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*US Army Natick Soldier Research,  
Development & Engineering Center*  
**HUMAN RESEARCH VOLUNTEER  
HANDBOOK**

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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<b>Points of Contact .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Natick Needs Human Research Volunteers (HRVs) .....</b>	<b>3-4</b>
<b>What It's Like Being a Human Research Volunteer (HRV) .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Natick's Mission and History .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Natick's Facilities .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>US Army Natick Soldier Systems Center (NSSC) .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>US Army Natick Soldier RD&amp;E Center (NSRDEC) .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (ARIEM) .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Boston, Massachusetts Area .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Standing Operating Procedure .....</b>	<b>10-11</b>
<b>Transportation Details .....</b>	<b>11</b>

## **NATICK PAM 10-6**

The proponent of this NATICK pamphlet is the Climatic Chambers Office. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028

(Recommended Changes to Publications) directly to SSCNC-YH.

# ***POINTS OF CONTACT***

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## NATICK NEEDS HUMAN RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS (HRVs)

Human Research Volunteers (HRVs) are Soldiers who volunteer to do a special and important mission for the military. When it comes to testing their own equipment, Soldiers are the subject matter experts on everything they wear, carry or consume and the Natick Soldier Systems Center knows the importance of their opinion. Because Soldiers are the ones that wear the uniforms and eat the rations, it makes sense to get their opinions right from the beginning. Natick Engineers designing new equipment get the answers they need today based on feedback from Soldiers just like you.

Human Research Volunteers also test the tasks that affect Soldiers in the field. They may test in any weather condition or in altitudes that Soldiers face everyday under actual conditions.

Volunteers also form Army training aids and guidelines. After all, the Soldiers know what's important to them. The results from tests done today may affect military clothing, equipment, food and shelter systems many years down the road.

Since 1954 about 3,700 Soldiers have volunteered for this important duty. The job of a volunteer begins when they are told about a study. If he or she wants to do the test, then a consent form is signed. Soldiers have complete control to enroll in the program, or take part in a particular study and finally to stay on to the end of the study.

Before a study can begin and periodically during a study, a Human Use Review

“Being an HRV at the Natick Soldier Systems Center is a very unique assignment. It is an opportunity not many Soldiers have. My experiences here have been excellent. I’ve seen, done and experienced a lot. I feel like all the studies I’ve participated in are a great asset to the Army. I’ve learned a lot during my time here and if I had the opportunity to volunteer to come here again I would.”

**SPC Eric C. Burns**

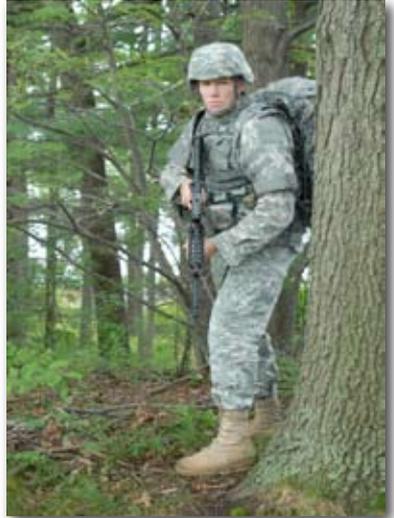


Committee (HURC) that works within a body of federal regulations and laws gives the stamp of approval. The HURC is the first step in making sure that the volunteers are safe. The safety of every volunteer is our first concern. During some studies, there could be as many as twelve researchers working with a volunteer. Volunteers are constantly being monitored during a study for any changes in heart rate, blood pressure or skin temperatures.

With permission from the Human Resources Command, Soldiers are recruited during periodic trips to U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) training locations. They come to Natick following Advanced Individual Training and prior to their first permanent duty station. When our team visits these locations, we talk about the mission at Natick, describe the research done and specifically talk about the research scheduled during the next three months.

To be eligible for the program, Soldiers must be Regular Army, between the ages of 18-39, in good physical health with no prior heat, cold or orthopedic injuries. It is a temporary duty assignment for ninety (90) days. This is the ultimate challenge, both mentally and physically.

We advise anyone that's interested in participating in this exciting program to let us know during our recruiting brief.



## WHAT IT'S LIKE BEING A RESEARCH VOLUNTEER

It's not for everyone, however the Soldiers who volunteer to come to Natick really like the time they spend being a research volunteer. If you decide to volunteer, you will be living on post in our barracks building. There is a dining facility on the first floor. You'll share a room with another Soldier. You'll be expected to stay in good physical shape, keep your room clean, do barracks cleaning and other details now and then. But that's it! Your nights and weekends for the most part will be your time. You can go to Boston, go shopping or catch a movie. It's a rewarding and enjoyable assignment!

