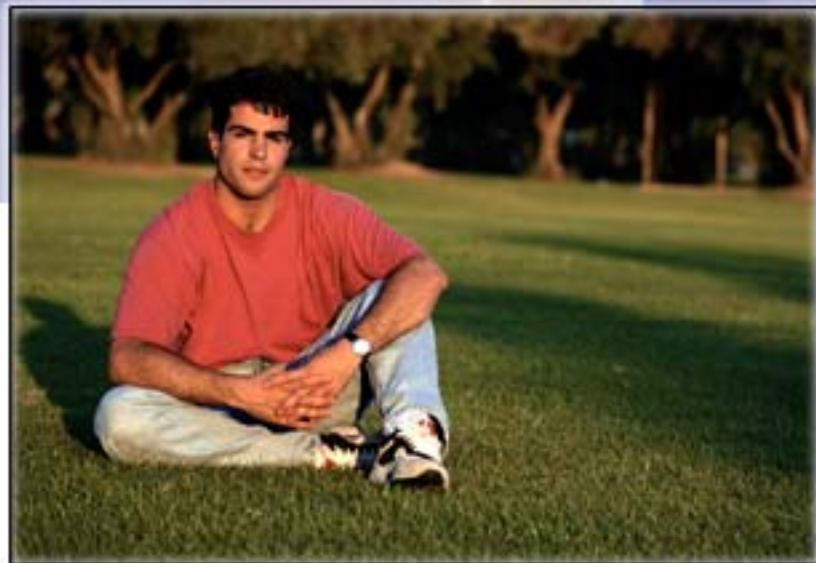


Selective Service System



America's Insurance Policy

Background
Who Must Register
Where and How to Register
Benefits of Registration
History of the Draft
Draft Process
Lottery
Classifications
Records

A Primer

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BACKGROUND

"...it shall be the duty of every male citizen of the United States, and every other male person residing in the United States, who...is between the ages of eighteen and twenty-six, to present himself for and submit to registration..."

[Section 3(a), Military Selective Service Act]*



The Selective Service System is the agency within the Federal government that registers young men for a possible draft. In the event of a crisis, such as

a war, if the Nation needs more men than the volunteer military can provide, the Selective Service could be directed by Congress and the President to supply conscripts. The law instructs virtually all men living in the United States between the ages of 18 and 26 to register. Only if there is high compliance with this law will a future draft be fair and equitable.

Although the Agency's principal task is to be able to provide manpower to the Armed Forces in an emergency, it is not part of the Department of Defense. It exists as an independent agency within

the Executive Branch of the Federal government to assure civilian control of the draft process. In a draft, Selective Service would also administer an alternative service program for men classified as conscientious objectors.

In 1973, the President's induction authority expired and the United States went to an All-Volunteer military. Since that time, the Selective Service System has operated in a reduced, standby mode, preserving the Nation's capability to conduct a draft should it become necessary in a future crisis.

Selective Service is often referred to as the Nation's defense manpower "insurance policy."

* The legislation under which the Selective Service System operates is the Military Selective Service Act (50 App. U.S. Code 451 et seq.).

WHO MUST REGISTER

Required to register

- Men between the ages of 18-26
 - Illegal aliens
- Legal permanent residents
 - Disabled men who are not confined to an institution.
- National Guard and members of the Reserve Forces not on active duty
- U.S. citizens living overseas
 - Conscientious objectors

The fairness of a draft depends upon high compliance with the law.

Men born on or after January 1, 1960, must register with Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday.



irtually all male U.S. citizens and most male noncitizens living in the United States, who are between the ages of 18 and 26, are required to register.*

NONCITIZENS

Some noncitizens are required to register. Others are not. Noncitizens who are not required to register with Selective Service include men who are in the United States on student or visitor visas, and men who are part of a diplomatic or trade mission and their families. Almost all other male noncitizens are required to register, including male undocumented immigrants, legal permanent residents, and refugees. The general rule is that if a male noncitizen takes up residency in the United States before his twenty-sixth birthday, he must register with Selective Service.

HOSPITALIZED OR INCARCERATED MEN

Young men in hospitals, mental institutions, or prisons do not have to register until they are released. If they are not yet 26, they must register within 30 days after release.

DISABLED MEN

Disabled men who live at home must register with Selective Service if they can reasonably leave the home and move about independently. A friend or relative may help a disabled man fill out the registration form if he can't do it himself.

Men with disabilities that would disqualify them from military service still must register with Selective Service. Selective Service does not presently have authority to classify men, so even men with obvious handicaps must register now, and classifications would be determined at a later date, if needed.

FULL-TIME MILITARY EXEMPTED

Young men serving in the military on full-time active duty do not have to register. Those attending the service academies also do not have to register. If a young man leaves the military before he turns 26, he must register. Additionally, members of the Reserve and National Guard not on full-time active duty must register.

Not required to register

- Men under age 18 or over age 26
 - Women
- Foreign diplomats, staff and members of their families
- Noncitizens in the U.S. on valid student or visitor visas
- Full-time active duty military
- Hospitalized, institutionalized or incarcerated men
- Cadets or midshipmen at service academies and certain military colleges

* President Carter signed Proclamation 4771 which reinstated this requirement in 1980.

