

mPact Guide for Army ROTC Chaplain Candidate Applicants

If you are an ROTC Cadet and believe you are called to be an Army Chaplain, one option to consider is an educational delay for seminary. This allows you to graduate college, enter seminary and the chaplain candidate program, and be accessioned as a chaplain.

Educational Delay Process

Toward the end of your junior year (or MSLIII year), you will must notify your ROTC battalion's HRA of your interest in an educational delay. The educational delay program allows ROTC cadets interested in chaplaincy, JAG, or AMEDD to delay their entry into active duty or deployable status after commissioning to pursue a graduate degree. ARMY OFFICERS THAT ENTER THROUGH THE DIRECT COMMISSION PROGRAM ARE NOT REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR AN EDUCATIONAL DELAY; HOWEVER, ROTC COMMISSIONEES DO. Much of the information pertaining to the educational delay program can be found in **USACC Circular 601-22-1, APPENDIX J**.

ROTC applicants that are interested in an educational delay for the chaplain candidate program must submit all documentation to their ROTC battalion's HRA in September of their commissioning year. The educational delay board meets in October, and applicants should have an answer regarding their educational delay status by November of that same year.

Below is a screenshot of the chaplain educational delay checklist found in USACC Circular 601-22-1, APPENDIX J, pp. 66.

All Educational Delay (DL) requests are to be routed through your respective Brigade S1 to USACC G1 ASD via TMT. Any (DL) Request sent directly to USACC G1 ASD will be returned without action. The contents of the (DL) packet(s) are to be uploaded as one single .PDF document and in the order listed below:				
Order of Documents	Name of Required Document	Chaplain	JAG Corps	AMEDD
1	Accessions Management Sheet (Signed and Dated by Cadet and PMS)	X	X	X
2	Official Transcripts with school Registrar's Seal (NO Exceptions)	X	X	X
3	Graduate Studies Admissions Test Results (LSAT, MCAT, GRE, etc.)		X	X
4	Letter of Intent/Essay (Signed/dated by Cadet)	X	X	X
5	Signed and Dated Letter(s) of Recommendation	X	X	X
6	Letter of Ecclesiastical Approval from Faith Group (Chaplain Only)	X		
7	Letter(s) of Acceptance from Graduate School (Only if Cadet has already received one)	X	X	X
8	Any other documents that the Cadet feels may enhance their packet (Do not go overboard)	X	X	X

Figure J-1. Educational Delay Request packet required documents

NOTE: Some ROTC programs DO NOT require a Letter of Ecclesiastical Approval from Faith Group (DD form 2088) OR an acceptance letter to an accredited seminary for the ed delay board for entry into the educational delay program. However, they will need to have proof that they have applied to graduate school(s) in their packet. Additionally, a signed DD form 2088 is required for their Chaplain Candidate packet, which is due in February of their commissioning year.

Once cadets have been notified of their educational delay selection for the chaplain candidacy, they will be contacted by a chaplain recruiter. If a regional chaplain recruiter has not contacted you by January of your commissioning year, you will need to contact them to start the packet process for the chaplain candidate program.