

Selective Service System

§ 1636.9

(b) The registrant's stated convictions should be a matter of conscience.

(c) The board should be convinced that the registrant's personal history since the crystallization of his conscientious objection is not inconsistent with his claim and demonstrates that the registrant's objection is not solely a matter of expediency. A recent crystallization of beliefs does not in itself indicate expediency.

(d) The information presented by the registrant should reflect a pattern of behavior in response to war and weapons which is consistent with his stated beliefs. Instances of violent acts or conviction for crimes of violence, or employment in the development or manufacturing of weapons of war, if the claim is based upon or supported by a life of nonviolence, may be indicative of inconsistent conduct.

(e) The development of a registrant's opposition to war in any form may bear on his sincerity. If the registrant claims a recent crystallization of beliefs, his claim should be supported by evidence of a religious or educational experience, a traumatic event, an historical occasion, or some other special situation which explains when and how his objection to participation in war crystallized.

(f) In the event that a registrant has previously worked in the development of or manufacturing of weapons of war or has served as a member of a military reserve unit, it should be determined whether such activity was prior to the stated crystallization of the registrant's conscientious objector beliefs. Inconsistent conduct prior to the actual crystallization of conscientious objector beliefs is not necessarily indicative of insincerity. But, inconsistent conduct subsequent to such crystallization may indicate that registrant's stated objection is not sincere.

(g) A registrant's behavior during his personal appearance before a board may be relevant to the sincerity of his claim.

(1) Evasive answers to questions by board members or the use of hostile, belligerent, or threatening words or actions, for example, may in proper circumstances be deemed inconsistent with a claim in which the registrant

bases his objection on a belief in nonviolence.

(2) Care should be exercised that nervous, frightened, or apprehensive behavior at the personal appearance is not misconstrued as a reflection of insincerity.

(h) Oral response to questions posed by board members should be consistent with the written statements of the registrant and should generally substantiate the submitted information in the registrant's file folder; any inconsistent material should be explained by the registrant. It is important to recognize that the registrant need not be eloquent in his answers. But, a clear inconsistency between the registrant's oral remarks at his personal appearance and his written submission to the board may be adequate grounds, if not satisfactorily explained, for concluding that his claim is insincere.

(i) The registrant may submit letters of reference and other supporting statements of friends, relatives and acquaintances to corroborate the sincerity of his claim, although such supplemental documentation is not essential to approval of his claim. A finding of insincerity based on these letters or supporting statements must be carefully explained in the board's decision, specific mention being made of the particular material relied upon for denial of classification in Class 1-A-0 or Class 1-0.

[47 FR 4655, Feb. 1, 1982, as amended at 52 FR 24457, July 1, 1987; 60 FR 13908, Mar. 15, 1995]

§ 1636.9 Types of decisions.

The following are the types of decisions which may be made by a board when a claim for classification in Class 1-A-0 or Class 1-0 has been considered.

(a) Decision to grant a claim for classification in Class 1-A-0 or Class 1-0, as requested, based on a determination that the truth or sincerity of the registrant's claim is not refuted by any information contained in the registrant's file or obtained during his personal appearance.

(b) Decision to deny a claim for classification in Class 1-A-0 or Class 1-0 based on all information before the board, and a finding that such information fails to meet the tests specified in

§ 1636.10

§ 1636.3 or 1636.4 of this part. If supported by information contained in the registrant's file or obtained during his personal appearance the board may find that the facts presented by the registrant in support of his claim are untrue.

[47 FR 4655, Feb. 1, 1982, as amended at 53 FR 25328, July 6, 1988]

§ 1636.10 Statement of reasons for denial.

(a) Denial of a conscientious objector claim by a board must be accompanied by a statement specifying the reason(s) for such denial as prescribed in §§ 1633.9, 1651.4 and 1653.3 of this chapter. The reason(s) must, in turn, be supported by evidence in the registrant's file.

(b) If a board's denial is based on statements by the registrant or on a determination that the claim is inconsistent or insincere, this should be fully explained in the statement of reasons accompanying the denial.

PART 1639—CLASSIFICATION OF REGISTRANTS PREPARING FOR THE MINISTRY

Sec.

- 1639.1 Purpose; definitions.
- 1639.2 The claim for Class 2-D.
- 1639.3 Basis for classification in Class 2-D.
- 1639.4 Exclusion from Class 2-D.
- 1639.5 Impartiality.
- 1639.6 Considerations relevant to granting or denying claims for Class 2-D.
- 1639.7 Types of decisions.
- 1639.8 Statement of reason for denial.

AUTHORITY: Military Selective Service Act, 50 U.S.C. App. 451 *et seq.*; E.O. 11623.

SOURCE: 47 FR 4657, Feb. 1, 1982, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1639.1 Purpose; definitions.

(a) The provisions of this part shall govern the consideration of a claim by a registrant for classification in Class 2-D (§ 1630.26 of this chapter).

(b) The definitions of this paragraph shall apply to the interpretation of the provisions of this part:

(1) The term *ministry* refers to the vocation of a *duly ordained minister of religion* or *regular minister of religion* as defined in part 1645 of this chapter.

(2) The term *recognized church or religious organization* refers to a church or

32 CFR Ch. XVI (7–1–05 Edition)

religious organization established on the basis of a community of faith and belief, doctrines and practices of a religious character, and which engages primarily in religious activities.

(3) The term *recognized theological or divinity school* refers to a theological or divinity school whose graduates are acceptable for ministerial duties either as an ordained or regular minister by the church or religious organization sponsoring a registrant as a ministerial student.

(4) The term *graduate program* refers to a program in which the registrant's studies are officially approved by his church or religious organization for entry into service as a regular or duly ordained minister of religion.

(5) The term *full-time intern* applies to a program that must run simultaneously with or immediately follow the completion of the theological or divinity training and is required by a recognized church or religious organization for entry into the ministry.

(6) The term *satisfactorily pursuing a full-time course of instruction* means maintaining a satisfactory academic record as determined by the institution while receiving full-time instructions in a structured learning situation. A full-time course of instruction does not include instructions received pursuant to a mail order program.

§ 1639.2 The claim for Class 2-D.

A claim to classification in Class 2-D must be made by the registrant in writing, such document being placed in his file folder.

§ 1639.3 Basis for classification in Class 2-D.

(a) In Class 2-D shall be placed any registrant who is preparing for the ministry under the direction of a recognized church or religious organization; and

(1) Who is satisfactorily pursuing a full-time course of instruction required for entrance into a recognized theological or divinity school in which he has been pre-enrolled or accepted for admission; or

(2) Who is satisfactorily pursuing a full-time course of instruction in a recognized theological or divinity school; or