It's important to note that even though a man is registered, he will not automatically be inducted into the military. In a crisis requiring a draft, men would be called in a sequence determined by a random lottery number and year of birth. Then, they would be examined for mental, physical, and moral fitness by the military before being inducted, deferred, or exempted from military service.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

Men opposed to participation in war must register. Should a draft begin and should they be called, they would have the opportunity to file a claim for exemption from military service based upon their religious or moral objection to war.



For women to be included in the registration requirement and accordingly, a draft, Congress would have to change the law.

WOMEN AND THE DRAFT

Women are not required to register with Selective Service. When President Carter resumed the registration requirement in 1980, he asked Congress to change the law and include women. However, Congress did not act on his request on the premise that drafts operate mainly to provide ground combat troops. At the time this publication was printed, military policy did not permit women to serve in front line ground combat positions. For women to be included in the registration requirement and accordingly, a draft, Congress would have to change the law.

The issue of women and the draft was brought to the Supreme Court in 1981 in *Rostker v. Goldberg*. The court considered whether the registration of males only violated the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. The Court decided that the male-only registration requirement did not violate the Fifth Amendment.

* Section 3 of the Military Selective Service Act, on which the registration requirement is based, states: "...it shall be the duty of every male citizen of the United States, and every other male person residing in the United States...to present himself for and submit to registration..." (50 App. U.S.C. 453)

HOW TO REGISTER

“It’s Quick. It’s Easy.
And it’s the Law.”

— Registration campaign slogan adopted in 1984.



To register, a man fills out a registration card and sends it to the Selective Service System. The form asks for the registrant's full name, address, date of birth, telephone number, and Social Security number. There are five ways to register:

- **The Post Office**

Selective Service registration forms are available at any local post office. Men living overseas may register at any U.S. Embassy or consular office.

- **Reminder Mail Back**

A young man may also register by filling out a Reminder Mailback Card. Selective Service sends this card to many young



A man may register by filling out a simple registration form.

men around the time they turn 18. A man can fill out the card at home and mail it directly to Selective Service.

- **Check Box**

Another way a young man can register is to check a box on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) where it says “register me with Selective Service.”

- **High School Registrar**

Over half of the high schools in the Nation have a staff member or teacher appointed as a Selective Service Registrar. These individuals help register male high school students.

- **Internet**

Men may register online at <http://www.sss.gov>.

Are you Registered?

For answers to questions about registration status, please contact:

Write to:

**Selective Service System
P.O. Box 94638
Palatine, IL 60094-4638**

Call:

1-888-655-1825

Internet:

**The Selective Service web site at
<http://www.sss.gov>**



A poster distributed nationwide to promote registration awareness and call attention to Selective Service System's Internet web site.

THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT CARD

A Registration Acknowledgment Card is sent to a registrant within 30 to 90 days after he mails in his Selective Service registration form. This is an important document. It should be kept in a safe place as proof of registration. If a registrant does not receive an acknowledgment card within 90 days of registering, he should contact the Selective Service System.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

After he registers, a man must keep Selective Service informed about changes to any of the information he provided on his registration form, such as a change of address. He must report changes until January 1 of the year in which he turns age 26. He may do this by completing a change of address form at the Post Office or on the form accompanying his Registration Acknowledgment Card. He may also report changes by calling the Selective Service System at 1(888) 655-1825 or writing to the Agency at P.O. Box 94638, Palatine, IL 60094-4638.

BENEFITS OF REGISTRATION



egistration is the law. If a man fails to register and he is prosecuted and convicted, he may face a \$250,000 maximum fine, a prison term of up to five years, or a combination of both. A person who influences a young man to violate the law may face the same penalties.

ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS LINKED TO REGISTRATION

A young man who fails to register may be ineligible for opportunities that may be important to his future. He must register to be eligible for Federal student financial aid, state-funded student financial aid in many states, most Federal employment, some state employment, and other benefits.

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID*

The categories of financial aid which require registration before eligibility include:

- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants
- Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans
- Federal Perkins Loans
- Federal Work-Study
- Title VII and Public Health Act Programs

Applicants for Federal financial aid must sign a statement of compliance saying that they are registered or that they are exempt from registering with Selective Service. The Department of Education provides the Selective Service with a list of all those applying for, or who have received, Federal student financial aid. The names are then checked against a list of those who have registered.

JOB TRAINING BENEFITS

Eligibility for training under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), formerly JTPA depends on whether a man has registered with Selective Service. The WIA establishes programs with the states for training and other services in cooperation with local governments and business, labor, education and nonprofit groups. These programs help to prepare young people and unskilled adults for the job market through specific job training.



A man's eligibility for Federal student financial aid is dependent upon Selective Service registration compliance.

* In 1982 Congress passed the Solomon Amendment to the Military Selective Service Act, requiring draft age men be registered before they can be considered eligible for Federal student loans and grants, or job training and placement under the Job Training Partnership Act.

