

# Department of the Army Retirement Planning Briefing

HQ, Army Retirement Services

251 18<sup>th</sup> Street S., Suite 210

Arlington, VA 22202-3531

1 June 2019



### Purpose

### To provide Soldiers and Family members information on retirement programs, benefits and entitlements.



## Retirement is a process <u>NOT</u> an event!!





## **Retirement Planning Briefing Topics**

- RSO Program
- Retired Pay & Taxes
- Cost of Living Adjustments
- Transition Leave & PTDY
- Uniformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act (USFSPA)
- SGLI → VGLI
- Shipment of Household Goods
- Ethics
- Post-Service Employment
- Space-A Travel

- ID Cards
- Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC)
- Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP)
- Retiree Mobilization
- Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) (Separate Brief) <u>https://soldierforlife.army.mil/re</u> <u>tirement/survivor-benefit-plan</u>
- MyArmyBenefits
- Visit websites for complete information on <u>TRICARE, VA</u> <u>benefits, Social Security</u>



#### **Population Served – and Still Growing**

<u>Year</u>	<b>Active Soldiers</b>	<b>Retired Soldiers</b>
1920	204,000	6,000
1950	593,000	62,000
1960	873,000	122,000
1971	1,323,000	282,000
1980	Active Soldiers Retired 777,000	425,000
1990	1993	489,000
2000	482,000	526,000
2010	562,000	847,000
2018	468,128	983,068

In FY18, the Army paid \$20.9 Billion in retired and annuity pay to Retired Soldiers and surviving spouses







#### **Army Retirement Services**

	Active <u>Army</u>	<u>ARNG</u>	<u>USAR</u>	Retired <u>Soldiers</u>	Surviving <u>Spouses</u>	<u>Total</u>
Population Served	465,435	335,204	190,500	989,029	248,730	2.23M

#### **Pre-Retirement Policy**

- 116 Retirement Services Officers
- Pre-Retirement Counseling
- SBP/RCSBP Counseling
- Change of Mission Newsletter
- MyArmyBenefits website
- Soldier for Life website

#### Retirement is a process, not an <u>event!</u>

#### Post-Retirement Policy

- Lifetime benefits advice & support
- Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) assistance
- Army Echoes Newsletter & Blog
- CSA & Installation Retired Soldier Councils
- Retiree Appreciation Days

#### Your mission has changed, but your duty has not!



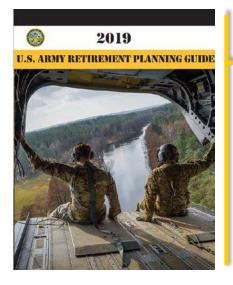
# AR 600-8-7 – "Retirement Services Program" 34,344 Soldiers retired in FY18

https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement



#### **The Army Retirement Services Website**

#### https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/home



#### Survivor Benefit Plan

#### Former Spouse Information



HOME CONTACT US ARMY ECHOES SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN SURVIVING SPOUSES ARMY ECHOES BLOG FORMER SPOUSES

BLOG CHANGE OF MISSION PI SES CSA RETIRED SOLDIER COUNCIL

PREPARING TO RETIRE AFTER RETIREMENT OUNCIL RESERVE COMPONENT RETIREMENT SERVICES



#### ABOUT US

The Army Retirn lent Services Office develops Army policy and oversees Army programs worldwide the opepare Soldiers and their Families for retirement, assist survivors of Soldiers and die on active duty, and serve Retired Soldiers, surviving spouses, and their Famili's unitideath in order to comply with federal laws, encourage Retired Soldiers to be a Se der for Life, and improve recruiting and retention. In accordance with AR 600-8-7, Army etirement Services develops Army policy and procedures for the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) program, publishes Echees, the newsletter for Retired Soldiers and surviving spouses and their families; develops policy for the operation of the Army Retirement Services Program; and administers the Army Chief of Staff's (CSA) Retiree Council.

#### **RECENT ENTRIES**

- Hurricane Florence Tricare refill prescriptions
- Patrons Can Save On Critical Supplies
- How The Rules Work For You
- Exchange Makes Durable Medical Equipment Easier to Find for Military Communities
- How To Choose or Change Your TRICARE Provider

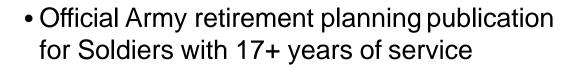
#### LATEST ANNOUNCEMENTS

 If you have less than 12 years of active military service or less than 4,320 Reserve Component retirement points on 31 December 2017, you are eligible to opt into the new Blended Retirement System (BRS) during 2018. Learn about BRS and get help making the decision by taking DDD's BRS Opt in Course now.









