



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC**

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMRC/CC
ALMAJCOM/SG
ALMDG/MDS/CC

FROM: HQ USAF/SG
1780 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1780

SUBJECT: Medical Guidance for Shaving Profiles

References: (a) Secretary of War Memorandum, "Grooming Standards for Facial Hair Implementation," September 30, 2025.
(b) AF/SG Clinical Algorithm for Shaving Irritation and Pseudofolliculitis Barbae
(c) DAFGM 2025-03 to DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of Department of the Air Force Personnel*, 30 October 2025
(d) SPFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of Military Personnel*, 14 August 2025 (IC-1, 20 November 25)

This memorandum provides updated guidance based on Secretary of War guidance (a) and replaces previous memorandum dated 24 Jan 2025 and AFI 44-102 regarding Pseudofolliculitis Barbae.

Airmen and Guardians with a medical necessity for shaving profiles must be examined by a healthcare provider (HCP). HCPs should follow reference (b). Profile officers and senior profile officers will review all profiles for concurrence or non-concurrence for profiles of up to 30 days and greater than 30 days, respectively. Commanders must approve or disapprove all profiles via electronic signature in Aeromedical Services Information Management System (ASIMS) within 7 days. No single profile can exceed 6 months and will start on the day the Commander approves in ASIMS. Airmen or Guardians accumulating more than 12 months of profiles within a 24-month period (beginning 1 Feb 2026, or the date of the first profile, whichever is later) will be referred to their Commander. Profiles must incorporate applicable grooming standards outlined in references (c) and (d), and superseding policy updates.

All shaving profiles issued before 1 Mar 2025 are no longer valid, effective 31 Jan 2026. Members will be examined by their HCP for validation of continued need for a shaving profile. Military HCPs will issue future profiles in accordance with the clinical algorithm (b). Commanders may request evaluation of unit service members due to operational concerns stemming from a medical condition IAW AFI 48-133, para. 4.4.4.3. This memorandum does not apply to religious accommodation shaving waivers.

This memorandum will expire upon the issuance of a new memorandum or when incorporated into policy. Questions regarding this memorandum may be directed to Colonel John R. Smith, via email at john.r.smith7794.mil@health.mil.

JOHN J. DEGOES
Lieutenant General, USAF, MC, FS
Surgeon General