

Line of Duty Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. What is a Line of Duty determination?

A1. A Line of Duty (LOD) determination is an administrative tool for determining a Service member's duty status at the time of injury, illness, or disease. LODs are required to receive care for an injury, illness, or disease incurred or aggravated while on active duty, inactive duty training, full-time National Guard duty, and funeral honors duty.

Q2. What is the Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) for Line of Duty?

A2. DoDI 1241.01, Reserve Component (RC) Line of Duty Determination for Medical and Dental Treatments and Incapacitation Pay Entitlements, April 19, 2016.

Q3. Will there be any policy or procedure changes for submitting LODs related to COVID-19 Infection?

A3. No. The military departments should follow current LOD policies and procedures for their respective service. LODs for COVID-19 Infection will be submitted the same as with any other condition.

Q4. What actions should RC Service members take if they suspect they are exhibiting signs of COVID-19 Infection while in a qualified duty status?

A4. Service members should take the same actions they would with any other injury or illness by reporting it to their chain of command and seeking medical care. For RC members not in a military duty status who have symptoms they believe are related to COVID-19, follow the CDC recommendations of contacting your civilian health care provider for guidance before arriving to their location (helps prevent spread).

Q5. Will RC Service members be covered for COVID-19 Infection that was incurred or aggravated while in a qualified duty status?

A5. An RC Service member is entitled to medical and dental treatment for an injury, illness, or disease that was incurred or aggravated while in a qualified duty status and that is not the result of gross negligence or misconduct.

Q6. Can an RC Service member be placed on orders for care related to COVID-19 infection?

A6. Yes. RC members in a qualifying military duty status may be extended on existing orders or transitioned to voluntary orders for purposes of medical treatment or evaluation (under the authority of 10 USC 12301(h)/12322). A LOD must be initiated to determine whether the condition is in the line of duty. If a RC member is not on orders but a LOD determination indicates that the condition was incurred or aggravated while in a qualifying military duty status, active federal service orders may (with member consent) be issued. Review DoDI 1241.01 and service directives for more details.