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT*

A young man must be registered before he is eligible for most jobs within the Federal government. Not only does the registration requirement apply to permanent employment, but also to summer and temporary employment with the Federal government.

CITIZENSHIP

In most cases, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services makes registration with Selective Service a condition for U.S. citizenship if the young man arrived and took up residence in the United States before his 26th birthday.

OTHER CONSEQUENCES

Many states, local government agencies, police departments and state bar examiners now require applicants to be registered with Selective Service.

* In 1985, President Reagan signed the Defense Authorization Bill which included the Thurmond Amendment. It requires draft age men to register before being considered for most jobs in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government.

GOALS OF SELECTIVE SERVICE

Selective Service's goal is to register all men, not prosecute them. If a draft is ever needed, it must be as fair and equitable as possible, and that depends on having as many men as possible registered. In the event of a draft, for every man who fails to register, another man would be required to take his place in service to the country.

It is important for a man to register before he turns 26. After age 26, he cannot register and may be permanently ineligible for some Federal benefits.



To be eligible for student financial aid and other benefits, a man must register with Selective Service.

HISTORY OF THE DRAFT

The fairest draft of all, if there has to be a draft, is one in which everyone is called. This was the basis for the Colonial militia system on which today's draft is based. It assumed that every man had an obligation to defend the community. In modern times, however, there are more men available than the Armed Forces could reasonably train—thus, the process of selecting some for service, when not all are required to serve, came into being.



Throughout the Nation's history, Federal and state governments have required some form of compulsory military service to meet emergencies. Today's system owes much to these past drafts.

COLONIAL TIMES

Conscription in America can be traced to colonial times. Harsh living conditions in the colonies and on the frontier required that every man be prepared to defend the community at all times as a matter of self-preservation. Many conscription laws were passed in the colonies to meet specific requirements for military service. The maximum tour of duty within the militias was three months. Colonies resorted to conscription only infrequently, and men could avoid military service by getting married, paying a commutation fee, or hiring a substitute.

THE CIVIL WAR

The Constitution gives the Congress the power to raise and maintain an Armed Force. The first attempt at a national draft in this country was during the Civil War. Both the South and the North turned to conscription during the war—the South in 1862, and the North the following year.

On both sides, those who could afford it were able to avoid military service by hiring substitutes. In many cases, the money offered to these substitutes was substantially better than the regular pay received by volunteers. This created two classes of soldiers and caused great division among the ranks.

In the North, substitutes were not always necessary since exemptions from service could be obtained for \$300. The South, in turn, allowed many exemptions based on a person's occupation. These included druggists, journalists, lawyers, teachers, and many others.

"Congress shall have power...to raise and support armies..."

(Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States)



President Roosevelt signs the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940. This Act created the country's first peacetime draft and formally established the Selective Service System as an independent Federal agency.

THE OAKES REPORT

Following the Civil War, Brigadier General James Oakes, Acting Assistant Provost Marshal General for the State of Illinois, made recommendations to eliminate weaknesses of the Civil War draft system. One recommendation was to have local groups of civilians involved in deciding who would be drafted. This was an important concept first implemented in World War I.

WORLD WAR I

The Oakes Report had laid the foundation for the World War I draft law which was enacted on May 18, 1917. This law prohibited the hiring of substitutes and created civilian local boards composed of three or more members, "none of whom shall be connected with the Military Establishment." These boards were granted power within their own jurisdictions to determine cases of exemptions from military service. The draft law expired at the end of the war and the Nation returned to a volunteer Armed Force.

WORLD WAR II

The U.S. began drafting men again with the passage of the Selective Training and Service Act in 1940. The anticipation of America's involvement in the war in progress in Europe prompted the Nation's first peacetime draft law. The draft during World War II was a historic success due, in large measure, to the fact that planning for it had been going on quietly for many years under the guidance of then-Major Lewis B. Hershey. When the U.S. entered the war, the Nation was in the favorable position of having a steady, dependable source of manpower already in place. In fact, nearly one million men were drafted in 1941, before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and about two-thirds of the manpower for the entire war was provided by the draft. The 1940 law followed the basic principles of the World War I draft and resulted in the creation of more than 6,400 local boards responsible for classifying the men who registered. Directives from Selective Service National Headquarters were provided to local boards to guide them in their decisions; however, these directives were general in nature and each board took local conditions into account as it decided how registrants should be classified.

THE COLD WAR

In 1947, following World War II, the Selective Training and Service Act was allowed to expire. But shortly after the Act expired, President Truman, faced with Soviet aggression in Europe and the failure of voluntary methods to achieve and maintain the required strength of the Armed Forces, asked for renewal of the draft. Congress responded with new legislation, the Selective Service Act of 1948. The Act ordered that men be selected for the draft on a fair and equitable basis consistent with the maintenance of an effective national economy.

THE KOREAN CONFLICT

The draft provided more than 1,500,000, or 27 percent, of Americans in uniform during the Korean conflict.

The Selective Service System continued to provide men after the Korean war ended to keep military manpower levels at an acceptable level during the Cold War.

UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING AND SERVICE ACT

Congress made the Selective Service System a permanent Federal agency in June 1951 with the Universal Military Training and Service Act.

THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

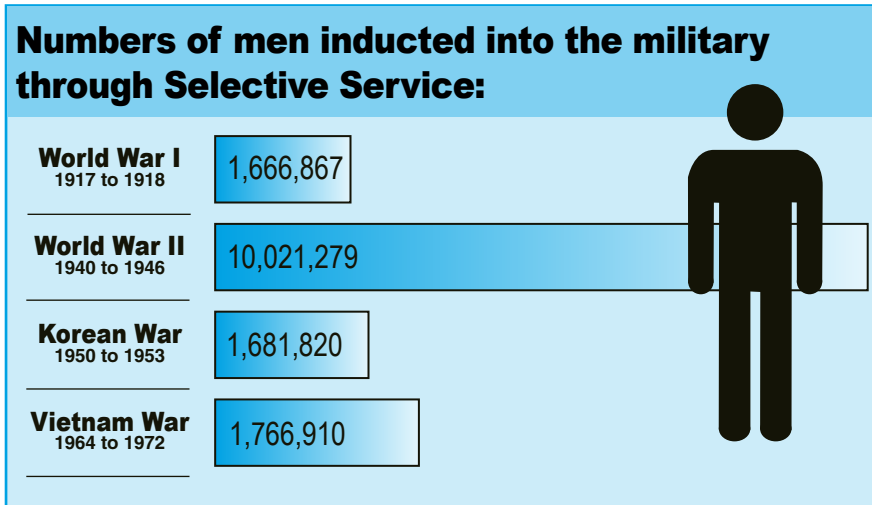
The U.S. presence in Vietnam expanded slowly from a handful of "advisors" in the 1950s and early 1960s, to an intensified conflict fought by a large commitment of American troops. Of the 8.8 million individuals who served in the Armed Services during the Vietnam era, less than 1.8 million entered through the draft.

REFORMS DURING VIETNAM

The term "Selective Service," which came into existence during the First World War, refers to the need to be selective when conscripting from the local community because of the economic hardship placed upon the Nation during a draft. During World Wars I and II, many deferments were given to men in certain occupations. Such hardships were thought to be rarer during the Vietnam era, however, deferments continued to be given regularly. A series of reforms during the latter part of the Vietnam conflict changed the way the draft operated, attempting to make it fair and equitable. These reforms also were an effort to reduce a man's uncertainty about his chances of being drafted. Three major reforms, all interrelated, were: (1) the abolition of some categories of deferments, including occupational, agricultural, fatherhood deferments and student deferments. This resulted in fewer reasons to excuse a man from service; (2) the use of a lottery based on birth dates to determine the order in which men would be called; and (3) reducing a man's period of prime vulnerability for the draft to the year in which he turns 20, with his risk of being drafted steadily decreasing after that year. Once 26, a man was too old for first-time consideration.

As the Vietnam conflict escalated, many Americans began to question U.S. involvement in Vietnam and the use of the draft to supply men who were fighting an undeclared war.





BEGINNING OF THE ALL-VOLUNTEER MILITARY

No one has been inducted since 1973. Since then, the U.S. has relied exclusively on volunteers for its military manpower. The role of the Selective Service System after 1973 has been one of planning, training, and remaining prepared to provide backup to the All-Volunteer Armed Forces.

DEEP STANDBY

Registration was suspended in 1975 and in 1976 Selective Service state and local offices closed.

RESUMPTION OF REGISTRATION

By 1978, the Selective Service System had been reduced to the point where there was serious concern that it might not be able to fulfill its mission of providing manpower in an emergency. In 1980, President Carter, spurred by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, resumed the requirement for

men to register with the Selective Service System. Registration continues today as a hedge against underestimating the number of soldiers required to fight in a future crisis.



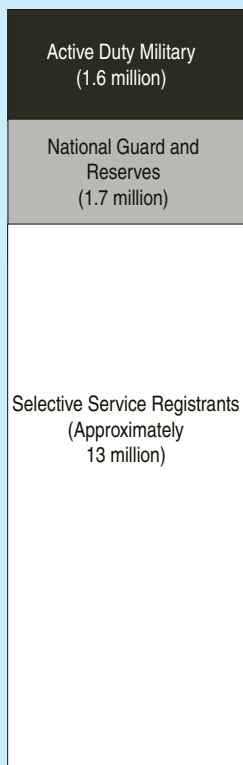
A series of reforms during the latter part of the Vietnam conflict changed the way the draft operated to attempt to make it fair and equitable.

WHAT SELECTIVE SERVICE PROVIDES TODAY

America's leaders agree that despite the success of the All-Volunteer military, draft registration serves the Nation as a solid backup.

Chart below shows the Selective Service System forms the third tier of the Nation's defense personnel resources.

(1996 data)



The Selective Service System and the registration program for America's young men provide our Nation with a structure and a system of guidelines which will provide the most prompt, efficient, and equitable draft possible, if the country should need it. Since revitalization of the Selective Service System in 1980, even greater reforms have been adopted and codified so that if a draft were held today, it would be the most equitable draft in history. America's leaders agree that despite the success of the All-Volunteer military, draft registration must continue as a key component of national security strategy. A smaller Armed Forces is more dependent upon the ability to expand in a crisis.

