Rating Chain Tool

User's Guide

Version 4.2

Fort Knox, KY 19 SEPTEMBER 2017 THIS USER'S GUIDE WILL UPDATE AS THE RATING CHAIN TOOL CONTINUES TO DEVELOP, WITH ENHANCEMENTS AND FEATURES ADDED. PLEASE ENSURE YOU REFER TO AND USE THE LATEST VERSION OF THE USER'S GUIDE FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION.

PLEASE SEND FEEDBACK AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS TO HRC, EVALUATIONS POLICY OFFICE AT THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS: usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-eval-policy@mail.mil. ENTER "RATING CHAIN TOOL FEEDBACK" WITHIN THE SUBJECT LINE WHEN SENDING AN EMAIL.

Table of Contents

Accessing the Rating Chain Tool	4
Initial Creation of a Rating Chain	5
Editing/Signing/Viewing a Rating Chain	7
Designating the Verifying and Approving Officials	11
Sorting/Searching a Rating Scheme	13
Adding a Rated Soldier	14
Removing a Rated Soldier	16
Adding and Assigning Rating Officials	16
Applying Verifying and Approving Signatures	20
Rating Chain Process Flow	24
Troubleshooting	25

Accessing the Rating Chain Tool

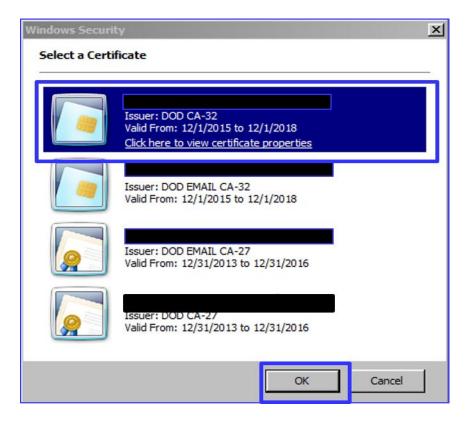
Users will access the Rating Chain Tool through the EES site.

Users must use the https://evaluations.hrc.army.mil/ web address to access the EES site.

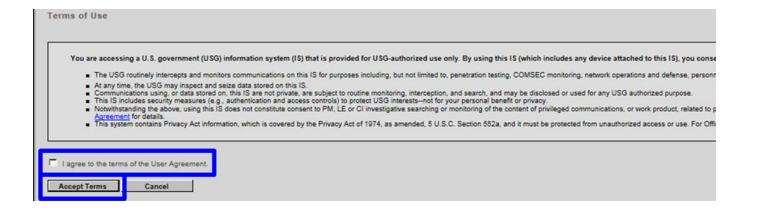
Users must possess a valid DOD CAC.

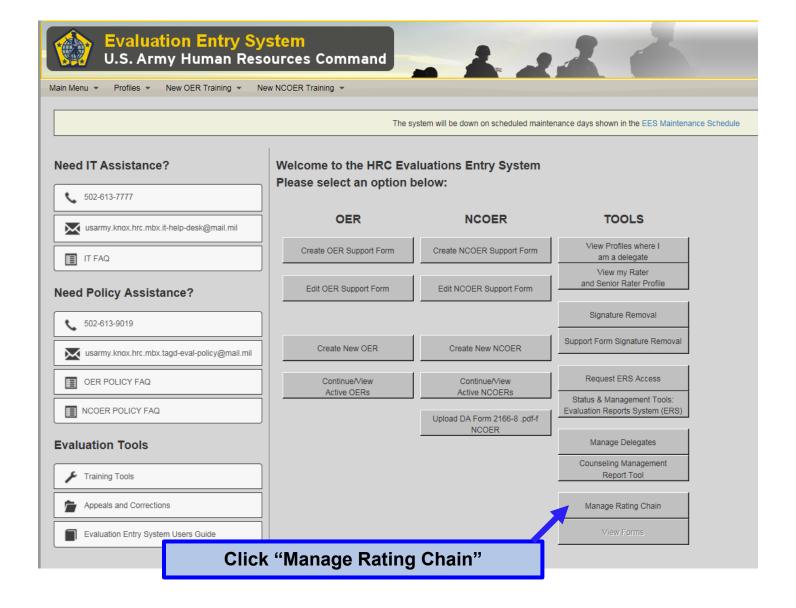
Users will select their Digital Certificate and select "OK."

Note: Rating Chains created within the EES production site will be maintained as a record against the UIC. Once initiated, rating chains are unable to be deleted. It is encouraged to access and use the manage rating chain tool within the EES TRAINING site for experimental purposes. To access the EES TRAINING site use the following web address: https://evalentry.hrc.army.mil/.

