

an instructor in the program, the officer must be certified by the Secretary of the military department concerned as a qualified instructor in leadership, wellness and fitness, civics, and other courses related to the content of the program, according to the qualifications set forth in subsection (b)(2) or (c)(2), as appropriate.

(b) SENIOR MILITARY INSTRUCTORS.—

(1) ROLE.—Senior military instructors shall be retired officers of the armed forces and shall serve as instructional leaders who oversee the program.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—A senior military instructor shall have the following qualifications:

(A) Professional military qualification, as determined by the Secretary of the military department concerned.

(B) Award of a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher learning.

(C) Completion of secondary education teaching certification requirements for the program as established by the Secretary of the military department concerned.

(D) Award of an advanced certification by the Secretary of the military department concerned in core content areas based on—

(i) accumulated points for professional activities, services to the profession, awards, and recognitions;

(ii) professional development to meet content knowledge and instructional skills; and

(iii) performance evaluation of competencies and standards within the program through site visits and inspections.

(c) NON-SENIOR MILITARY INSTRUCTORS.—

(1) ROLE.—Non-senior military instructors shall be retired noncommissioned officers of the armed forces and shall serve as instructional leaders and teach independently of, but share program responsibilities with, senior military instructors.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—A non-senior military instructor shall demonstrate a depth of experience, proficiency, and expertise in coaching, mentoring, and practical arts in executing the program, and shall have the following qualifications:

(A) Professional military qualification, as determined by the Secretary of the military department concerned.

(B) Award of an associates degree from an institution of higher learning within five years of employment.

(C) Completion of secondary education teaching certification requirements for the program as established by the Secretary of the military department concerned.

(D) Award of an advanced certification by the Secretary of the military department concerned in core content areas based on—

(i) accumulated points for professional activities, services to the profession, awards, and recognitions;

(ii) professional development to meet content knowledge and instructional skills; and

(iii) performance evaluation of competencies and standards within the program through site visits and inspections.

(Added Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title V, § 539(a), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2210.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2033, added Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, § 547(a)(1), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 608; amended Pub. L. 106-398, § 1 [[div. A], title V, § 577(d)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-140, provided that certain excess amounts appropriated for the National Guard Challenge Program were to be made available for the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title V, § 596(c)(1), (3), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1127, effective Oct. 1, 2002.

**§ 2034. Educational institutions not maintaining units of Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps: issuance of arms, tentage, and equipment**

The Secretary of a military department may issue arms, tentage, and equipment to an educational institution at which no unit of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps is maintained if the educational institution—

(1) offers a course in military training prescribed by that Secretary; and

(2) has a student body of at least 50 students who are in a grade above the eighth grade.

(Added Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, § 552(a), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1741.)

**§ 2035. Flexibility in authorities for management of programs and units**

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVERT OTHERWISE CLOSING UNITS TO NATIONAL DEFENSE CADET CORPS PROGRAM UNITS.—If the Secretary of a military department is notified by a local educational agency of the intent of the agency to close its Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps, the Secretary shall offer the agency the option of converting the unit to a National Defense Cadet Corps (NDCC) program unit in lieu of closing the unit.

(b) FLEXIBILITY IN ADMINISTRATION OF INSTRUCTORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries of the military departments may, without regard to any other provision of this chapter, undertake initiatives designed to promote flexibility in the hiring and compensation of instructors for the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program under the jurisdiction of such Secretaries.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The initiatives undertaken pursuant to this subsection may provide for one or more of the following:

(A) Termination of the requirement for a waiver as a condition of the hiring of well-qualified non-commissioned officers with a bachelor's degree for senior instructor positions within the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

(B) Specification of a single instructor as the minimum number of instructors required to found and operate a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps unit.

(C) Authority for Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps instructors to undertake school duties, in addition to Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps duties, at small schools.

(D) Authority for the payment of instructor compensation for a limited number of