On May 18, 1994, President Clinton informed Congress that:

Maintaining the Selective Service System and draft registration provides a hedge against unforeseen threats and a relatively low cost "insurance policy" against our underestimating the maximum level of threat we expect our Armed Forces to face.

Terminating the Selective Service System and draft registration now could send the wrong signal to our potential enemies who are watching for signs of U.S. resolve.

As fewer and fewer members of our society have direct military experience, it is increasingly important to maintain the link between the All-Volunteer Force and our society-at-large. The Armed Forces must also know that the general population stands behind them, committed to serve, should the preservation of our national security so require.

Then Secretary of Defense, William J. Perry, recommended to Congress in August 1995 that the Selective Service System be funded adequately. "This small, but important agency," he wrote, "should be maintained in its current state of readiness, and its peacetime registration program involving America's young men should be preserved to help ensure that any future draft, if needed, would be fair and equitable."

AGENCY STRUCTURE



Today's Selective Service System is scaled down, with some of the System's components active, while others are in a standby posture, ready to be called to service in the event of a draft.

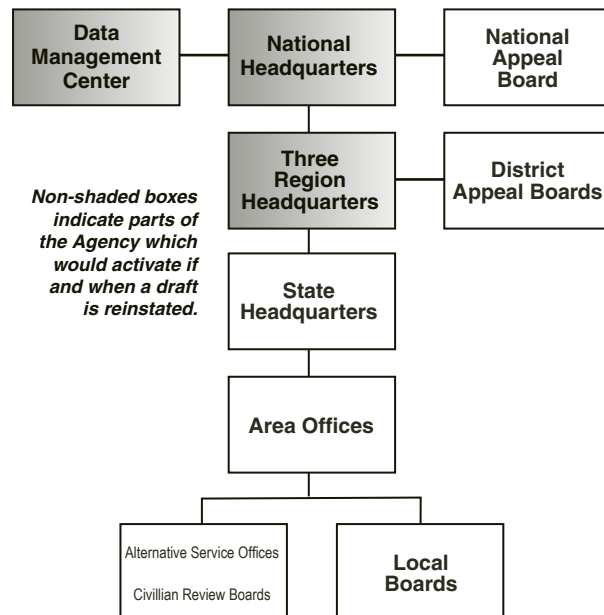
ACTIVE COMPONENTS

The portions of the Selective Service System currently operating on a full-time basis are three Regional Headquarters in the northern, southern and western United States; a Data Management Center near Chicago, Illinois, and the National Headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. The Regional Headquarters serve as a base of operations for the field structure of the Agency. Region Directors work with 56 State Directors (including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and New York City) and with National Guard members and military Reservists who perform their weekend and annual training duties with Selective Service.

Agency employees at the Data Management Center process all of the registration cards sent in from young men who register. The database will become the source from which Selective Service will draft men if there is a need to do so. Employees at the National Headquarters, along with providing leadership and most administrative and technical support to the Agency, also plan and develop new methods to make a future draft more efficient and equitable.

STANDBY COMPONENTS

A vast network of Local, Review, and Appeal Boards are in place today in a standby status, ready to be called to action in the event of a draft. Members are civilian volunteers. During peacetime they receive training in Selective Service regulations regarding deferments and exemptions. Over 1,900 standby Local Boards are spread across the U.S., each board composed of five civilians. Upon mobilization, the duties of the Agency's State Directors and Reserve Force Officers would increase. State Directors would help run individual headquarters in each state, overseeing that state's entire draft mechanism. Reserve Force Officers would activate other Agency offices and hire and train civilian personnel to run them.



RECORDS

The Selective Service System is able to provide information from records on men currently registered with Selective Service, as well as on men who were registrants as far back as World War I.

The Selective Service System carefully follows the provisions of the Privacy Act and will not release a living registrant's home address, phone number, Social Security number, or any other protected information without the expressed consent of the registrant.

The table below lists which records are available, what is included in these records, whether the record is protected under the Privacy Act, where the records are kept, and how to obtain the records.