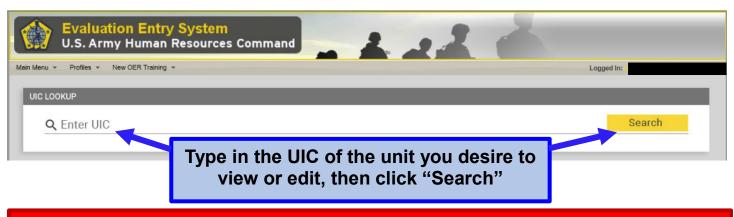


After users select the appropriate CAC card certificate, the web address will take users to the "Terms of Use" page. Users will select "I agree to the terms of the User Agreement" and select "Accept Terms."





Initial Creation of a Rating Chain

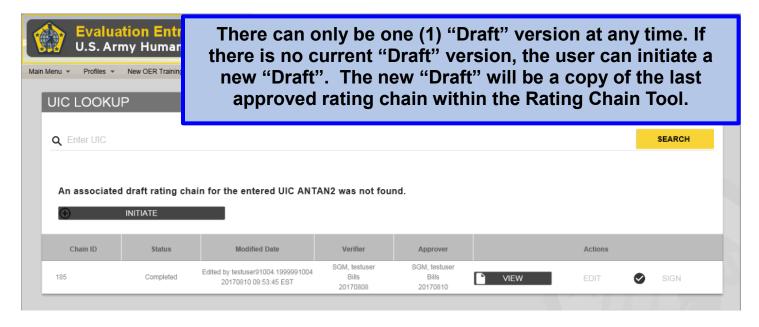


UIC must contain letters/numbers and be exactly six (6) characters long.

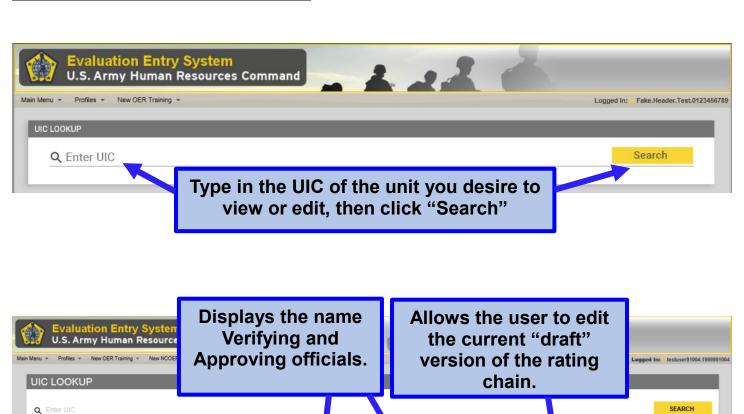


If a rating chain has yet to be established using the Rating Chain Tool, the user will see the message "An associated rating chain for the entered UIC was not found."

When the user clicks "Initiate", the <u>Military</u> personnel assigned to that UIC are auto-populated form TAPDB to create a shell to assist the user.



Editing/Signing/Viewing a Rating Chain



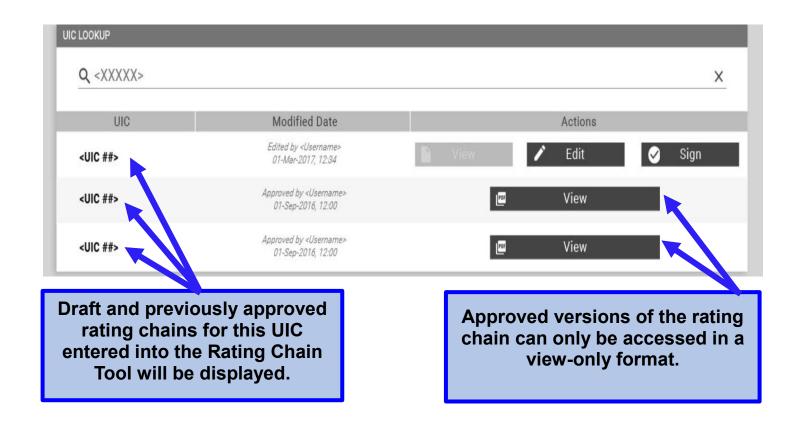
Displays the Rating Chain ID# and the current status of the rating chain

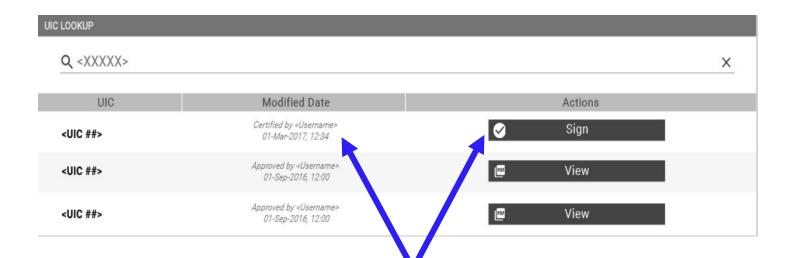
Displays the name of the user and date/time that the rating chain was last modified.

Edited by testuser91004.1999991004 20170814 11:46:16 EST

> Allows the user to view approved rating chains.

Allows the
"Verifying" and
"Approving" Officials
the ability to
electronically
sign/approve the
current draft version
of the rating chain.





