to-day management of the USPHS Commissioned Corps belongs to the Surgeon General (SG).

5. SUMMARY OF REVISIONS AND UPDATES: This is the second issuance of this Instruction within the Commissioned Corps Issuance System (eCCIS). This version:
 - 5-1. Changes the name of the Instruction to be more inclusive to the other uniformed services (the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)).
 - 5-2. Changes the addresses (in Section 8-1.) for obtaining approval for all DoD and other Uniformed Service awards.
 - 5-3. Adds language (in Section 6-2.) saying that other uniformed services will not present an award to any Public Health Service (PHS) officer who the USPHS Commissioned Corps has already recognized for this act or service.
 - 5-4. Makes minor edits for clarity.
 - 5-5. Extends applicability to the Ready Reserve Corps.

6. POLICY:

- 6-1. Effective on or after 2 August 1990, PHS officers assigned, attached, or detailed for full-time or part-time duty to DoD, any DoD component, or any other uniformed service, such as the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), are eligible for uniformed services ribbons, medals, and decorations on the same basis as a member of the uniformed service to which the PHS officers are assigned, attached, or detailed.
- 6-2. USPHS Commissioned Corps policy precludes duplicate recognition for the same act.
- a. A PHS officer may not accept an individual honor award or unit honor award, ribbon, medal, or decoration from another uniformed service when the USPHS Commissioned Corps has already recognized the officer for the same act through the award of a USPHS Commissioned Corps ribbon, medal, or decoration.
 - b. A PHS officer may not accept a service award from another uniformed service when that award is similar to a USPHS Commissioned Corps award and when the USPHS Commissioned Corps has already recognized the officer for the same service (e.g., Corps Foreign Duty Award and an Afghanistan Campaign Medal). However, a PHS officer may accept a DoD service award for the same service when the DoD service award is awarded for a different reason than the USPHS Commissioned Corps award or when the DoD service award is awarded to more than one PHS officer during a joint operation.
- 6-3. Another uniformed service must obtain administrative concurrence of the Director, Commissioned Corps Headquarters (CCHQ), or his/her designee, before it can award a ribbon, medal, or decoration to a PHS officer. CCHQ administrative concurrence shall include confirmation that the officer:
- a. Is in good standing in the USPHS Commissioned Corps as described in Commissioned Corps Instruction (CCI) [511.01](#), "Awards Program."
 - b. Has not or will not receive a USPHS Commissioned Corps ribbon, medal, or decoration for which the same or similar uniformed services ribbon, medal, or decoration is being proffered for the same act or service.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 7-1. The ASH is responsible for establishing policies related to and/or acceptance of uniformed services ribbons, medals, and decorations for wear by PHS officers.
- 7-2. The Director, CCHQ, through the SG, has been delegated the authority to administratively approve uniformed services awards and authorize the wearing of awards from other uniformed services, as per [CCI 512.01](#), "Wear of Awards and Badges."

8. PROCEDURES:

- 8-1. The points of contact within the other uniformed services for obtaining administrative approval for uniformed services ribbons, medals, and decorations is:

Department of Defense:

Commissioned Corps Program Office
Defense Health Agency
7700 Arlington Blvd, Suite 5101
Falls Church, VA 22042

Department of Homeland Security:

Commissioned Corps Liaison Office
Department of Homeland Security
Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer
Workforce Health and Safety
301 7th St. SW Rm 2904
Washington, DC 20407

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:

Commissioned Corps Liaison Office
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
8403 Colesville Road, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

- 8-2. The USPHS Commissioned Corps Liaison Officer shall forward requests for administrative approval of uniformed services awards to the Director of CCHQ for administrative approval and processing.
- 8-3. Criterion and internal uniformed services procedures for awarding uniformed services awards for PHS officers shall be in accordance with the respective service's policies.
9. HISTORY: This is the second issuance of this Instruction within the eCCIS.
- 9-1. CCI 511.02, "Award of Military Decorations," dated 31 March 2010.