Records of men registered with Selective Service who were born on or before March 29, 1957 *			Records of men registered with Selective Service who were born on or after January 1, 1960		
Description of record:	Classification Record	Registration Card	Description of record:	Classification Record	Registration Card
	Shows a registrant's name, Local Board number, his classifications and the date he received the classifications.	Shows a registrant's name, date of birth, home address, Selective Service Registration Number. May include additional information such as phone number and/or marital status.		N/A—No one has been inducted since 1973; men born after 1960 were administratively classified in Class 1-H.	Shows a registrant's name, date of birth, home address, phone number, Social Security number and Selective Service registration number.
Covered under the Privacy Act?	No—available to anyone who asks for it. A man's classification record is public information.	Yes. To obtain a copy, one must show written permission from the registrant (or if the registrant is deceased, a copy of the registrant's death certificate).		N/A	Yes. To obtain a copy, one must show written permission from the registrant, or show proof the registrant is deceased. However, a caller may verify that a man is registered and/or obtain a registrant's Selective Service number and the date he registered by calling the Agency's automated hotline at (888)655-1825 and providing the registrant's Social Security number and date of birth.
Where are these records kept?	Stored at various U.S. records centers.	Stored at various U.S. records centers.		N/A	Selective Service Data Management Center, Palatine, Illinois
Where to obtain copies of these records?	National Archives & Records Administration ATTN: Archival Programs P.O. Box 28989 St. Louis, MO 63132-0989			N/A	Write to the Selective Service Data Management Center, P.O. Box 94638, Palatine, Illinois, 60094 or call (888)655-1825
What information must be provided to obtain these records?	Registrant's full name, date of birth, and address at the time of registration.	Registrant's full name, date of birth, address at the time of registration, and if the requestor is a third party, written permission from the registrant (or a death certificate if the registrant is deceased).		N/A	Registrant's Social Security number and date of birth or Selective Service number.

* Men born from March 29, 1957, to December 31, 1959, were not required to register because registration was suspended for several years in the late 1970s.

THE DRAFT PROCESS

What would occur if a draft is needed? Here is a brief overview:

1

Congress and the President Authorize a Draft

There is a crisis requiring a return to conscription to meet manpower needs. Congress passes and the President signs legislation which activates the draft.

2

Lottery

A lottery based on birthdays determines order of call-up of registrants. The first to be called for examination and induction, in a sequence determined by the lottery, would be men whose 20th birthday falls during the current calendar year, followed if needed by those aged 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25. Eighteen-year-olds and men turning 19 would probably not be drafted.

3

Components of Agency Activated

The Selective Service System activates and orders its State Directors and Reserve Force Officers to report for duty.

4

Physical and Mental Examinations

Registrants with low lottery numbers are ordered to report for a physical and mental examination at a nearby Military Entrance Processing Station to determine if they are fit for service.

5

Induction Notices Sent and Local and Appeal Boards Activated

Those who pass the military exam will receive induction orders. A draftee will have 10 days to report to a local Military Entrance Processing Station for induction or file a claim for deferment, postponement or exemption. Local Board and Appeal Boards would also then start processing registrant claims.

6

First Draftees are Inducted

Within 193 days from the onset of a crisis, Selective Service must deliver the first draftees, according to current plans.

The first to be inducted will be men whose 20th birthday falls during the calendar year a draft begins.

THE LOTTERY

A lottery, based on random selection of birth dates, is a fair and equitable method of calling men to serve.



If and when Congress and the President reinstate a military draft, the Selective Service System would conduct a National Draft Lottery to determine the order in which young men would be drafted. The lottery would help ensure two things: a random selection of men, and an ability for a man to know his chances of being drafted very early in the draft process. Here's how a lottery would work:

in a given year, from January 1 through December 31 (including February 29 in a leap year).

The second drum has an identical number of capsules, each containing a number from 1 through 365 (366). These represent random sequence numbers that will be paired with birthdates to assign the order of call.

As each birthdate is drawn, its random sequence number is also drawn.

For example: A birthdate capsule is drawn containing the date February 2, along with a numbers capsule containing the number 56. This means all men born on February 2 who turn 20 that year would have sequence number 56 assigned to them. In this example, men whose sequence numbers are 1 to 55 as a result of the lottery will be called before those men born on February 2.

All 365 (366) capsules from the "birthday" drum are paired with the sequence capsules drawn simultaneously from the "numbers" drum until every date has a sequence number. If the draft continues beyond the end of the calendar year, a new lottery is done to apply sequence numbers to the next group of men reaching age 20.

In a practice demonstration of a lottery, a Selective Service employee loads a rotating drum with capsules. Behind him is a list of random sequence numbers.



Capsules are drawn simultaneously from two lottery drums. Rotating drums are used to mix the capsules to assure randomness. Each contains 365 (366 for sequencing in a leap year) capsules. Each capsule in one drum contains a different date of the year. These represent all the possible birthdates

CLASSIFICATION



Classification is the process of determining who is available for military service and who is deferred or exempted. Classifications are based on each individual registrant's circumstances and beliefs. No classification actions are taken until a draft is resumed. Then, men who receive induction notices would have the opportunity to file a claim for exemptions, deferments and postponements from service.

CLASSIFICATION 1-A: AVAILABLE FOR MILITARY SERVICE

In a draft, the lottery will determine order of call. Men who have low lottery numbers will be ordered to undergo examination to determine acceptability for military service. Those who pass will be classified 1-A (available for military service.)

Induction orders would be issued to men classified 1-A at least ten days prior to the scheduled induction date. The order would direct the registrant to report for possible immediate induction. Information would also be included to explain the process for claiming a deferment or exemption, should circumstances warrant.

A registrant ordered for induction may file a claim for deferment, postponement, or exemption by completing a request form and sending it to the address of the Selective Service office shown on his induction notice. His induction will be delayed until his claim has been processed and decided.

OTHER CLASSIFICATIONS

The following classification categories, which include deferments and exemptions from service, would be available:

1-C Member of the armed forces of the U.S., the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or the Public Health Service on active duty.