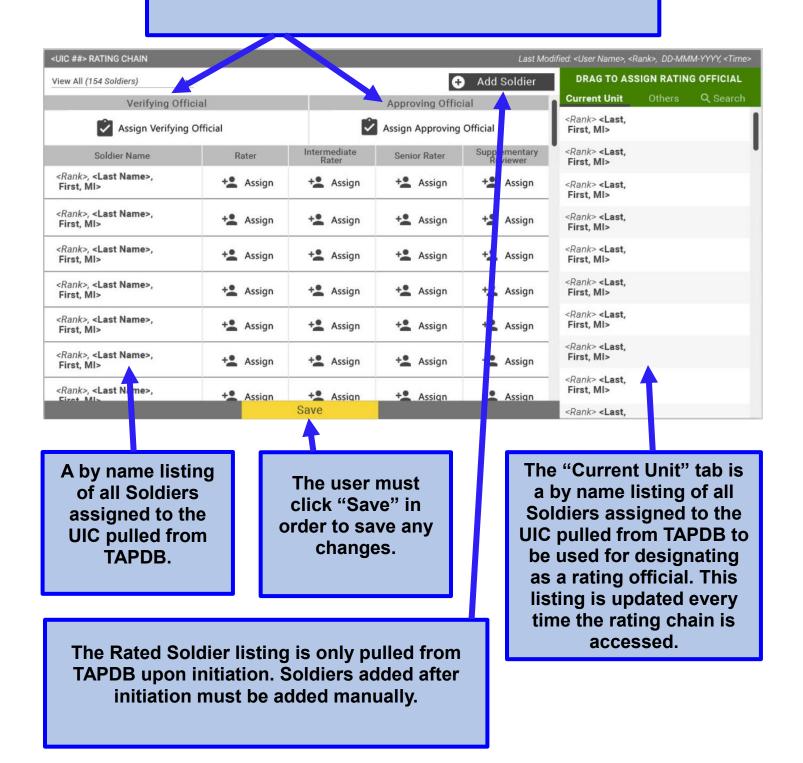
Once the commander has signed a rating chain, the rating chain can no longer be edited until the verifying signature is removed. The rating chain will remain in a "Verified" status pending the signature of the approver.

The user will time out after 10 minutes of no use/inactivity. All changes will be lost if the users fails to save prior to exiting or being timed out of the system.

WARNING: YOUR SESSION WILL EXPIRE IN 2 MINUTES (01:58). Clicking OK will reset the timer but WILL NOT save changes made since the last save. Recommend you save your changes immediately. Ok

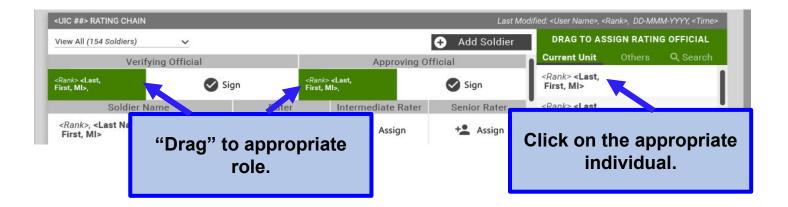
Users get a 2-minute warning prior to being timed out. By clicking "OK", the timer resets, but changes will not be saved.

The user must assign the "Verifying Official" (commander, commandant, or organizational leader) and "Approving Official" (the next higher commander, commandant, or organizational leader).

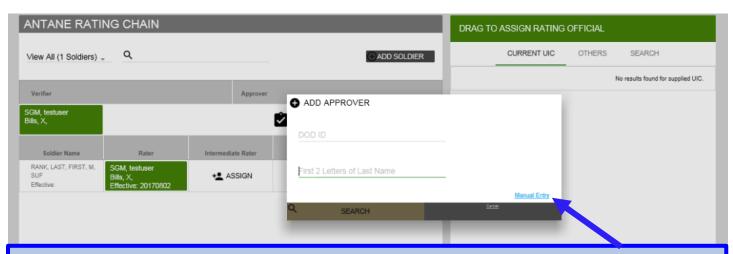


A rating chain is established by the commander, commandant, or leader of an organization ("Verifying Official") and approved by the next higher commander, commandant, or organizational leader for two-star level commands (or equivalent organizations) and below ("Approving Official").

