



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHIEF, ARMY MARS
MILITARY AFFILIATE RADIO SYSTEM
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FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA 85613-5000

Thank you for your interest in the United States Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) program. Before you decide to complete and forward the enclosed request for membership, please review the following to better understand the mission of Army MARS. Additional information is available at the Army MARS web site [http:// www.netcom.army.mil/mars](http://www.netcom.army.mil/mars) .

Our members are licensed volunteers and we all recognize that family and work need to come first. However, all 2,600 Army MARS members and this headquarters will count on you to be professional in your approach to Army MARS. You will have to meet initial and recurring training and certification requirements which assure me that you are a highly skilled and competent member of this voluntary, but professional support organization to the U.S. Army and the United States. When trouble arises, we need to know that if called upon, you will help our nation in a crunch. Let me highlight some requirements of Army MARS membership.

- a. MARS members are expected to comply with Army MARS rules, regulations, procedures, and directives—**Army MARS is a most professional organization!**
- b. Army MARS frequencies and nets are to be used for official business only. MARS nets and frequencies are monitored by the U.S. Army MARS HQ, Army MARS members, and the general public. All on-air operations must be conducted in a professional manner in accordance with Army MARS policies and procedures—again, this is a most professional organization!
- c. Army MARS members will only distribute information to those authorized to receive it in accordance with official Army MARS operational guidance. This applies to both formal and informal correspondence, including that transmitted via e-mail. Correspondence or messages pertaining to Army MARS business *will not be distributed* outside the Army MARS membership—again, this is a most professional organization!
- d. Members are required to submit monthly Participation Reports to document time spent in support of Army MARS. Details of the report format are contained in Chapter 5—again, this is a most professional organization!
- e. Members are required to participate in MARS training by completing training courses and on-the-air operations (this is the fun part). Regional and State Army MARS directors maintain training records on all active Army MARS members (nearly 2,600)—again, this is a most professional organization!
- f. Members must have a minimum of 15 participation hours every calendar quarter, nine of which must be on-the-air hours on the member's state and regional nets. Details on Army MARS participation are contained in Chapter 5 of the Army MARS SOP.
- g. As members progress in Army MARS, gaining experience and completing training courses, they are encouraged to apply for management and administrative positions. There is room for personal growth in Army MARS—again, this is a most professional organization!
- h. All Army MARS members are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects

positively on themselves and the U.S. Army MARS program. This includes being supportive of Army MARS rules and policies. Army MARS will not condone nor tolerate personal attacks, the use of profane or vulgar language, derogatory remarks, verbal abuse, or disrespectful comments directed to or about members, management, the Army MARS program, or any other organization—again, **Army MARS is a most professional organization!**

Obtaining your amateur radio license was the first step in the MARS licensing process. In addition, we have a Basic Training Course and provide an Operators Guide for all and new and returning members. Obtaining an Army MARS license isn't hard, but it takes commitment to complete training within 6-months—again, **Army MARS is a most professional organization!**

If you want to be a part of this **most professional organization** and use your amateur radio operator training and skills to help defend and secure America's homeland, I will gladly welcome you into the Army MARS Force and certify you as a "Professional" volunteer Army MARS member.

We have a place for you in our professional Army MARS Force. If you are interested, please complete and return the attached form. I believe that like the nearly 2,600 Army MARS members, you too will be proud to be a member of Army MARS. I believe you too will find Army MARS membership to be a personally rewarding way to support and defend the United States of America.

Sincerely,



STUART S. CARTER
Chief, Army MARS
"Army MARS – Voice of the Army"