

Meetings of National Service-Related Organizations

1. References:
 - a. Army Regulation (AR) 1-211 (Attendance of Military and Civilian Personnel At Private Organization Meetings).
 - b. AR 360-1 (Army Public Affairs).
 - c. AR 690-400 (Employee Performance And Utilization).
 - d. JFTR (Joint Federal Travel Regulations, Vol. 1: (Uniformed Servicemembers).
 - e. JTR (Joint Travel Regulations, Vol2 : Department of Defense Civilian Personnel).
 - f. DoD 6500-7-R (Joint Ethics Regulation (JER).
 - g. Private Organizations Reference Guide (HQDA, Director of Management).
 - h. Foundational Authority for This Activity is Public Law 101-189.
2. Request widest possible distribution of the following guidance within you command/activity/agency.
3. This message provides guidance for attending, at government expense, 2005 meetings of service-related professional organizations. Such events include, but are not limited to, the following 2005 meetings:
 - Association of the United States Army, October 3-5, Washington, D.C.
 - Reserve Officers Association, July 27-30, New York City
 - The American Legion, August 19-25, Honolulu, Hawaii
 - Veterans of Foreign Wars, August 20-25, Salt Lake City, Utah
 - Army Aviation Association of America, May 5-11, Orlando, Florida
 - U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association, October 24-28, Tucson, Arizona
 - Non-Commissioned Officers Association, no National Convention this year
 - Military Officers Association of America, no National Convention this year
4. AR 1-211 and public law 101-189 remain the primary governance for such attendance (see AR 380-1, chap 11, for speaking assignments).
The following should be considered:
 - a. Attendance at government expense is authorized only when information gained will substantially benefit the approving authority's mission accomplishment. It should relate directly to the member's professional background or primary duties, represent a valuable training opportunity, and improve the attendee's value to the Army. Attendance should not provide selective benefit or favor any individual, political organization, corporation, or commercial venture. See JER, chap 3.
 - b. Government expense should be minimized by designating the minimum number of participants (qualified to accomplish the purpose of the meeting and located nearest to the meeting site) necessary to acquire and relate information from the meeting to other members of the organization.
 - c. When attendance is authorized at government expense and the meeting is authorized specifically in the travel order, authorized reimbursable expenses may include transportation, per diem, miscellaneous expenses, and registration fees IAW JFTR or JTR.
5. If you have any questions about participation in private organization events, consult the ethics counselor assigned to your organization or HQDA standards of conduct office at dsn 426-6707/comm. (703) 588-6707
6. HQDA POC is SAPA-CROD, Maurs Fitch, 703-602-0196