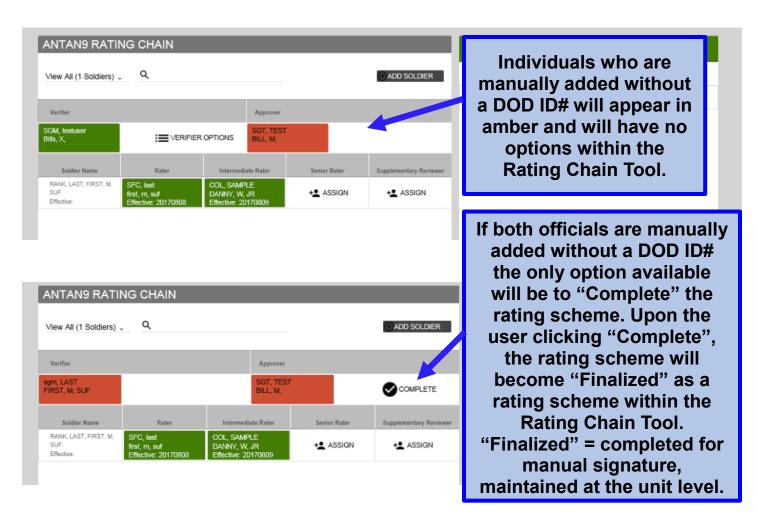
The "Verifying" and "Approving" Officials can be added with same "drag and drop" functionality as designating rating officials.

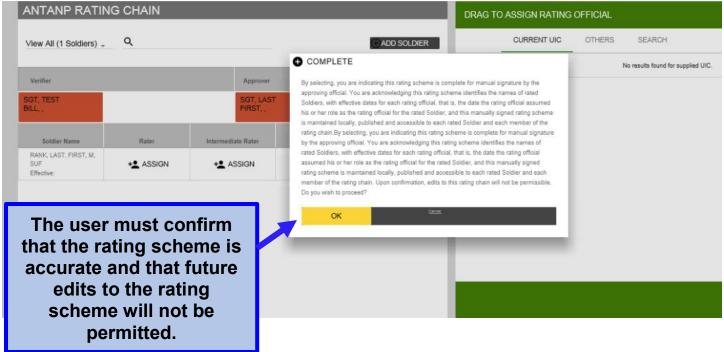


The "Verifying" and "Approving" Officials can be manually added clicking on the "Assign Verifying/Approving Official".

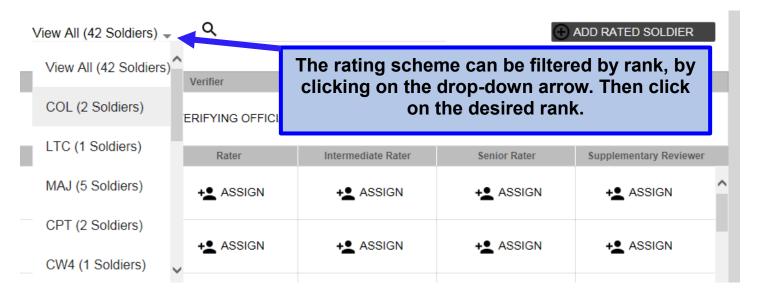


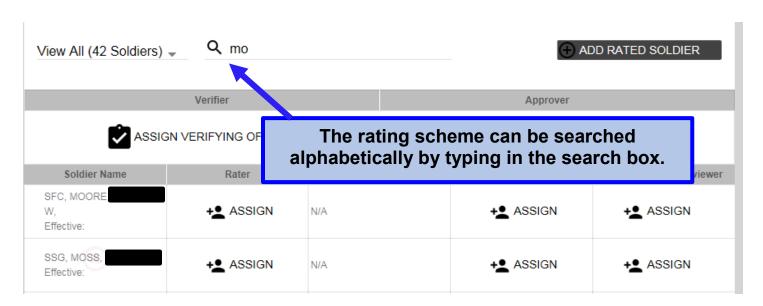
Search can be conducted using the official's DOD ID# and first two (2) or the official's information can be manually enter in case where a DOD ID# doesn't exist or is unknown.



