

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES

PERSONNEL POLICY MEMORANDUM



PPM 09-003
EFFECTIVE DATE: 18 December 2008

By Order of the Assistant Secretary for Health

ADM Joxel Garcia, USPHS

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

SUBJECT: Global Health Initiative Service Medal

1. This PPM amends Commissioned Corps Instructions [CC27.1.1](#), "Awards Program," dated 6 August 2007, and [CC26.3.3](#), "Wear of Ribbons and Medals," dated 28 August 2008, by creating a new award for wear by officers of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service (Corps) or for members of other uniformed services who meet the specified eligibility criteria.
2. Eligibility Criteria.
 - a. Any Regular Corps, Reserve Corps or Inactive Reserve Corps officer who, supported a/any Global Health Initiative Assignment, for at least 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days while on temporary or permanent assignment qualifies for the Global Health Initiative Service Medal (GHISM). Any period of 30 or more consecutive days is not included in the computation of the 60 non-consecutive days.
 - b. Support is defined as deploying and/or providing administrative, logistical, financial or operational support to any Global Health Initiative or mission.
 - c. An officer may qualify for only one GHISM, therefore, no service stars are authorized for wear.
3. Missions, objectives or operations led by Corps officers or uniformed service members representing the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS or Department), any of HHS Operating Divisions (OPDIV), Staff Divisions (STAFFDIV), non-HHS organizations or have served aboard naval vessels in Joint Service missions are initially included in this award, and are not limited to:
 - a. 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;
 - b. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI);

- c. Partnerships for the Americas, Joint Services mission embarked on the USNS *Comfort* (T-AH20);
 - d. Pacific Partnership, Joint Services missions embarked on the USNS *Mercy* (T-AH19) or the USS *Peleliu* (LHA-5); and/or
 - e. Continuing Promise, Joint Service mission embarked on the USS *Boxer* (LHD-4).
4. The missions, objective or operations will be defined by the Assistant Secretary for Health as to whether or not they are part of the Secretary of HHS' Global Health Initiative plan.
 5. Eligibility time period will be retroactive to 26 January 2005 to a future date to be determined.
 6. The GHISM will be placed in the order of precedence after the PHS Recruitment Service Award and before the PHS Bicentennial Unit Commendation.
 7. This PPM will remain in effect until rescinded.

/s/

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ADM, USPHS
Assistant Secretary for Health