Before a study begins, you will be scheduled for a study briefing. During the briefing everything is covered. You will be told exactly what the study is about and what tests will be conducted. Following the briefing, there is a question and answer time to make sure you fully understand. Our program is strictly voluntary. No one does anything he or she doesn't want to do. Soldiers have the right to take themselves off a study for any reason. That's why we look for Soldiers who are interested in and understand the importance of our research mission.

The information learned from the studies conducted at Natick is used to keep Soldiers healthy and treat or prevent injuries. There are very different types of studies ranging from simple to extremely difficult. Study work may include exercising or filling out questionnaires, getting weighed and measured, giving blood and urine samples or measuring your body temperature. There are also studies where investigators test what causes altitude sickness or heat/cold injury. Whether it's a test where you try on clothing or work in extreme environments, all of the research is important because the Army must be prepared to deploy anywhere in the world at any time.

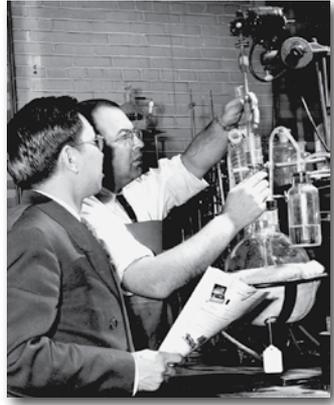
"As an HRV, I have had the unique opportunity to experience a different side of the Army most people don't get to see. My participation in numerous physically demanding studies has contributed to the Army, and has also given me a better understanding of science and research. I was fortunate to have the chance to go to Natick, and would recommend it to anyone."

**SGT Michael Stepien**



## NATICK'S MISSION AND HISTORY

Our primary mission at Natick is to give the Warfighter the greatest chance of survival. This is accomplished through the work volunteers do in all environments and through the research, development and engineering conducted at Natick. The success achieved in supporting that mission is shown through the rapid advances made over the past four decades in the areas of food and food services; textiles; clothing; body armor; footwear; organic materials; containers; field support equipment; tentage and air delivery equipment.



During World War I and II, the mission now at Natick was scattered throughout the United States under the command of the Army Quartermaster Corps. In the 1950s, the Army consolidated those functions into a single scientific complex. Since 1954, the US Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center, also known as the Natick Labs, has made sure that American Soldiers are the best fed, the best protected, and the most highly mobile military in the world.

Today, separate directorates and four major support activities are found within the main scientific community named the US Army Natick Soldier Systems Center.

## NATICK'S FACILITIES

The Natick Soldier Systems Center has 124 buildings located on 174 acres in the town of Natick and neighboring communities. Facilities include administration, laboratories, maintenance, storage and housing areas. A self-contained city, NSSC also has a shopette, cafeteria, barbershop, credit union, recreation center and a travel office. The main campus is 78 acres.



NSSC also has several unique facilities allowing the researchers unparalleled capability to support America's troops. One of these facilities is a Climatic Chamber that allows researchers to generate extreme temperatures and conditions. In addition, NSSC has the following unique/specialized facilities: Altitude Chamber, Textile Facility, Combat Rations Production and Packaging Facility, Biomechanics Lab, 3-D Anthropometrics Lab, Camouflage Evaluation Facility, Raincoat, Hydro-Environment Chamber, Shade Room, Fiber Plant, Thermal and Flame Lab, and a Military Operation in Urban Terrain (MOUT) Lab/Facility.

## **US ARMY NATICK SOLDIER SYSTEMS CENTER (NSSC)**

The NSSC impacts the life of every single Warfighter, every single day. There are countless and near daily examples of Warfighters surviving injuries due to NSSC improvements in Warfighter technologies and gear.

For more information about the US Army Natick Soldier Systems Center or installation partners, visit our website at <http://www.natick.army.mil>



## **US ARMY NATICK SOLDIER RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING CENTER (NSRDEC)**

### **WORLD CLASS ORGANIZATION**

Our world-class scientists, engineers, and equipment designers give the American forces a wide range of field feeding and life support systems, clothing, precision airdrop systems, and ballistic, chemical, and laser protection systems.

NSRDEC's technical and scientific experts have made new fabrics that are lighter weight, last longer, and protect better than anything Soldiers have ever worn.

Food research has led to a new understanding of how to make the most of a Soldier's performance by developing rations that contain just the right mix of nutrients, are easy to prepare in remote locations and most importantly, taste good.

State-of-the-art shelters that improve Soldiers protection and quality of life have replaced the flimsy tents that were once used.

Research into airdrop and other airdrop technologies has grown to make sure that personnel and their equipment reach their target in the fastest, exact, yet safest, way possible.

