

The Army D.A. Photograph

This is your “handshake” with the board members. Whether it’s a promotion board, a selection board for Officer Candidate School, Warrant Officer School, Division Soldier of the Year, or command consideration, the D.A. Photo is an important part of the selection process.

The impact of the photo certainly depends on the discretion of the individual board member, but there is no doubt, that while a good photo may not help you on a board, a poor photo can certainly hurt.

Board members expect to see a sharply dressed Soldier with good military bearing, a clean haircut, and correctly worn decorations. Anything else can be a negative discriminator.

Promotion boards see your current DAPMIS photo, if available when considering selection or promotion.

Board members use your photograph in their decision process. Many board members view the photograph as a Soldier’s personal statement of professionalism to the board.

Every Soldier is responsible for the accuracy of their awards and decorations as well as how they are displayed on their uniform. The Soldier is also responsible to make sure the uniform fits properly and is pressed neatly. Natural wrinkles in the uniform are acceptable and expected, however major wrinkles and creases in the sleeve and throughout the uniform are sometimes indication that the uniform does not fit correctly or has not been recently cleaned and pressed. If the last time you had your uniform cleaned/pressed was when you had your last photo taken a year ago, it will show in the photo.

Soldiers should check all their records and review their Enlisted Record Brief, or Officer Record Brief and Official Military Personnel File PRIOR to making an appointment and having their photo made. Responsible Soldiers of all ranks will have a colleague or leader look them over while wearing the uniform prior to arrival at the Studio to minimize errors.

The photographers will do all they can to assist you in making sure you look your best. They are dedicated to giving you the best photo possible. If you have questions while having your photo taken, please don’t hesitate to ask. Remember, check your records, get your uniform cleaned/pressed, get checked while wearing your uniform and then leave the rest to us.