



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LIGHTNING ACADEMY
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTALION
25TH INFANTRY DIVISION
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, HI 96857

APVG-HHB-LA

17 June 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Policy for Ranger School Drops and Big 5 Eligibility

1. This memorandum outlines policy updates regarding Ranger School failures and eligibility for the Big 5 training plan.
2. Any student who fails Ranger Assessment Phase (RAP) week twice is not eligible to be a Big 5 insert. For example, if a student fails RAP week, is inserted into Vaughn's Platoon, and subsequently fails RAP week again, they are no longer eligible for Big 5 consideration and must complete the Small Unit Ranger Tactics (SURT) course again in full before any future Ranger School attendance.
3. Students identified as Big 5 Inserts will have a maximum of three SURT class opportunities, beginning from the date they are dropped from Ranger School, to successfully compete for a future Ranger School slot. Failure to complete SURT within these three cycles will result in the removal from consideration and students will have to complete the SURT course again.
4. Big 5 Inserts will receive the lowest priority for ATRRS (Army Training Requirements and Resource System) reservations. This policy ensures that recent SURT graduates, who have not had the opportunity to attend Ranger School, are given precedence. The Big 5 inserts already had at least one opportunity and will not displace first-time attendees.
5. The point of contact from this memorandum is the Lightning Academy SURT OIC, 1LT Hernandez, Jesus at (360) 200-3066 or jesus.a.hernandez74.mil@army.mil.

GRANT N. MANNING
CPT, IN
Commanding