### **TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**

Throughout the years, NSRDEC has reached out to a larger area through technology transfer and cooperative agreements with private industry and other government agencies. Through such efforts, NSRDEC developed much of the food eaten by astronauts aboard the space shuttles, clothed police forces with special ballistic protection, and developed shelf-stable sandwich foods.

### **FIRST RESPONDERS**

In addition to supporting Soldiers in the field, NSRDEC's mission has grown to include Homeland Defense in the Global War on Terrorism, disaster response, humanitarian aid, peace keeping efforts, and low intensity conflicts. NSRDEC's workforce stands ready to continue to meet these challenges and any that the future may bring.

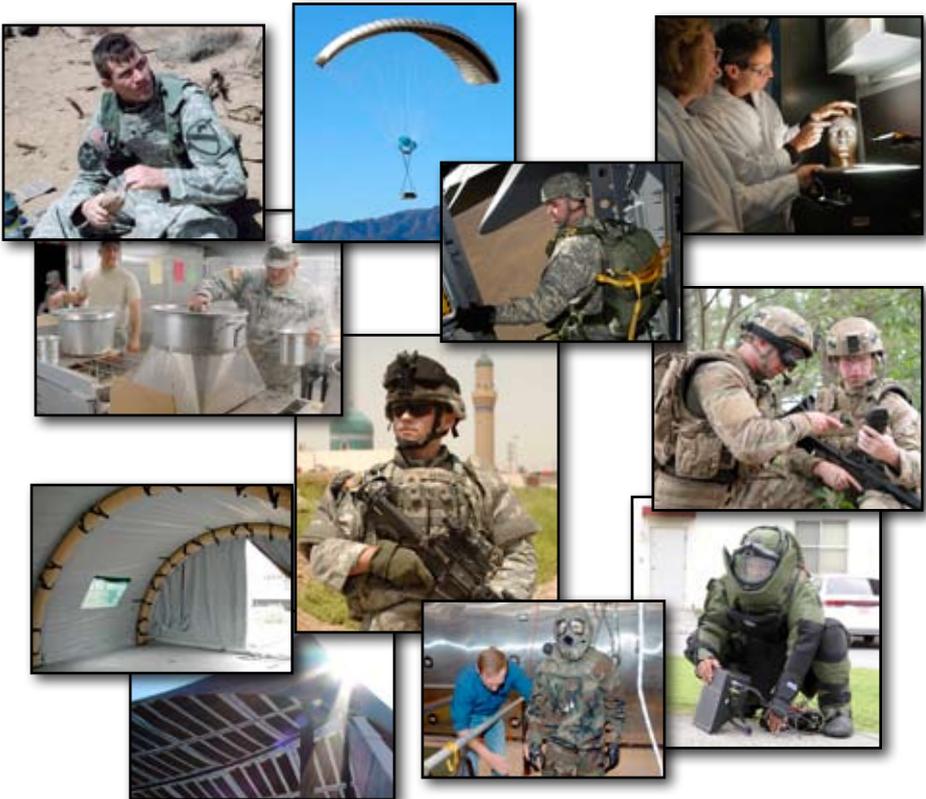


# US ARMY RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE (USARIEM)

USARIEM falls under the Surgeon General and it is a subcommand of the Army Medical Research and Development Command. USARIEM conducts basic and applied research to protect the health and maintain the performance of Warfighters exposed to extreme heat, severe cold, high terrestrial altitude, physically demanding occupational tasks, and sustained operations. The scientists of USARIEM study the individual Soldier, their environment, and the interactions that occur in hot or cold environments or high altitude.



Studies test what cause altitude sickness and how to improve military tasks that are done in mountainous areas. Tests are also done in hot and cold temperatures to study injuries caused during extreme climates. Trench foot, frostbite and hypothermia are some of the more common injuries affecting Soldiers in extreme cold. Heat studies include human heat injury, effects of heat exposure and exercise stress. The focus of these studies are to improve a Soldier's physical performance through better training and injury prevention.



## BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS AREA

Massachusetts is a great location to see all of the attractions that Boston has to offer. Boston is home to some of the most important medical facilities in the world.

Natick is close to Cape Cod, the Mohawk Trail, the Berkshire Hills, the northern ski areas and the historic centers of Lexington, Concord and Boston. Boston has something of interest for almost everyone. You can walk the Freedom Trail to visit the Boston Common, Paul Revere Mall, Old North Church, Old South Meeting Hall, Faneuil Hall, the site of the Boston Massacre and Quincy Market area. You can also explore Beacon Hill, the Back Bay and North End areas. Boston is world famous for its Boston Ballet and Boston Opera companies, the Boston Symphony and summer "Pops" concerts along the Charles River, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Science Museum, the waterfront aquarium and the oldest commissioned warship of the US Navy the USS Constitution ("Old Ironsides"), which are all favorites of tourists.



