

Guidance on Facial Hair Standards and Accommodations

Per AR 670-1, male Soldiers must maintain a clean-shaven face in uniform, or in civilian clothes while on duty.

While mustaches are authorized, Soldiers must keep them neatly trimmed, tapered, and tidy.

Mustaches will not:

- cover any portion of the upper lip line
- extend sideways beyond a vertical line drawn upward from corners of mouth
- extend above a parallel line at the lowest portion of the nose. (See figure 1 below)

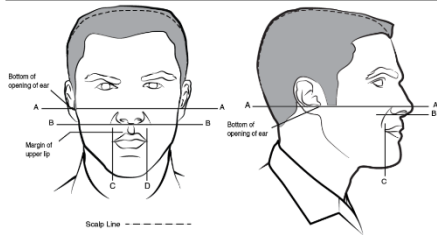


Figure 1. Mustache Standard

Handlebar mustaches, goatees, and beards are not authorized. Beards are only authorized for those Soldiers who require a medical exemption or religious accommodation.

Medical

- Soldiers may receive a profile for facial hair if they have a medical condition warranting facial hair. This will be determined by a medical provider.
- Soldier exempt from shaving during treatment process. (DA Form 3349 issued and entered in e-Profile)
- Soldier will groom facial hair to a maximum of one-quarter inch in length.
- Grooming will not be shaped, edged, or fashioned in a manner contrary to Army regulation.

Religious accommodations

- Granted on a case-by-case basis.
- Accommodations must be approved before Soldier begins growing beard.
- Beards (including facial hair and neck hair) must be maintained to a length not to exceed 2 inches when measured from the bottom of the chin. (See figure 2 below)

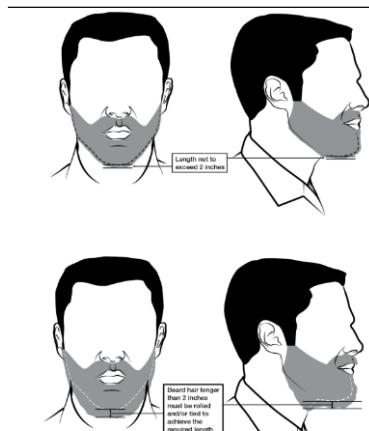


Figure 2. Beard Standard

Guidance for Soldiers and Leaders:

- Soldiers do not need to carry a copy of their temporary profile/memorandum of record (MFR).
- Leaders can ask a Soldier if they have a profile or MFR if their facial hair does not comply with standards.
- Leaders can validate exemption by engaging authorized medical personnel and/or the Soldier's commander.

References:

- AR 600-20 (Army Command Policy)
- AR 670-1 (Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia)
- DA PAM 40-502 (Medical Readiness Procedures)
- AR 40-501 (Standards of Medical Fitness)
- DODM 6025.18 (Implementation of HIPAA Privacy Rule in DoD Health Care Programs)
- 10 USC 774, "Religious apparel: wearing while uniform"
- DODI 1300.17, "Religious Liberty in the Military Services"
- USC 2000bb-1, "Free exercise of religion protected"
- FM 1-05 (Religious Support)
- DoDI 6025.18 (HIPAA Privacy Rule Compliance Act in DoD Health Care Programs)



The Inspector General
LTG Donna W. Martin

Acting Deputy, The Inspector General
COL Isaac Manigault

The Inspector General Sergeant Major
SGM Larry H. Orvis



If there are questions regarding HIPAA please refer to DoD Manual 6025.18 and or contact your local servicing legal office for assistance.

