



Up-or-out rules get new scrutiny from Congress

Military Times

Lawmakers are taking another look at possible changes to the military's "up-or-out" rules for officer promotions. The idea has been widely discussed in the Pentagon and Congress in recent years, but likely would not amount to a full overhaul of promotions process, according to lawmakers who discussed the policy during a Senate hearing on Wednesday. [READ MORE](#)

Army expanding installations to assign women in combat jobs

Stars and Stripes

Female officers in infantry and armor jobs will be heading to three additional installations, leading the way for women who are choosing jobs on the frontlines. Col. Michael Lawhorn, a spokesman for U.S. Army Forces Command, said women in combat jobs can now be assigned to Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Carson, Colorado; and Fort Campbell, Kentucky. [READ MORE](#)

DoD, VA release online tool to help vets with discharge upgrade process

U.S. Department of Defense

A joint initiative between the Defense and Veterans Affairs departments has yielded a web-based tool that will provide customized guidance to veterans who desire to upgrade or change the conditions of their military discharge. "We are thrilled to have partnered with the Department of Veterans Affairs in developing this wonderful and easily accessible tool," said Robert Wilkie, undersecretary of defense, personnel and readiness. [READ MORE](#)

VA resumes online applications for new ID cards

Stars and Stripes

Veterans can again submit online applications for new identification cards through the Department of Veterans Affairs website after the system was taken down in December following rollout problems. The purpose of the identification cards is to help veterans prove their military history without having to carry around their DD-214 certificates, which contain sensitive information. [READ MORE](#)

Federal collaboration raises awareness of zero percent interest student loan benefit for military service

U.S. Department of Defense

The Department of Defense is collaborating with the Departments of Education (ED) and Veterans Affairs to educate service members and veterans about a significant student loan benefit based on their military service. Federal law exempts members of the military from paying interest for up to 60 months on certain student loans while serving or having served in an area that qualifies them to receive hostile fire or imminent danger pay. [READ MORE](#)