Sports Fans have not been forgotten. Boston is the home of the Red Sox, the Bruins and the Celtics, while the nearby Town of Foxboro is the home of the New England Patriots.

# STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURE

## ■ **TDY TEST VOLUNTEERS:**

U.S. Army Natick Soldier Systems Center, Natick, MA

## ■ **PER DIEM:**

You will receive \$3.00 per day while on TDY. This will be collected when you process at your permanent duty station.

## ■ **PAY:**

All Soldiers must receive direct deposit.

## ■ **Your address at Natick will be:**

- (Your Name)  
HRDD, Bldg. 38  
Office Symbol: AMSRD-NSR-MD-H  
15 Kansas Street  
Natick, MA 01760-5006

## ■ **RECORDS:**

Bring all records with you. (201 file, medical, dental, training)

## ■ **RATIONS:**

Meal cards will be issued for subsistence.

## ■ **TESTING/WORK ASSIGNMENTS:**

Your primary duty while at Natick is as a Human Research Volunteer (HRV).

## ■ **UNIFORM:**

Bring all military uniforms and civilian clothes to include PT clothes.

## ■ **PASSES & LEAVE:**

If you are taking leave prior to arriving at Natick, final approval will be made by your AIT Unit. You may be granted passes while on TDY once at Natick. Final approval is made by the Detachment Commander, Headquarters Research and Development Detachment (HRDD) for all leaves and passes requested after arriving at Natick.

## ■ **JURISDICTION:**

While on TDY, HRDD will have jurisdiction for rations, quarters, administration, and Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

## ■ **TRANSPORTATION:**

Upon arrival at Logan Airport, pick up luggage and take the Logan Express bus to Framingham (Shopper's World). The schedule is as shown on the next page. Upon arrival at Framingham (Shoppers World) take a TAXI to the Natick Soldier Systems Center in Natick. If you are still having problems, then contact the security office at Commercial (508) 233-4201 or 800-452-7901 x4201. If you arrive during duty hours, have security contact someone at the detachment. For after duty hours, holidays and weekends, have security contact the Detachment SGT at his quarters.

## TRANSPORTATION DETAILS

Logan Express stops at all terminals. Scheduled times for departing Logan are shown for Terminal A. Departure from other terminals is a few minutes later. Travel time is approximately 30-45 minutes. Be sure to allow extra time during rush hours.

- **Logan Express - Framingham, Massachusetts:**
  - Located off Massachusetts Turnpike Exit 13, between Route 9 and Route 30 on the Shoppers' World Mall property.
- Check ahead for parking availability by calling (508) 872-5424
- **Leave Logan Airport to Framingham, MA:**
  - Weekdays 0630 - 2400, every half hour
  - Saturday 0700 - 2300, every hour on the hour
  - Sunday 0700 - 1300, every hour on the hour; 1300 - 2400, every half hour
- **Leave Framingham, MA to Logan Airport:**
  - Weekdays 0400 - 2300, every half hour
  - Saturday Early Bird trips - 0400, 0430 & 0530
  - 0600 - 2200, every hour
  - Sunday Early Bird trips - 0400, 0430 & 0530
  - 0600 - 1200, every hour;
  - 1200 - 2300, every half hour
- **Fares:**
  - Adult One-Way Fare: \$12.00
  - Adult Round Trip Fare: \$22.00
  - Children (under age 12 with adult): Free
- **Parking:**
  - Daily: \$11.00
  - Weekly: \$66.00
- Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Diners Club are accepted.

For more information, here's the link for Logan Express transportation:  
[http://www.massport.com/logan/getti\\_typeo\\_logan.html](http://www.massport.com/logan/getti_typeo_logan.html)

**If there is a group traveling by air and arriving at Logan Airport at the same time, military transportation may be arranged, provided that HRDD receives advance notice at least 72 hours prior to arrival. Also, save all your receipts for bus, taxi and airplane.**



Soldiers:  
Our  
Credentials



***THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE WARRIOR:  
YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW.***

**US ARMY NATICK SOLDIER  
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & ENGINEERING CENTER**

Kansas Street, Natick, MA 01760

**BUSINESS INQUIRIES:**

(508) 233-4184, [nati-amsrd-nsr-ad-b@conus.army.mil](mailto:nati-amsrd-nsr-ad-b@conus.army.mil)

**MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

(508) 233-4300, [nati-imne-ssc-pa@conus.army.mil](mailto:nati-imne-ssc-pa@conus.army.mil)

**ON THE WEB:**

[nsrdec.natick.army.mil](http://nsrdec.natick.army.mil)

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