

## **MILPER Number: 25-093**

**Proponent**  
**AHRC-PDP-A**

**Title**  
**Establishment of the Army Master Combat Badges**

**...Issued:[17 Mar 2025]...**

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A. AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards), 19 Jan 24.

B. AR 670-1 (Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia), 26 Jan 21.

C. DA Pam 670-1 (Guide to the Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia), 26 Jan 21.

1. This message will expire on 17 March 2026.

2. The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) has approved the establishment of the Master Combat Infantryman Badge (MCIB), Master Combat Medical Badge (MCMB), and Master Combat Action Badge (MCAB). The Master Combat Badges are awarded to personnel that have met the requirements and have been awarded any Expert Badge and any Combat Badge in any combination. It is not awarded based on Branch specific Expertise or Combat experience.

3. The MCIB, MCMB, and the MCAB are authorized for award to U.S. and foreign military personnel that qualify. The MCIB, MCMB, and the MCAB are effective as of 9 October 2024. The MCIB and MCMB are retroactive to 11 November 1943. The MCAB is retroactive to 18 September 2001.

4. The basic eligibility criteria for award of the MCIB, MCMB, and the MCAB are as follows:

- a. MCIB: a Soldier must have met all requirements for and have been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge and either the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Expert Field Medical Badge, or the Expert Soldier Badge.
- b. MCMB: a Soldier must have met all requirements for and have been awarded the Combat Medical Badge and the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Expert Field Medical Badge, or the Expert Soldier Badge.
- c. MCAB: a Soldier must have met all requirements for and have been awarded the Combat Action Badge and the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Expert Field Medical Badge, or the Expert Soldier Badge.

5. Award approval authority.

- a. MCIB, MCMB, and MCAB approval authority for currently serving Soldiers is at the first LTC/O-5 (or above) level commander in the chain of command.
- b. MCIB, MCMB, and MCAB approval authority for Retirees and Veterans is the Chief, Awards and Decorations Branch (AHRC-PDP-A), U.S. Army Human Resources Command.

6. The MCIB, MCMB, and the MCAB may be awarded retroactively to current members of the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserve, or U.S. Army National Guard.

7. All requests for current members must be submitted through an IPPS-A PAR to the approval authority listed in paragraph 5a. To initiate the PAR: Create new PAR -- select Admin Records Correction for the \*Action -- select Other for \*Reason -- enter MCIB, MCMB, or MCAB under \*Other Type -- list a brief description under \*More information -- upload supporting documents (7a & 7b) under attachments -- submit to S-1 Pool for processing. Once approved HR Professionals must enter the approved badge under Person Profile -- Awards -- Combat and Special Skills Badges Category, by searching the description "contains" MCIB, MCMB, or MCAB. Requests must include the following information:

- a. Copy of Expert Badge orders.
- b. Copy of Combat Badge orders.

8. The MCIB, MCMB, and MCAB will be announced in permanent orders (Format 320) by the approval authorities listed in paragraph 5 above until future inclusion within IPPS-A. The HR Professional/S-1 will be responsible for the manual creation of the permanent orders that authorize the MCIB, MCMB, and MCAB. After the permanent orders are published the HR Professional/S-1 will need to upload them into IPERMS for inclusion in the Soldiers Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR). (See example of Format 320 order in paragraph 12.)

9. Retroactive requests for Veterans and Retirees should submit documents in paragraph 7a-b to Chief, Awards and Decorations Branch (AHRC-PDP-A), U.S. Army Human Resources Command, 1600 Spearhead Division Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40122-5408. IPPS-A processing does not apply to veterans or retirees.

10. The MCIB, MCMB, and MCAB are authorized for wear on the OCP, AGSU, and Dress uniforms. Additional guidance on wear of the identification badges can be found in DA Pam 670-1 (reference C above).

11. Applicable changes will be incorporated into future revisions of AR 600-8-22, AR 670-1, and DA Pam 670-1 (references A-C above).

12. Format 320 example, please insert on appropriate unit letter head:

PERMANENT ORDER XXX-XXX

Day Month Year

LAST, FIRST MI. 123-45-6789 PFC Company G, 2d Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division, APO 468

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Master Combat Infantryman Badge or Master Combat Action Badge or Master Combat Medical Badge

Date: Day Month Year

Authority: The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) memorandum, Establishment of the Master Combat Badges dated 9 October 2024

Reason: For having been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge or Combat Action Badge or Combat Medical Badge and the Expert Infantryman Badge or Expert Field Medical Badge or Expert Soldier Badge

Format: 320

This Permanent Order supersedes any previously issued Order that may have been published announcing this award.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

JOE SNUFFY

LTC, AG

Chief, Awards and Decorations Branch

DISTRIBUTION:

AHRC-PDP-A (1)

NPRC / iPERMS (1)

Individual / Next of kin (3)

13. For clarification or questions regarding this message, contact LTC Damian R. Tong or Mr. Dennis D. Christensen at the Awards and Decorations Branch, AHRC-PDP-A, 502-613-9126, (DSN) 983-9126, or by e-mail at [usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-awards@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-awards@army.mil).