1-D-D Members of Reserve Components. These include the National Guard and advanced level ROTC cadets who have already signed a Reserve contract. Those classified 1-D-D will normally perform their military service in the National Guard or Reserves, often in their Reserve units.

A man's classification determines whether he will be inducted into the military or whether his induction will be deferred, postponed, or exempted.

Hardship deferments are available for men whose inductions would result in hardship to persons who depend upon them for support.



1-A-O Conscientious objector available for noncombatant military service only. Men so classified may serve in the military, but will receive no weapons training and will serve in a noncombatant capacity.

1-O Conscientious objectors exempt from military service. Men so classified are assigned to civilian jobs serving the national health, safety or interest. They are exempt from military service based on religious, moral, or ethical grounds.

2-S Student postponement. College students would have their inductions postponed until the end of the current semester. A senior could be postponed until the end of the full academic year.

2-D Ministerial students. Students in a recognized theological or divinity school are deferred from service until they complete their studies.

3-A Hardship deferments are available for men whose inductions would result in hardship

to persons who depend upon them for support. A registrant may be granted a hardship deferment when:

(1) induction would result in extreme hardship to his wife when she is dependent upon him for support;

(2) deferment is advisable because a man's child, parent, grandparent, brother, or sister are dependent upon him for support.

Hardship deferments granted for any of the reasons identified will not be extended for longer than 365 days unless eligibility for deferment is reestablished.

4-C Aliens and dual nationals. In some cases, aliens and dual nationals may be exempt from U.S. military service depending upon their place of residence, country of citizenship, or length of residence in the United States.

4-G Surviving sons or brothers. Brothers and sons within a family where the father, mother, brother, or sister died as a result of U.S. military service, or is in a captured or missing in action status, are exempt from service. However, this exemption is only in effect during peacetime.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

A man who, because of his beliefs, chooses not to bear arms or serve in the military, may, if he is drafted, appear before his Local Board and ask to be classified as a conscientious objector. If the board so classifies him, he may be assigned to alternative civilian service in the national health, safety and interest, in lieu of military service. If consistent with his beliefs, he may be assigned to non-combatant military service.

TYPES OF CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR CLASSIFICATIONS

There are two types of conscientious objector classifications for which a draftee may make a claim. Classification 1-O precludes any involvement in war, combatant or otherwise. A man receiving this classification may be required to fulfill his service duty as a civilian, working in a public service assignment. The other classification, 1-A-O, would be for those who would serve in the military, but whose beliefs preclude them from taking up arms. They cannot receive weapons training or serve in combat positions.

PRESENTING LOCAL BOARD WITH EVIDENCE OF BELIEFS

To receive either the 1-O or 1-A-O conscientious objector classification, a registrant ordered to report for induction must present his Local Board with a statement of his beliefs telling how he arrived at them, and the influence his convictions have on how he lives his life. His Local Board must determine the depth and sincerity of his views. The registrant may present the Local Board with evidence of his beliefs, including

letters from clergy, friends, and parents who attest to knowing about his beliefs. The Local Board would also base its decision on whether the man's pacifist stance correlates with the way he has previously lived his life.

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE

An Alternative Service Program is set up by Selective Service for men classified as Class 1-O. The program would help match the objector's skills and aptitudes to an eligible public service job, while at the same time ensuring that his service makes a meaningful contribution to the national interest. All assignments would be made within 30 days of reclassification to Class 1-O.

In 1968, more than 90 percent of men classified as 1-A-O served as medical aid men in the military.

(Reported in the Selective Service newsletter; September 1968)

LOCAL BOARDS



Local Board's role in a draft will be to decide registrant claims for certain reclassifications. When a registrant receives an order to report for induction, he may file a claim with his Local Board for a deferment, postponement or exemption. The Local Board, comprised of five citizen-volunteers, will determine whether the registrant receives a deferment, postponement, or exemption based on the individual registrant's circumstances or beliefs.

REQUIREMENTS

Local Board members are appointed by the Director of Selective Service in the name of the President, on recommendations made by their respective state governors or an equivalent public official. Local Board Members are uncompensated volunteers. Board Members must be:

- *citizens of the United States*
- *at least 18 years of age*
- *civilians—not an active or retired member of the Armed Forces or any Reserve Component of the Armed Forces*
- *willing to devote sufficient time to Board affairs*
- *willing to fairly and uniformly apply Selective Service law, regulations and procedures.*
- *residents of the county or political subdivision in which the Board has jurisdiction*

No Local Board Member is allowed to act upon his own case or the case of a registrant who is a close relative, or where the relationship of business or employment exists.

A Local Board determines whether a man will receive a deferment, postponement or exemption based on a registrant's circumstances or beliefs.



TRAINING FOR LOCAL BOARD MEMBERS

To ensure a uniform application of law and regulations, and to assure fairness and equity, each Board Member undergoes comprehensive training. An initial twelve-hour course at a central location is taught by specially trained Selective Service Reserve Force Officers. Each Board Member receives a handbook containing reference material. Thereafter, continuation training sessions are held in which each Board meets to consider sample cases similar to a real life situation. Members remain ready to assume their roles on operational Local Boards should the need ever arise.