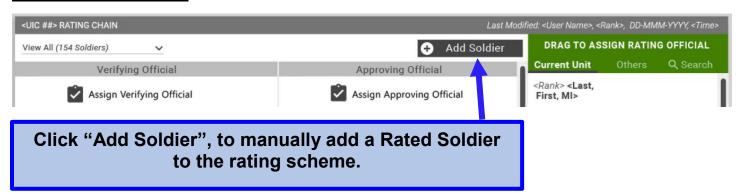


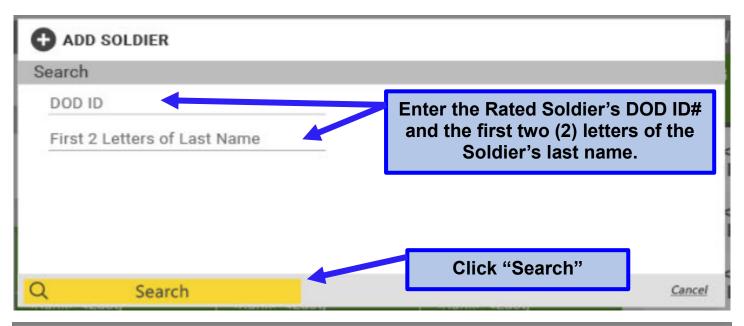
Sorting/Searching a Rating Scheme

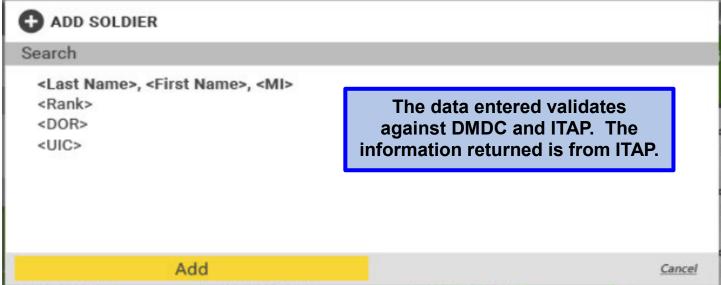


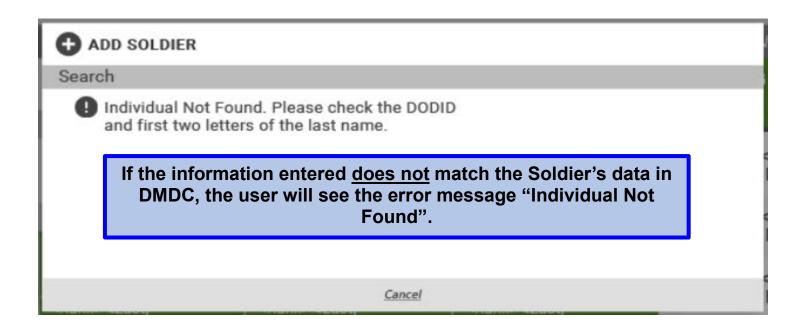


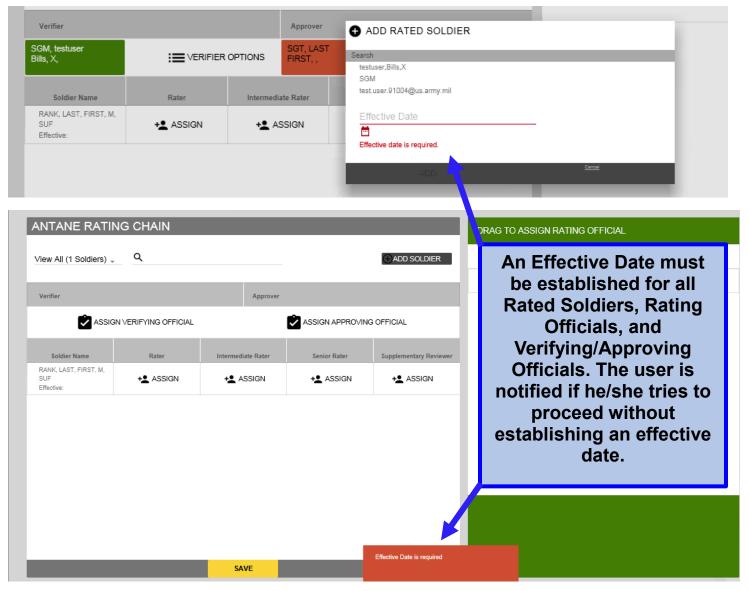
Adding a Rated Soldier



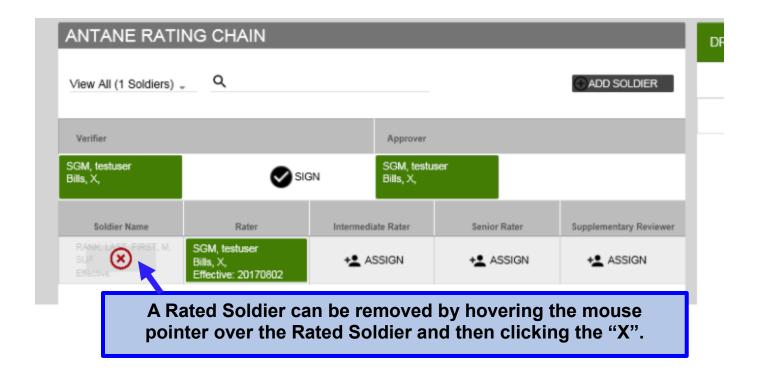








Removing a Rated Soldier

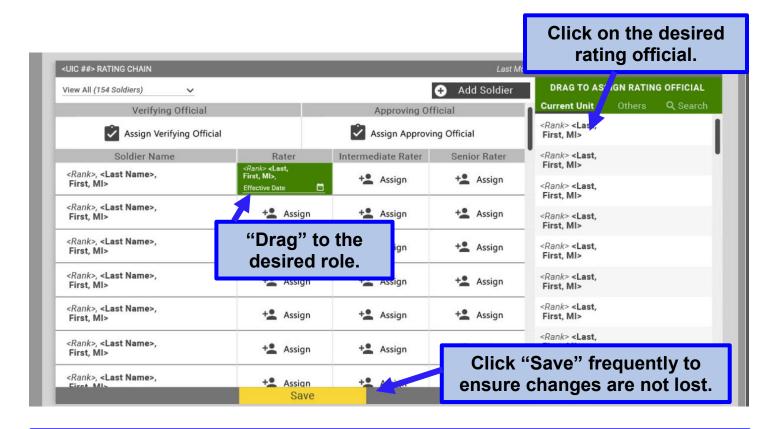


Adding and Assigning Rating Officials

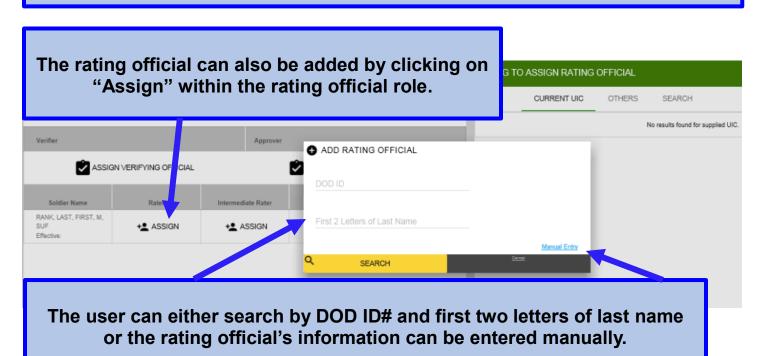


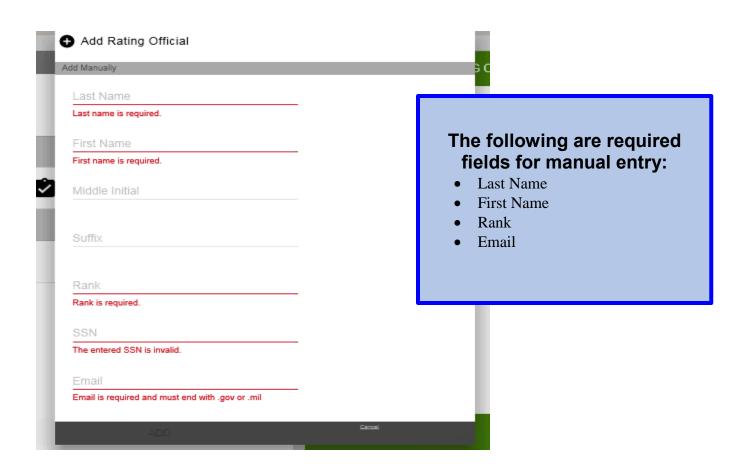
"Search" allows for the addition of rating officials assigned outside of the UIC to include foreign and civilian rating officials with a valid DOD