- Published electronically: Jan, Apr, Jul and Oct
- Soldiers in all components with receive via *myPay* SmartDoc



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE ARMY

#### Greetings, Soldiers for Life!

For some, the thought of planning for retirement can be a solemn occasion. It is certainly a significant emotional process. But the fact remains, every single person who serves will, someday, have to take off their boots and hang up their unform. There are a few important things to consider as you begin to prepare for life post-military service.

The first is that retirement isn't an event! The only "event" is likely your actual retirement ceremony. But once you've reached that point, you will have long begun to plan for life afterwards. It starts with your local Retirement Services Office.

Your Retirement Services Officer will tell you that you should start preparing for your retirement 24 months before your retirement date. Army regulations will tell you to attend a aretirement planning brier this is a separate brief from the Solider for Life Transition Assistance Program – at least 12 months before your retirement date. That's the same advice lerecived from retired Sergarant Major of the Army, Kenneth Preston about starting my own planning. I followed that advice, and received my retirement brief 24 months out.

I'm grateful I did. I discovered there is so much to learn and prepare for. It quickly became apparent to me that this was only the beginning of a very long, but important process which would, utimately, prepare me for success in the next phase of my life.

What you may not know - because you've probably never retired before - is there are many new topics to tackle, in addition to getting a joid. Deciding where to like and finding health care there for you and your family is a key one. Learning what retirement benefits you're eligible for to reduce the impact of loaing your military may and benefits is another. Comparing the Survivor Benefit Plan to civilian life insurance or choosing both is also another in a long line or cirtical decisions for your family famacial future.

While we are at it, let's talk about retirement itself. The fact that you're receiving this newaletter menas you're had a long and successful military carer that will one day end in your retirement. You will be a Soldier for Uife after you retire, so don't short change yourself and back into retirement without a plan. Just like you're been doing throughout your career, you have to develop and implement a plan for your very last "operation".

And remember, it's okay to talk about retining, it certainly doesn't make you a quitter; it makes you a realist. It makes you smart. It shows that you care about the future for yourrelf and your family, and want to plan prudently for the best possible hture you can make for yourselves. You should reach out to those around you who have experienced this process.

(continued on page 2)

YOUR MISSION WILL CHANGE, BUT YOUR DUTY WILL NOT

ent fee Achieve godi and peoze of mind through financial planning Tools of the trade Why pus should check your were yook- access and were yook- access and were yook- access and

AER continues into retirement 9

the Survivor Benefit Plan

What do I do with my TSP 12

Here's what we're hearing from 13 Servicemembers, veterans, and military families

ter leaving the milliory

Lessons Learned &

Upcoming Army Reserve 7 preretirement briefings

Ask Joe: Your benefits guru

- Available at <u>https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/change-of-mission</u>
- Debuted at AUSA2018
- First edition distribution was on 15 OCT 2018 by email to 172K Soldiers in all components





### **Applying for Length of Service (LOS) Retirement**

### • How

- Officer Chapter 6, AR 600-8-24
- Enlisted Chapter 12, AR 635-200

### • When

- Maximum: 12 months before desired retirement date
- Minimum: Officers 9 months before start date of transition leave Enlisted – 9 months before retirement date

### • Where

- General Officers: Notify GOMO at (703) 697-7994/9466 (DSN 227)
- COL & LTC (P): Notify Colonels Management Office at (703) 602-8529 (DSN 332)
- JAG Retirements (703) 545-2028
- Chaplain Retirements (571) 256-8764
- Army National Guard: State AGR Office (T32); Human Capital Management (T10)
- All others: Local Military Personnel Office

CG, HRC is the retirement authority for officers with 20-30 years of service and SSG(P) and above not retiring at RCP.





