



## The Physical Disability Evaluation System (PDES) and Medical Evaluation Boards (MEB)

**Location:** Room 1B112 / 1B113

**Phone:** 913-684-6433/6581

**Hours of Operation:** Monday – Friday 0730 – 1600

### Areas of Responsibility:

All soldiers run the risk of having their military careers ended prematurely when serious illness or injury strikes. On a daily basis, active duty (AD) soldiers are injured. Some occur during training accidents and field exercises; others in auto/motorcycle accidents and slip and fall incidents during off duty time. This includes Reserve Component (RC) soldiers as well, with peacekeeping operations and extended deployments.

Soldiers and family members should be familiar with the Army PDES; it covers most situations. AD soldiers are covered 24 hours a day and the RC members are covered during Annual Duty for Training (ADT), Individual Duty for Training (IDT), or other authorized military activities.

A soldier can be referred into the PDES one of five ways:

- 1. Medical Evaluation Board (MEB):** When a soldier has reached optimal care for a condition which may render him/her below medical retention standards IAW AR 40-501, Chapter 3, Standards of Medical Fitness, the soldier is recommended for a MEB under the provisions of AR 40-400, Chapter 7, Patient Administration. The military treatment facility (MTF) initiates the MEB and refers the case to the Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) as applicable for a determination of fitness under the policies and procedures of DODI 1332.38/39 and AR 635-40, Physical Evaluation for Retention, Retirement, or Separation.
- 2. Military Occupational Specialty (MOS)/Military Medical Retention Board (MMRB):** The MMRB is an administrative board conducted under the provisions of AR 600-60, Physical Performance Evaluation System. It determines whether the soldier's permanent 3 or 4 profile hinders him/her from performing their primary MOS in a worldwide field environment. Referral to the MEB is one of four actions the MMRB Convening Authority (MMRBCA) may direct.
- 3. Fitness for Duty Medical Examination:** Commanders may refer soldiers to the MTF for a medical examination under the provisions of AR 600-20, Chapter 5-4, if the Commander believes the soldier has a medical condition which impacts his/her duty performance. If the exam indicates the soldier falls below the retention standards of AR 40-501, the soldier is recommended for referral to the MEB.
- 4. HQDA action:** Upon recommendation of the Surgeon General, the Commander, Human Resources Command (HRC), may refer a soldier to the responsible MTF for a medical evaluation, as described in paragraph 3 above. The Commander, HRC may also direct a soldier into the PDES upon disapproving the MMRBCA's recommendation to reclassify or branch transfer a soldier.
- 5. RC Nonduty Related Process:** RC members not on active duty pending separation for nonservice-connected illnesses or injuries may be referred to the PEB, by the United States Army Reserve Regular Reserve Component (USAR RRC) or the Army National Guard (ARNG) State Headquarters, not the MTF.

The website for information pertaining to the PDES is: <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/tagd/pda/pdapage.htm>