

Q: What is the California State Military Reserve?

A: The California State Military Reserve (CSMR) is the state defense force of California. The military reserve was formed to provide California a trained and organized military force in the event of a state security emergency when the National Guard is deployed. Its current mission is articulated in CA Military & Veteran's Code § 550:

The California State Military Reserve is authorized as a state defense force under the provisions of the Title 32, United States Code, Section 109(c) and the California State Military Reserve Act (codified in the California Military and Veterans Code).

CSMR is part of the Total Force of the California State Military Forces authorized by the Constitution of the State of California, which include the California Army National Guard, the California Air National Guard, and the California Naval Militia. The CSMR is NOT a private militia.

Q: What does the CSMR do?

A: SMR soldiers share the same exact State mission as their National Guard counterparts, but not the Federal mission. It should be noted that Army and Air National Guard members function in their State mission capacity most of the time, only getting "federalized" during times of great emergency or war.

Q: Who can join the CSMR?

A: To enlist you must be 18 years of age or older. To be appointed as an officer you must be at least 21 years of age and a California resident. You CANNOT be a current member of the active or reserve components of the U.S. military forces. Individuals who have been convicted of a felony or who have received dishonorable discharges from the armed forces may also be excluded. Please refer to the Eligibility section at the bottom of this page.

Q: How much of my time am I obligated to give?

A: CSMR members are required to attend monthly drills. Drills (meetings) are held monthly and are usually eight (8) hours on one Saturday each month. These are used for training sessions, activity coordination, and to work with your National Guard counterparts. You are expected to make your drills, or if you cannot due to a personal hardship, call your commander and explain your situation. Repeated absences without permission will result in discharge. As well as 100 additional service hours. The following four categories are approved activates which may be counted as service hours: 1. Service Member training, 2. Direct support to California Military Department activities, 3. Service Member duty position activates (not drill), 4. Emergency State Active Duty.

Q: Am I eligible to apply for a State Active Duty (SAD) position?

A: When you have been in the CSMR for two years, and not including any time on a Leave of Absence (LOA) status, then you are eligible to apply for an SAD position. Currently you can only apply, when eligible, for positions one above and one below your current rank.

Q: Do I get paid for my SMR time?

A: Generally, no. However, because the California State Military Reserve is a state military force, members are subject to call to active duty by the governor. When that happens, SMR members may be paid at the same rate of pay for their rank or grade as their National Guard counterparts. There are also missions which may allow for per diem and reimbursed expenses. However, any reimbursable expenses must be approved in advanced by your chain of command.

There is a small uniform and travel reimbursement for those soldiers that attend all 12 monthly scheduled drills.

Q: What uniform will I wear?

A: You will wear the standard Army Service Uniform or Army Combat Uniform if assigned to the Army component. You will wear the Air Force Service Uniform or the Air Force Combat Uniform if assigned to the Air Force component. You will wear the Navy Working Uniform if assigned to the Naval Component of the Maritime Command. The uniforms will be worn with distinctive state insignia designating you as a member of the California State Military Reserve.

These uniforms are not provided to you. CSMR members are responsible for purchasing their own uniforms and accessories.

Q: How will my rank be determined?

A: Applicants will be evaluated and appointed or enlisted to an appropriate rank based CSMR 600-1, CSMR 600-2 and CSMR 600-3. Direct Commissioning and other considerations will be based on the authorized job position (billet) the applicant will be filling within the unit, as well as on a basis of prior service, education, civilian occupation, and other factors, in accordance to California State Military Reserve regulations.

Enlisted personnel without prior military service-

E3: Basic Entry Level without a college degree (High School Diploma)

E4: Basic Entry Level with a college degree (BA and above)

IMPORTANT NOTE: Only Doctors, Physician Assistants, Nurses, Lawyers, and Chaplains are direct commissioned into the CSMR.

Q: Are these "real" officer and enlisted ranks?

A: According to California State Law, California State Military Reserve officer and enlisted personnel normally rank amongst themselves. However, when on state active duty, SMR soldiers rank among state active duty members of the California National Guard, which includes both the Army and Air Divisions.

