

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, Vol. 2; Department Of Defense Civilian Personnel).
- f. DoD 5500.7-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 your command/activity/agency.

3. This message provides guidance for attending, at government expense, 2006 meetings of service-related professional organizations. Such events include, but are not limited to, the following 2006 meetings:

Association of the United States Army, 9-11 October, Washington, DC
Reserve Officers Association, 19-21 Jul, San Antonio, TX
The American Legion, 25-31 Aug, Salt Lake City, UT
Veterans of Foreign Wars, 26-31 Aug, Reno, NV
Army Aviation Association of America, 9-12 Apr, Nashville, TN
U.S. Warrant Officers Association, 16-20 Oct, St. Petersburg, FL
Non-Commissioned Officers Association, 11-12 Aug, San Antonio, TX
Military Officers Association of America, 18 Nov, Washington, DC

4. AR 1-211 and public law 101-189 remain the primary governance for such attendance (see AR-360-1, chap. 11, for speaking engagements).

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.

If you have any questions about participation in private organization events, consult the ethics counselor assigned to your organization or the HQDA Standards of Conduct Office at DSN 425-6707/commercial. (703) 588-6707.

5 HQDA POC is SAPA-AOD, Maura D. Fitch, 703-602-0185.

(Note: Per phone conversation on 23 Jul 07 with the HQDA Public Affairs Office "The Army will no longer be publishing the annual message on organization authorized to attend conferences. The authority is at the organization level and if there is a doubt in the mind of the commander the individuals should check with the local Standards of Conduct Office. Since a new message is not to be published and last years does not have an expiration date it may be cited," only the date of the conferences are for 2006.)