ID#. Once these rating officials have been added to the rating scheme, they will then appear under the "Others" tab.

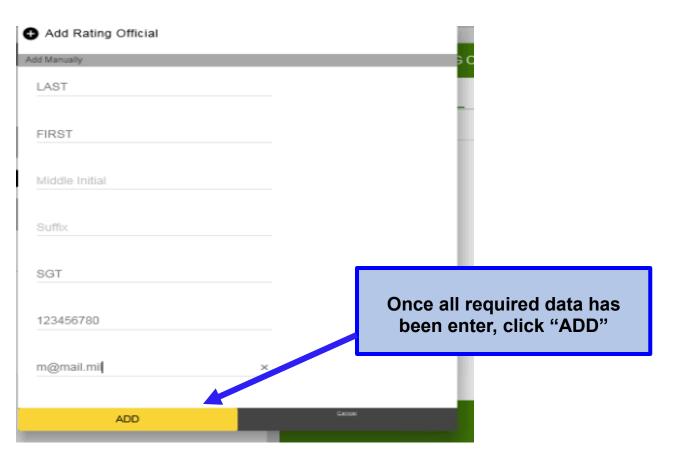
Rating officials can be assigned through a simple "drag and drop".

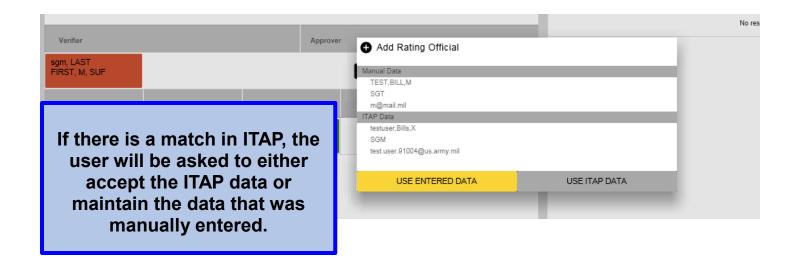


The "Verifying" and "Approving" Officials can be added with same "drag and drop" functionality.

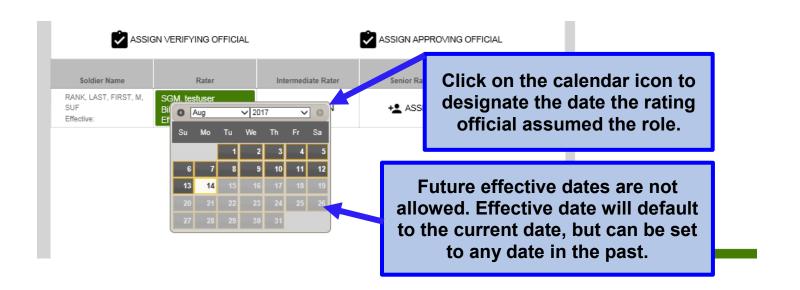








It may be necessary to keep the manually entered information in cases of civilian rating officials. The ITAP data may include previous military rank, so the manual entry will allow the rank to be changed to reflect current civilian position.