All appointments, commissions, warrants, and enlistments are recognized and authorized by the Governor of the State of California through the Adjutant General of the State of California. SMR members can be called to active duty, have the legal authority to command troops, and participate in real-world missions on the behalf of the Military Department of the State of California.

Q: Will I be required to pass a physical exam?

A: Applicants are required to submit a "Report of Medical History" signed by their health professional as part of the application package. Applicants are also required to meet height and weight standards, this is not waivable (see below).

Q: When can I wear my CSMR uniform?

A: You must wear your uniform properly and only when attending drills, other CA SMR functions, or as otherwise allowed by regulations or your commander. When you are in uniform, all rules of military courtesy will be observed without exception. Any abuse of the uniform policy will result in your discharge. CSMR personnel cannot wear their uniform outside of the State of California without written permission from the Adjutant General.

Q: Will I have to swear in?

A: Yes, you will take an oath when you join and you are expected to live up to that oath. You will be representing the California State Military Reserve and this must be taken seriously. You are not a member until you have taken your oath.

Q: Why should I join the CSMR?

A: The California State Military Reserve is a volunteer organization that requires an obligation on the part of its members. You will serve with people who are patriotic and have a knowing respect for military preparedness. You will be carrying on a tradition of volunteer military service dating back to the creation of the United States. Last, but most challenging, you will have the opportunity to utilize the training you have had in the military and civilian life to develop and help build the cadre of the California State Military Reserve.

Q: How do I begin the application process?

A: Please complete the CSMR Interest Questionnaire after reviewing the eligibility list below and submit it to Janice.r.barnes.nfg@mail.mil

Q: Why do I have to interview for a volunteer organization?

A: This part of the application process ensures that:
The applicant is fully aware of his/her obligations as well as all aspects relating to membership in the organization; the applicant is fully qualified for membership and that there is a position available in the unit where the applicant may serve.

Q: How long does the process take?

A: The enlistment or officer appointment process will take about two months or longer if any part of your application packet is incomplete or inaccurate. There is limited full time staff and most of the process is handled by volunteers that have other full time positions.

To expedite the process please ensure that you bring all the documents requested. If you are prior service you will need your final paperwork. Please be prepared to present your final DD 214/NGB 22 or if you are from the reserve component your final letter of discharge/separation. We cannot accurately reflect your prior service time without complete documentation. If you have had any legal issues be prepared to show documentation. Live scan will be completed on every individual. Any arrest whether it was by citation or in custody must be reported, even if the charges were dropped or expunged. If you have received a VA rating be prepared to submit that information.
****Be advised that the State Military Reserve forms become official California Military Department documents, and any misrepresentations or omissions are subject to penalties as defined under the California Military and Veterans Code. When processing*

is complete and you are sworn in, you are then subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Q: When should I buy a uniform?

A: We suggest that you hold off on making any uniform purchases until your orders are published, in case there are any complications with your application packet.

Q: Do I attend drills once I turn in my packet?

A: No, according to CA SMR regulations, non-members may not participate in drill or any other official activities.

Q: If I serve with the CSMR am I considered a Veteran?

A: **NO, YOU ARE NOT A VETERAN** with CSMR service only. If you are a prior Service Member of one of the US Armed Services: Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, or Coast Guard and have met the qualifications to be considered a Veteran than you will be considered a Veteran. CSMR affiliation in no way compliments this status. You **CANNOT** ask for Veteran Preferences based on your CSMR affiliation. **Your CSMR ID Card shall not be used to claim Veteran's benefits.**

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible for enlistment or appointment in the California State Military Reserve, an applicant must be:

- 18 years of age for enlistment or 21 for appointment as an officer
- be a citizen of the U.S. (or have declared intent to become a citizen) and reside in California.
 - Aliens who have made legal declaration to become citizens of the U.S. must present a U.S. Department of Justice Immigration and Naturalization Form N-315, authenticated by a Federal District Court Officer
- Applicants without prior military service, who have specialized skills and education, may be enlisted or appointed with the approval of Headquarters, California State Military Reserve
- Applicants must have demonstrated understanding and proficiency in the English language
- Applicants must be a high school graduate or have passed the GED test
- Applicants must be medically qualified.