Members of Local Boards are appointed to reflect, as closely as possible, the racial and ethnic makeup of the registrants in the communities they serve.

APPEAL BOARDS

The registrant appeal process begins when a registrant wants to appeal a Local Board's decision about his reclassification claim.

THE ROLE OF THE APPEAL BOARDS

If a man is dissatisfied with the classification he receives from his Local Board, he may appeal. The first avenue of appeal is to the District Appeal Board. District Appeal Board areas correspond with Federal judicial districts and are usually made up of five members. If a registrant is denied reclassification at the District Appeal Board level, he may take his case to the National Appeal Board, but only if the decision made by the District Appeal Board is not unanimous. If all members of the District Appeal Board agree, the decision is final. The decision of the National Appeal Board, whether or not unanimous, is final within the Selective Service System.

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPEAL BOARD MEMBERS

As with Local Boards, no Appeal Board Member is allowed to act upon his own case or the case of a registrant who is a close relative, or where the relationship of business or employment exists. Appeal Board Members must meet the requirements of the Local Board Members: they must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years old, not active members of a military component, and residents of the area in which the Appeal Board has jurisdiction. Appeal Board Members, like Local Board Members, receive on-going training during peacetime to ensure uniform application of law and regulations and to reinforce fairness and equity in board decisions.

Local and Appeal Board Members serve voluntarily in every community of the United States.

GLOSSARY

Alternative Service: Civilian work, in lieu of military service, contributing to the maintenance of the national health, safety, or interest performed by conscientious objectors who object to both noncombatant and combatant military training and service.

Classification: The act of placing an individual in a certain category that determines his status with respect to the draft—available, deferred or exempted—or the category itself.

Conscientious Objector: A person who objects to participation in combatant military training and service, or to both combatant and noncombatant military training and service, as a result of moral, ethical or religious training and belief and has been classified as Class 1-A-O or Class 1-O.

Conscription: Compulsory selection for military service.

Deferment: A delay in induction as a result of reclassification. A deferment has an expiration date. No deferment will continue after the cause for it ceases to exist.

District Appeal Board: A group of five unpaid civilian members whose function is to help reclassify registrants whose cases have been appealed from a Local Board decision.

Draft: The selection and processing of young men for compulsory military service. Common term for the Selective Service process.

Exemption: A result of reclassification into a class of registrants who are not subject to induction.

Hardship deferment: Deferments from military service based on the hardship that would be incurred by family members if an individual was inducted into military service.

Induction: The act of entering the Armed Forces through the draft, as opposed to voluntary enlistment.

Local Board: A group of five unpaid civilians who volunteer to assist Selective Service in deciding claims for reclassification. They are recommended by the governor or an equivalent public official and appointed by the Director of Selective Service on behalf of the President.

Lottery: Common name for the random selection drawing assigning an order of call for drafting registrants based on their birthdates.

Military Selective Service Act: The legislation under which Selective Service operates: (50 U.S.C. App. 451 *et seq.*).

Ministerial students: A person preparing for the ministry under the direction of a recognized church or religious organization and/or enrolled in a recognized theological or divinity school. Such a person is eligible for a deferment.

Minister: A person who is ordained in a recognized church or religious organization to preach, teach, administer the rites of religion, and who is engaged in practice of the ministry as his customary vocation. Ministers are exempt from the draft.

National Appeal Board: A three-member civilian board appointed by the President of the United

States to decide cases that are appealed after they have been heard and denied by the District Appeal Boards; sometimes referred to as the Presidential Appeal Board.

Random Sequence Number: A number established by a lottery drawing for each date of birth to determine the sequence in which registrants within an age selection group are to be selected for induction.

Registrant: Each person who has complied with the law and registered with the Selective Service System.

Reserve Force Officers: National Guard members and members of other military reserves assigned to the Selective Service System who, during peacetime, recruit and train board members. Upon mobilization, these Reserve Force Officers would help activate Selective Service offices around the Nation and hire and train civilians to run them.

Reservist: A person belonging to a Reserve Component of one of the military services. Such persons are deferred from induction and perform their service with their reserve or National Guard unit.

Surviving son or brother: A person whose father, mother, brother or sister was killed in action, died in line of duty, or died later as a result of disease or injury incurred in line of duty. Such persons are exempt from military service only during peacetime.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES



The law under which the Selective Service System operates is the Military Selective Service Act. (Act of June 24, 1948, c. 625, 62 Stat. 604, as amended; 50 U.S.C. App. 451 *et seq.*). Selective Service Regulations are contained in Chapter XVI of Title 32 of the Code of Federal Regulations (32 CFR Chapter XVI). The periodic reports of the Director of Selective Service to the Congress, published annually from 1948 to 1967 and semiannually thereafter until the resumption of annual reporting for FY 1989, discuss the current activities of the Agency. These reports are usually available in the government documents section of major libraries. Detailed information concerning current Selective Service procedures is available from the Selective Service's Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Arlington, Va., 22209-2425.

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