

Psychological Deferments-- Obtaining a psychological deferment is roughly the same as obtaining a physical deferment, with psychiatrists replacing doctors. You should either ask to see the psychiatrist or act weird at your physical. Usually your physical is extended through the next morning so you can interview the psychiatrist.

Political Deferments-- Officially no one is granted a political exemption (except maybe members of certain left-wing organizations), but other reasons (such as physical defects) are used to cover the obvious political ones. The army does not want guys that it thinks are going to make trouble in the armed forces. If you belong to a "subversive" organization, let them know. If you don't, refuse to sign any security or loyalty forms, citing the first or fifth amendment as a reason. At least, this will necessitate an investigation of your background which may take months. You can write your board that you intend to organize against the war within the military, and you can send notes or literature to your board to explain your political viewpoint. Everything that you send must become part of your file.

Many guys have been deferred because they have made trouble at their physicals. You can leaflet, shout about the war and the draft, speak personally but obviously to lots of guys on the war or how to get out, or try to "secretly" organize the induction center staff against the war. Such activity risks arrest, etc. so you should contact us first, and go with friends.

STUDENT DEFERMENTS

Presently high school students are exempted from the draft. Undergraduates, when successfully pursuing (regardless of grades) full-time studies, must be deferred UPON REQUEST. Most present graduate student deferments will expire within the year, and local boards are not required to grant graduates deferments, regardless. **MEN WHO HAVE BEEN DEFERRED AS STUDENTS MAY NOT SUBSEQUENTLY BE DEFERRED AS FATHERS.**

You should think NOW about what you are going to do when you leave school or your deferment expires. Don't wait until it's too late. Requests for deferments lose their credence when submitted upon receipt of a I-A classification. You can apply now as a C.O. or request other deferments--it won't hurt your II-S (student classification).

DEPENDENCY AND HARDSHIP DEFERMENTS

If you have children or relatives that rely upon you for support, you are entitled to a III-A classification. Men who have been deferred as students may not subsequently be given III-A's except where hardship can be shown.

OCCUPATIONAL DEFERMENT

Certain jobs in the "national interest" entitle you to an "occupational deferment." Teachers and people with rare skills that the military can't use are included in this group, as well as people who work in war plants.

OVERAGE

Currently most men over 26 (except doctors) are not being drafted. However, only those who have never been deferred are considered undraftable. Otherwise you are eligible until your 35th birthday.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

Under the draft law, a man who "by reason of religious training and belief is conscientiously opposed to participation in war in any form" is entitled to a I-AO or a I-O classification. The former means that you can be drafted for non-combatant activity within the military (which supports the war and may still send you to the front lines as a medic) and the latter leaves you eligible to be drafted for non-military service. If you are considering either position, even though you might not think you are qualified, you should see a C.O. (conscientious objection) counselor. Counseling is available at:

Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors
514 Mission Street
San Francisco, California
(397-6917)

Mid-Peninsula Committee for Conscientious Objection
(326-1396)

See them now.

How to apply--When filling out your original classification form after registration (form 100) you should sign Section 8 as a C.O. You will be sent form 150 (C.O. application) sometime later (buy maybe immediately). Be ready to fill it out. Most young men, however, are not ready to claim C.O. at 18 and request C.O. forms later. You will be sent form 150 upon your written request. The sooner you apply the better.

Must you believe in God or have formal religious training? It helps, but it is not necessary, according to Supreme Court decisions (though Congressional intent in the new law makes things tougher). The "Supreme Being" clause has been removed from the 1967 draft law, although you are still asked whether you believe in one on the SSS forms.

To be a C.O. you need not be totally non-violent. Many C.O.'s believe in individual self-defense.