- Retirement eligibility
  - 20 years of creditable service for a length of service retirement
  - 15 years of creditable service for a medical retirement
  - If you completed 20 years:
    - Before 5 Oct 94: must serve last 8 years in a Reserve Component (RC)
    - From 5 Oct 94 to 24 Apr 05: must serve the last 6 years in a RC
    - On or after 25 Apr 05: No RC service requirement
- **Retirement Points = Retired Pay:** verify yours are correct now!
- Reduced Age Retirement
  - Eligibility age reduced below age 60, in 90-day increments, for qualifying periods of service within a fiscal year on or after 29 January 2008. After 1 October 2014, 90-day increments CAN cross fiscal year boundaries.
  - May not be reduced below age 50.
- When to Apply to HRC: Request retirement application or download from <a href="https://www.hrc.army.mil/TAGD/Reserve%20Component%20Retirements">https://www.hrc.army.mil/TAGD/Reserve%20Component%20Retirements</a>, 12 months prior to eligibility date. Submit to HRC NET 9 months and NLT 90 days prior to the date retired pay is to start.





## **Current Reserve Component Members' POCs**

DIEMS UPDATE:

Enlisted Personnel Management Directorate AGR PAB. AHRC-EPR-P All PMOS'

Email: <u>usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.epmd-pab-agr@mail.mil</u> Phone: (502) 613-5964

IRR/IMA/TPU PAB. AHRC-EPR-J All PMOS'

Email: <u>usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.epmd-pab-irr-ima-ret@mail.mil</u> Phone: (502) 613-5977

#### Officer Personnel Management Directorate Officer Personnel Action Branch:

Email: <u>usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.opmd-ldd-pabt@mail.mil</u> Phone: (502) 613-6727 **Officer Health Services Personnel Action Branch (Previously AMEDD):** Email: <u>usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.opmd-hs-psb@mail.mil</u> Phone: (502) 613-6846

**Army National Guard:** See unit administrator or State Joint Forces Headquarters personnel or AGR manager.

PRIOR ARMY RESERVE MEMBERS' POINTS OF CONTACT: Veterans Inquiry Section: Email: <u>usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-ask-hrc@mail.mil</u> Phone: (888) 276-9472





#### **Two Years Prior to Retirement**

- Make fundamental life decisions and consider retirement locations
- Confirm when your active duty service obligation ends
- Review the Pre-separation Counseling Checklist with your SFL-TAP Counselor
- Identify Army and other service providers who will assist you

### 24-12 Months Prior to Retirement

- Attend installation RSO Retirement Planning and SBP briefings
- Attend a SFL Transition Assistance Program (SFL-TAP) Employment Workshop
- Evaluate family requirements (education, care, employment, etc.)
- Develop your Individual Transition Plan with action dates
- Investigate health and life insurance alternatives
- Consider whether you will take transition leave or cash in unused leave

### 12 Months Prior to Retirement

- Receive post-government service employment restriction counseling
- Begin researching the job market and developing a resume



For a full list, visit: <u>https://www.sfl-tap.army.mil/pages/transition/preseparation\_timeline.aspx</u>



### DAEO = Designated Agency Ethics Official

- Located in Installation JAG Offices
- Source of answers on topics related to post-employment restrictions
- Expert on:
  - Federal Employment
  - Foreign Government Employment
  - Negotiations with Employers
  - "Switching Sides"
  - Rules for Procurement Officials
  - Rules Specific to General Officers
  - Working During Transition Leave
  - Use of Title & Wearing of Uniform after Retirement.







#### How does the 180-Day Restriction on Hiring Retired Military Impact Me?

- The Department of Defense (DoD) has restrictions on hiring military members for DoD Federal civilian positions within 180 days of retirement. This includes and impacts military members on transition leave.
- Military retirees may not be appointed within 180 days after the effective date of military retirement as an appropriated fund (GS), or non-appropriated fund (NAF) civilian employee unless the position is covered by a special salary.
- The 180-day restriction is in place unless the hiring official requests and receives an approved waiver.





## Soldier for Life -Transition Assistance Program (SFL-TAP)

- You may initiate the SFL-TAP process 24 months before retirement.
- You <u>MUST</u> complete the mandatory Pre-Separation Counseling at least 12 months prior to your effective retirement date.
- Benefit for Retired Soldiers Eligible for SFL-TAP services on a space-available basis - FOREVER!
- Consists of:
  - Pre-separation counseling
  - Job assistance workshops
  - Individual counseling
  - Job search resources
- SFL-TAP Home Page:

#### https://www.sfl-tap.army.mil/









### <u>Retirement date</u>

- 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month if for length-of-service
- any date for disability retirement

### Active Duty Service Obligation

due to promotion, PCS, completion of military or civilian schooling, etc.

