



Position Statement on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender People Serving in the United States Military

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy governing homosexual and bisexual members of the military forces of the United States ended on September 20, 2011. Since then, the United States Department of Defense has revised numerous policies and procedures that facilitate homosexual and bisexual men and women serving openly and without fear of discharge. Service members who are married in a state that acknowledges marriages between individuals of the same gender have been extended family benefits. The Department of Veterans Affairs has also extended benefits to legally married spouses.

The position of the American Psychoanalytic Association is as follows:

The American Psychoanalytic Association commends the Department of Defense for the spirit in which numerous policies were revised allowing gay, lesbian and bisexual people to serve their country.

The American Psychoanalytic Association commends the Department of Veterans Affairs for their rapid implementation of policies and procedures for extending benefits to the spouses of legally married gay, lesbian and bisexual veterans.

We encourage the Department of Defense to implement the following:

- Review current policies on transgender individuals serving in the United States Armed Forces.
- Extend current non-discrimination policies regarding evaluation and promotion to homosexual and bisexual service members.

Adopted January 2014. This position statement updates and replaces APsaA's 2009 position statement on Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals in the Military.