To edit the rating chain, hover the mouse over the Rated Soldier or Rating Official. Icons will appear to allow the user the ability to Edit the effective date or remove Soldier.

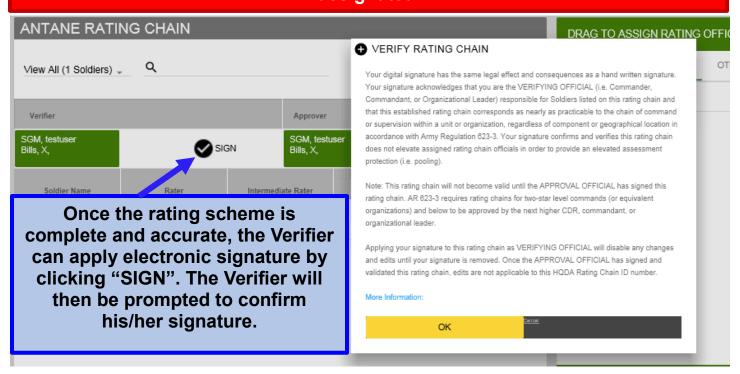




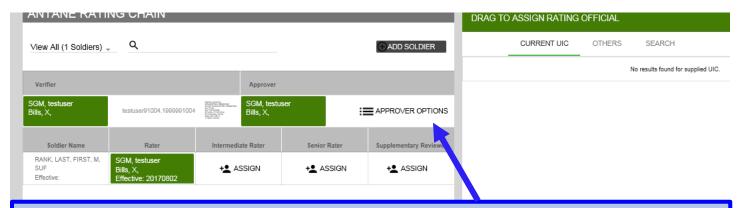
Prior to removal of a Rated Soldier or Rating Official, the user must confirm the action.

Applying Verifying and Approving Signatures

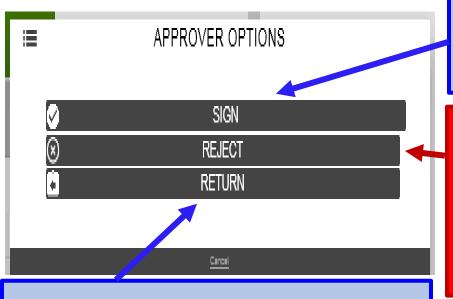
The "Verifying Official" cannot sign until an "Approving Official" has been designated.



Once the "Verifying Official" has signed the rating chain, the rating chain is locked and cannot be edited. In order to make changes, the "Verifying Official's" signature must be removed. This can be done by hovering the mouse over the signature and clicking on the "X" to remove signature. The signature can only be removed by the "Verifying Official" or his/her delegates who have signature removal authority for evaluations in EES.



Once the "Verifying Official" has signed the rating chain, the "Approving Official" can access the various options by clicking on "Approver Options".



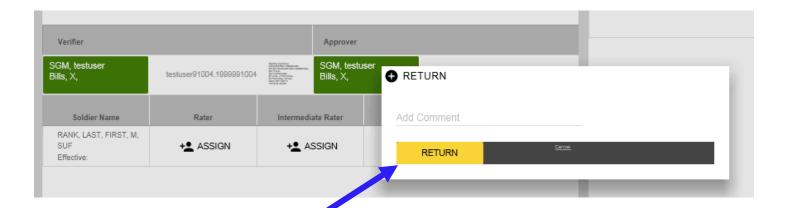
By clicking "Return", the rating scheme is returned back to the Verifier for edits.

By clicking "Sign" the rating scheme will become "Complete" and become an official rating scheme.

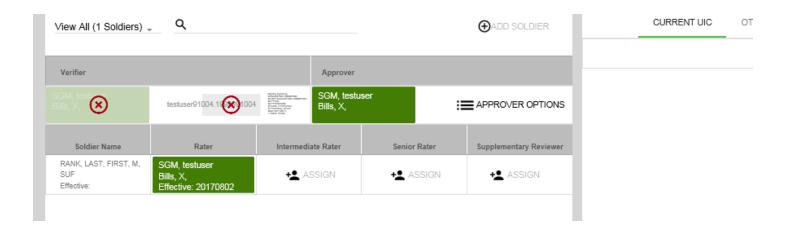
By clicking "Reject", the rating scheme will be an invalid rating scheme. The rating scheme will no longer be accessible for modifications or changes.

This rating chain will not become valid until the correct "Approving Official" has signed this rating chain IAW AR 623-3. AR 623-3 requires rating chains for two-star level commands (or equivalent organizations) and below to be approved by the next higher CDR, commandant, or organizational leader.