### In lieu of PCS

apply within 30 calendar days of alert for a retirement date no more than 6 months from the date of the PCS alert or the first day of the month after the officer attains 20 years AFS, whichever is later.

### Transferring of GI Bill

Service obligation incurred by transferring Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to a dependent is not an ADSO, therefore it may not be waived.

### Reassigned on a PCS

must wait 1 year to retire (Officer AR 350-100, Enlisted AR 635-200)





- Since 1 August 2013, Soldiers who transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits to their dependents incur a 4-year service obligation. Prior to that, the ADSO depended on when the benefits were transferred. Soldiers cannot retire until their service obligations are satisfied, with a few exceptions.
- 165 Soldiers left in FY13-15 w/o completing their ADSO, resulting in an average debt of \$38K.
- **Starting 12 July 2019**, eligibility to transfer benefits limited to service members with less than 16 years of total service (active duty service and/or selected reserves as applicable).
- The Service member will be considered to have completed previously approved Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) service obligation under conditions listed in DoDI 1341.13, enclosure 3, para 3(g)(2).

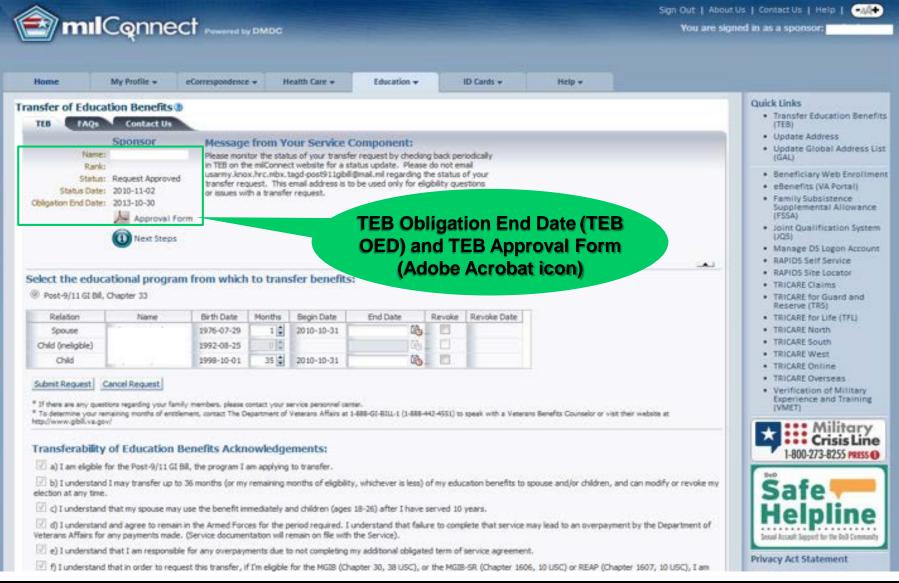
For more information, contact HRC Education Incentives Section at 1-800-872-8272 or <u>usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-post911gibill@mail.mil</u>





#### **TEB Request Page**

(https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/





- Authorized to use the TC closest to current duty station
- May elect to be processed for retirement at a station-ofchoice
- Travel:
  - not paid if to a station-of-choice TC (will incur cost of travel to that location per AR 635-8)
  - reimbursement limited to travel actually performed, not to exceed the allowances from the authorized place of retirement to the home of selection.
- Overseas COLA & Overseas Housing Allowance:
  - both stop upon departure from the overseas location
  - Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) paid based on transition leave address

#### http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/cola.cfm http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/bah.cfm





### **Calculate Your Retired Pay in 3 Steps**

**Step 1**: Determine your DIEMS date (**D**ate of **I**nitial **E**ntry into **M**ilitary **S**ervice)

**Step 2**: Determine which pay plan you are eligible for based on your DIEMS date

**<u>Step 3</u>**: Use the appropriate formula to calculate your retired pay

#### Where to go to update DIEMS

The brigade/installation Personnel Automation Section POC can correct DIEMS dates.

The local finance office is the responsible agency for corrections to the Defense Joint Military System.

Once a Soldier's DIEMS date can be verified, the changes will be reflected on the ERB/LES.

