

Army National Guard Limited Use Policy

What Do ATR Service Providers Need to Know...

What is the Limited Use Policy?

- Prohibits the use of protected evidence in actions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).
- Limits the characterization of discharge to “honorable” if protected evidence is used.

7.3 Voluntary Self-Identification [AR-600-85]

Self-Identification – occurs when an Army National Guardsman voluntarily admits to having a substance abuse (SA) problem before an upcoming drug test. Members with substance abuse problems are encouraged to seek assistance from the unit commander, MTF, SA counselor, or a military medical professional. Following the assessment, the ATR treatment coordinator should consult with the unit commander for appropriate action.

What does this mean for Army National Guardsmen?

- A. Voluntary (self) ID is the most desirable method of discovering alcohol or other drug abuse. The individual whose performance, social conduct, interpersonal relations, or health becomes impaired because of the abuse of alcohol or other drugs has the personal obligation to seek rehabilitation.

The Soldier’s unit commander must become involved in the evaluation process.

Command policies will encourage Soldiers to volunteer for assistance and will avoid actions that would discourage these individuals from seeking help.

Normally Soldiers with an alcohol or other drug problem should seek help from their unit commander; however, they may initially request help from their prevention coordinator or ATR provider, a chaplain, any officer or non commissioned officer in their chain of command.

If a Soldier initially seeks help from an activity or individual other than his or her unit commander, the individual contacted should immediately notify the Soldier’s unit commander and prevention coordinator (JSAPPC).

The Limited Use policy will apply when Soldiers seek help from any of the listed personnel or organizations.

- B. In situations where a Soldier reveals to a chaplain that he or she is abusing or has abused alcohol or a drug, privileged communication could limit a chaplain from notifying a Soldier’s unit commander.



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What does this mean for Army National Guardsmen? (continued) [AR-600-85]

However, the Soldier may waive the communication privilege and allow the chaplain to inform the unit commander. This is required for a Commander to enroll the Soldier in the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP). If the Soldier does not waive his or her privilege, the chaplain would inform the Soldier that:

- (1) Professional alcohol and drug rehabilitation counseling is available through the ASAP counseling services.
 - (2) The Chaplain cannot assist the Soldier's entry into the ASAP without going through the member's unit commander.
- C.** Identification resulting from a Soldier seeking emergency treatment for an actual or possible alcohol or other drug overdose, not subsequent to a traffic accident or criminal offense, is considered to be a variation of volunteering. For reporting purposes, such cases will be classified as self referral.
- D.** The Limited Use Policy restricts the consequences of the Soldier's involvement in the ASAP (see paras 10–12 through 10–14). These provisions are unchanged by the mandatory initiation of separation processing of drug abusers, and such separation processing must comply with the provisions of limited use and AR 600–8–24 and AR 635–200.
- E.** A Soldier may seek assistance from other agencies for problems associated with Family members in which the Soldier's abuse of alcohol or other drugs is a factor. Every effort will be made to ensure that those agencies (for example, military or civilian services) are aware of the ASAP services and procedures (for example, mandatory command involvement) for referral to the ASAP counseling center for an initial evaluation.

What questions should providers ask service members seeking treatment?

- Have you ever served a day in the military?
- What branch of the military services?
- Who have you talked to?
- Are you willing to share your desire for help with your command?
- Have you deployed, if so, when?

