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(2) The Master Aviation Badge and the Senior Aviation Badge are authorized for permanent wear. The Basic Aviation Badge may be authorized for temporary or permanent wear. An officer awarded an Aviation Badge while serving in an enlisted status is authorized to wear the badge as a permanent part of the uniform.

(d) Eligibility requirements for each badge are provided in §§ 578.91, 578.92, and 578.93.

(e) *Description*. An oxidized silver badge ¾ inch in height and 2 2/12 inches in width, consisting of a shield with its field scored with horizontal lines and bearing the coat of arms of the United States on and over a pair of displayed wings. A star is added above the shield to indicate the degree of Senior Aviation Badge and the star is surrounded with a laurel wreath to indicate the degree of Master Aviation Badge.

§ 578.91 Aviation Badge—Basic.

(a) *Permanent award*. (1) For permanent award of this badge, an individual must be on flying status, (physically qualified-class III), IAW AR 600–106 or be waived by HQDA, have performed inflight duties for not less than 12 hours (not necessarily consecutive), or is school trained.

(2) An officer on flying status as an aerial observer may be awarded the Basic Aviation Badge. U.S. Army personnel assigned to a Joint Service Airborne Command Post and serving as members of an operational team on flying status manning the Airborne Command Post are eligible for the award of the Basic Aviation Badge. Concurrent with such assignment, these personnel are authorized temporary wear of the Basic Aviation Badge until relieved from such duty or until such time as he or she fulfills the mandatory requirements for permanent award.

(3) An individual who has been incapacitated for further flight duty by reason of being wounded as a result of enemy action, or injured as the result of an aircraft accident for which he or she was not personally responsible, or has participated in at least 15 combat missions under probable exposure to enemy fire while serving in a principal duty outlined in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, is permanently authorized to wear the Basic Aviation Badge.

(4) The Basic Aviation Badge may be permanently awarded to soldiers upon successful completion of formal advanced individual training (AIT) in Career Management Field (CMF) 67 and CMF 93 MOS', and to soldiers who previously completed AIT in CMF 28 MOS'. This includes soldiers who graduated from AIT for MOS' in the 68 series. Soldiers holding MOS' 35L, 35M, 35Q, and 35W who graduated from a CMF 67 AIT prior to September 30, 1996 and MOSs 93C and 93P who graduated from a CMF 67 AIT after December 31, 1985 are authorized based on documented prior AIT.

(5) Individuals who meet the criteria for award of the Army Astronaut Device and are not authorized an Aviator, Flight Surgeon or Aviation Badge will be awarded the Aviation Badge in addition to the Army Astronaut Device.

(6) The Aviation Badge may be permanently awarded to soldiers upon successful completion of formal AIT in CMF 93 MOS'. Soldiers previously holding MOS 93B who graduated from a CMF 93 AIT prior to January 1, 1998 and soldiers previously holding MOS 93D who graduated from a CMF 93 AIT prior to September 30, 1996 are authorized the badge based on documented AIT after December 31, 1985.

(b) *Temporary award*. For temporary award of this badge, the commander of any Army unit that has Army aircraft assigned may authorize in published orders qualified personnel of his or her command to wear the Aviation Badge. The individual must be performing inflight duties.

§ 578.92 Senior Aviation Badge.

(a) *Eligibility criteria*. For award of this badge, an individual must either successfully perform 7 years on flight status (physically qualified-class III) in a principal duty assignment described in AR 600–106 or serve in CMF 67 and 93, including all 68 series MOS'. Warrant Officers MOS' 150A and 151A, and MOS 00Z individuals from CMF 67 or 93 field may qualify for the Senior Aviation Badge with 10 years of experience and meet the following criteria:

(1) Only time involving frequent and regular flights will be counted toward

fulfillment of this requirement, except that time involved in transit between PCS assignments to include TDY, will also be credited.

(2) Soldiers who retain CMF 67 or 93 while performing career progressive assignments, especially duties as Drill Sergeant, Recruiter, Career Management NCO, Career Advisor, Instructor or Equal Opportunity Advisor will be counted towards this requirement not to exceed 36 months. Warrant Officers MOS 150A or 151A may qualify for this badge after successfully performing 7 years on flight status or 10 years experience in CMF 67 or 93, MOS 151A or 150A. Prior enlisted CMF 67 time may count with MOS 151A experience and CMF 93 time may count with MOS 150A experience to fulfill this requirement. The retroactive date for this badge under these criteria is January 1, 1983.

(3) Displayed complete competence in the principal duty or duties performed leading to this award.

(4) Attained the grade of E–4 or higher.

(5) Be recommended by the unit commander of the unit to which presently assigned.

(b) *Retroactive award.* The retroactive date for award of this badge is February 1, 1989 for CMF 93, Warrant Officer MOS' 150A and 151A and individuals in MOS 00Z. Soldiers holding CMF 93 or MOS 93D, prior to September 30, 1996 and MOS 93B prior to January 1, 1998, may qualify for award of the Senior Aviation Badge based on documented experience.

§ 578.93 Master Aviation Badge.

(a) For award of this badge, an individual must either successfully perform 15 years on flight status (physically qualified-class III) in a principal duty assignment described in AR 600–106 or serve in CMF 67 or 93, including all 68 series MOS'. Warrant Officers MOS' 150A and 151A and individuals in MOS 00Z from a CMF 67 or 93 field, may qualify for the Master Aviation Badge with 17 years of experience and meet the following criteria:

(1) Only time involving frequent and regular flights will be counted toward fulfillment of this requirement, except that time involved in transit between PCS assignments, to include TDY, will also be credited.

(2) Soldiers that retain CMF 67 or 93 while performing career progressive assignments, especially duties as Drill Sergeant, Recruiter, Career Management NCO, Career Advisor, Instructor or Equal Opportunity Advisor, will be counted towards this requirement not to exceed 36 months. Warrant Officer MOS' 150A and 151A may qualify for this badge after successfully performing 15 years on flight status or 17 years experience in CMF 67 or 93 or MOS 150A and 151A. Prior enlisted CMF 67 time may count with MOS 151A experience and CMF 93 time may count with MOS 150A experience to fulfill this requirement.

(3) Displayed complete competence in the principal duty or duties performed leading to this award.

(4) Attained the grade of E–6 or higher.

(5) Be recommended by the unit commander and endorsed by the next higher commander of the unit to which presently assigned.

(b) *Retroactive date.* The retroactive date for the badge under these revised criteria is January 1, 1976. The retroactive date for CMF 93, Warrant Officer MOS' 150A and 151A and individuals in MOS 00Z is February 1, 1982. Soldiers holding CMF 93, MOS 93D, prior to September 30, 1996 and MOS 93B, prior to January 1, 1998, may qualify for award of the Master Aviation Badge based on documented experience.

§ 578.94 Driver and Mechanic Badge.

(a) *Basic criteria.* The Driver and Mechanic Badge is awarded to drivers, mechanics, and special equipment operators to denote the attainment of a high degree of skill in the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles.

(b) *Badge approval authority.* Commanders of brigades, regiments, separate battalions, and any commander in the rank of lieutenant colonel or higher.

(c) *Eligibility requirements for drivers.* A soldier must—

(1) Qualify for and possess a current OF 346 (U.S. Government Motor Vehicles Operator's Identification Card), issued as prescribed by AR 600–55 and,