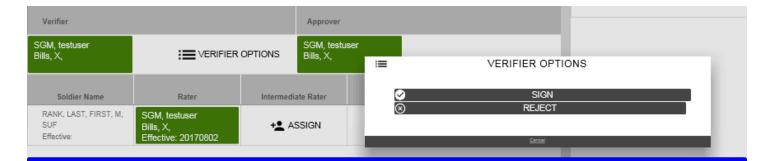
Once an "Approving Official" has authenticated this rating chain with signature, edits are not applicable to this HQDA Rating Chain ID number and the rating chain becomes valid.



After the Approver clicks "Return", the Approver will be prompted to provide comments as to why the rating scheme was returned back to the Verifier for edits.

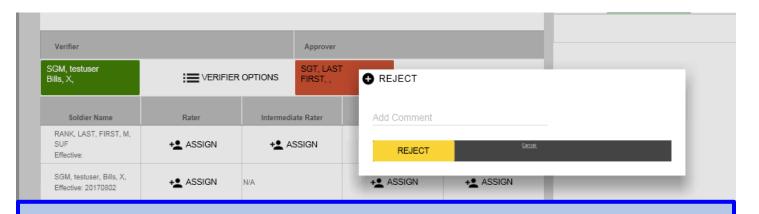


The Verifier must remove his/her signature from the rating scheme to make any edits. This can be done by hovering the mouse over the signature and clicking on the "X" to remove signature. The signature can only be removed by the "Verifying Official" or his/her delegates who have signature removal authority for evaluations in EES.



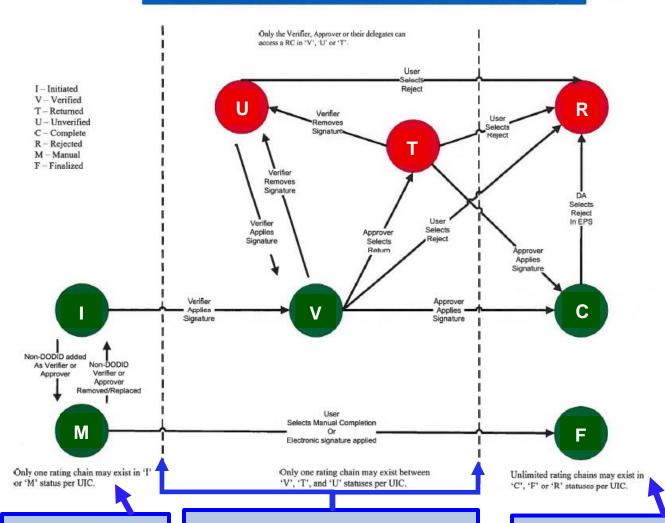
After the Verifier's signature has been removed, edits can be made and then re-signed by the Verifier. The Verifier also has the option to "Reject" the rating scheme as invalid.

By clicking "Reject", the rating scheme is deemed as an invalid rating scheme. The rating scheme will no longer be accessible for modifications or changes.



If either the Verifier or Approver elect to "Reject" the rating scheme, he/she will be prompted to provide comments as to why the rating scheme is being rejected.

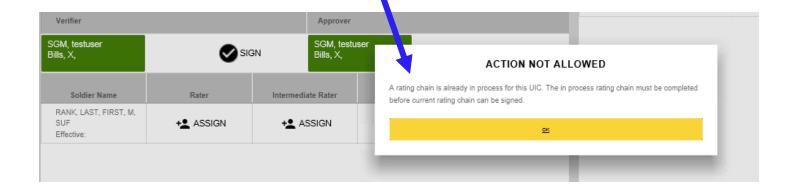
Rating Chain Processing Flow



Only one (1) rating scheme can be in "Draft" at any given time.

Once the Verifier signs a rating scheme, a new rating scheme cannot be signed until the previous rating scheme is signed by the Approver or "Rejected"

There can be an infinite number of completed rating schemes.



Troubleshooting

- The Rating Chain Tool is not displaying and/or functioning properly
 - 1. Must use Microsoft Internet Explorer 9 or greater.
 - 2. Compatibility Mode must be turned off.

• The imported data is incorrect

- 1. Data is pulled from iTAP, so you should contact the data source to update the information.
- 2. For retirees, dual status, and others the information will have to be entered manually.

The Rating Chain is locked by another user

- 1. Only one user can access a rating chain for EDIT/SIGN at a time.
- 2. The system will unlock the rating chain 10 minutes after the previous user's last action.

Rating Officials added from outside the UIC are not added to the "OTHERS" tab

- 1. The "OTHERS" tab will update by refreshing the browser.
- 2. Rating officials not in the parent UIC will remain in the "Others" tab as long as they remain in the rating chain. Once removed completely from the rating chain, they will no longer appear in the "OTHERS" tab.

• Exiting and unable to immediately re-access The Rating Chain

- 1. The system will unlock the rating chain 10 minutes after the previous user's last action.
- 2. Wait for 10 minutes and then attempt to access the rating chain (out of our control DISA security element).