MEMBERSHIP INELIGIBILITY:

Applicants ineligible for enlistment or appointment include:

- Convicted felons
- Persons adjudged a youthful offender
- Persons on parole or probation
- Individuals with a RE-4 reenlistment code on their DD 214
- Persons with prior service whose discharge was other than "Honorable."
- Persons adjudged as a security risk
- Conscientious objectors
- Persons not meeting current height/weight standards (CA SMR Reg 600-9)
- Active members of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Individuals convicted of offenses involving moral turpitude
- Individuals with significant medical disqualifications (i.e. diabetes, epilepsy, etc.)

Individuals receiving medical disability annuity. (Contact SMR Headquarters for percentage allowances.)

Persons required to register for the Selective Service, but have failed to do so.

These are the Minimum Enlisted Requirements:

- 18 years of age
- U.S. Citizen or applied for citizenship (Declaration of Intent)
- California Resident
- Meet Height and Weight Requirements
- Must be medically qualified
- Proficiency in the English language
- Currently possess High School Diploma or GED

These are the Minimum Requirements to be admitted into the CSMR as an Officer:

- Minimum 21 year of age
- U.S. Citizen
- BA/BS Degree
- Special Branch Officers must have the appropriate degree for their profession
- Meet Height and Weight Requirements
- Must be medically qualified
- Prior commissioned military service – Federal or CSMR with honorable service
- Officer Candidate School graduates
- ROTC graduates (Offered a Commission)
- Special Branch Officers (Direct Commission) Chaplain, JAG, Medical

Enclosure 1 (CSMR Height/Weight/Body Fat Standards)

Height Inches	AR 600-9	CSMR Max Weight by Age (Males)					
		18-24	25-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	60+
60	141	145	149	154	158	162	166
61	146	150	155	159	164	168	172
62	150	155	159	164	168	173	177
63	155	160	164	169	174	178	183
64	160	165	170	174	179	184	189
65	165	170	175	180	185	190	195
66	170	175	180	185	190	196	201
67	176	181	187	192	197	202	208
68	181	186	192	197	203	208	214
69	186	192	197	203	208	214	219
70	192	198	204	209	215	221	227
71	197	203	209	215	221	227	232
72	203	209	215	221	227	233	240
73	208	214	220	227	233	239	245
74	214	220	227	233	240	246	253
75	220	227	233	240	246	253	260
76	226	233	240	246	253	260	267
77	232	239	246	253	260	267	274
78	238	245	252	259	267	274	281
79	244	251	259	266	273	281	288
		+103%	+106%	+109%	+112%	115%	+118%
Max Body Fat Percentage		22%	24%	26%	28%	30%	32%

Enclosure 1 (CSMR Height/Weight/Body Fat Standards)

Height Inches	AR 600-9	CSMR Max Weight by Age (Females)					
		18-24	25-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	60+
59	128	132	136	140	143	147	151
60	133	137	141	145	149	153	157
61	137	141	145	149	153	158	162
62	142	146	151	155	159	163	168
63	146	150	155	159	164	168	172
64	151	156	160	165	169	174	178
65	156	161	165	170	175	179	184
66	161	166	171	175	180	185	190
67	166	171	176	181	186	191	196
68	171	176	181	186	192	197	202
69	176	181	187	192	197	202	208
70	181	186	192	197	203	208	214
71	186	192	197	203	208	214	219
72	191	197	202	208	214	220	225
73	197	203	209	215	221	227	232
74	202	208	214	220	226	232	238
75	208	214	220	227	233	239	245
76	213	219	226	232	239	245	251
77	219	226	232	239	245	252	258
78	225	232	239	245	252	259	266
79	230	237	244	251	258	265	271
		+103%	+106%	+109%	+112%	115%	+118%
Max Body Fat Percentage		32%	34%	36%	38%	40%	42%