



**TEXAS MILITARY DEPARTMENT**  
36<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION  
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LETTER FOR All 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Soldiers

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Vaccination Guidance and Policy Education

1. The purpose of this letter is to educate Service Members (SM) on Department Of Defense guidance and policy that is in place for the COVID-19 vaccination. It is important to ensure all SMs are aware of the options that are available to them, understand the DOD policy and discharge dates for those not receiving the vaccination without an approved exemption, and share facts about the vaccination. COVID-19 vaccinations are voluntary, and no SMs will be forced to receive the vaccination by the Texas Military Department. Currently though the DOD policy mandates vaccination. The COVID-19 vaccination is available to the entirety of the Texas Army National Guard (including dependents).

2. The Texas Governor has prohibited a COVID-19 vaccine mandate to Texas Military Department service members. However, the Department of Defense has mandated that all Title 5 Miltechs, T10 AGR, T32 AGR, ADOS, and M-Day Soldiers receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The Department of Defense mandate prohibits SMs from attending ATRRS schools on federal installations and Title 10 mobilizations before the 30 June, 2022 deadline. After 30 June if a soldier is not fully vaccinated soldiers will not be paid for IDT, AT or any other federal pay. The Texas Attorney General has filed a lawsuit on behalf of the Texas Governor to stop the DoD vaccine requirement but the Texas Military Department does not know if these efforts in the courts will be successful by 30 Jun 22.

3. As the Command Team of the best Division in the Army, we want to maintain our tremendous Soldiers within our organization. You have the skills and strength that continually help the Division and the Texas Military Department be successful. We recognize that you and your family have made significant sacrifices and we want you to maintain the benefits of membership that you have earned over your career. Each individual Soldier brings value and an additional perspective to improving and maintaining our forces as Texas Strong. That is why we are encouraging you to make an educated decision on what is right for you, your family, and your future. The following paragraphs describe the timelines established by Headquarters Department of the Army and the National Guard Bureau.

4. The deadline to become fully vaccinated is June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. That means to be compliant, you must start receiving the two-dose vaccine NLT (15MAY22) 45 days prior to the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. If you were to receive the one dose series on the economy, you must receive it 15 days (15 June) prior to the deadline. Soldiers are not required to be in a duty status to receive the vaccine, but are encouraged IOT receive an LOD in