For a fast, personalized retired pay calculation, go to https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Benefit-Calculators/ and click on the retirement calculator





### **Final Basic Pay Plan**

#### (DIEMS Prior to 8 Sep 80)

#### **RETIRED PAY = (Years of creditable service x 2.5%)** x Final Basic Pay

- Commissioned service requirement
- Time-in-grade requirement
- Full COLAs
- Credit for all full months served (22 yrs 4 mos = 55.83%)

											30 thru 4	
Final Pay Multiplier	% <mark>50</mark>	52.5	55	57.5	60	62.6	65	67.5	70	72.5	75 - 100	
Or just go to https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Benefit-Calculators/ for your personal retirement calculation												



### High-3 Plan

#### (DIEMS between 8 Sep 80 and 31 Jul 86)

#### RETIRED PAY = (Years of creditable service x 2.5%) x average of highest 36 months basic pay

- Typically an average of the last 36 months
- Commissioned service requirement
- Percentage multipliers can now exceed 100%

#### • Full COLAs

• Credit for all full months served (22 yrs 4 mos = 55.83%)

Years of service	20	21	22 23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30 thru 40
High-3 Multiplier %	50	52.5	55 57.5	60	62.5	65	67.5	70	72.5	75 - 100

Or just go to <u>http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil</u> for your personal retirement calculation





## **High-3 or REDUX Plan**

#### (DIEMS 1 Aug 86 to 31 Dec 17)

REDUX RETIRED PAY = (Years of creditable service x 2.5%) minus 1% for each year < 30 years x average of highest 36 months of basic pay

- If you took the \$30K Career Status Bonus (CSB), you'll receive REDUX (\*\*CSB no longer available as of 31 December 2017)
- If you didn't take the CSB, you'll receive High-3 (refer to previous slide)
- REDUX: 2% per yr thru 20 yrs; 3.5% from 20-30 yrs; 2.5% thereafter
- REDUX receives COLA minus 1%; one-time catch-up COLA at age 62; then COLA minus 1% after age 62
- Credit for all full months served (22 yrs 4 mos = 48.17%)

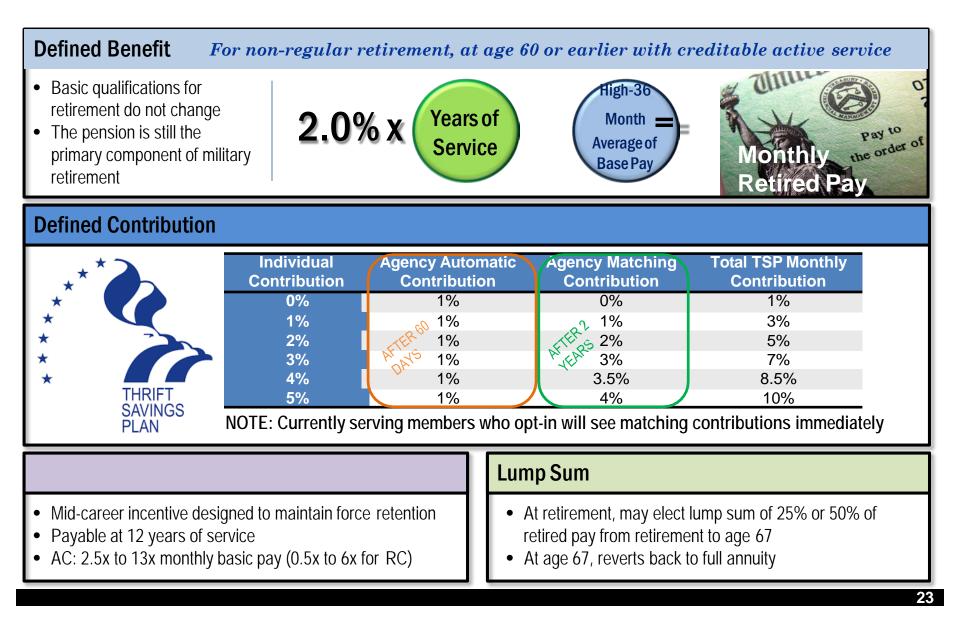
Years of service	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30 thru 40
<b>REDUX Multiplier %</b>	40	43.5	47	50.5	54	57.5	61	64.5	68	71.5	75 - 100
High-36/Final Mult.%	<b>50</b>	52.5	55	57.5	60	62.5	65	67.5	70	72.5	75 - 100

Or just go to <u>http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil</u> for your personal retirement calculation





#### (DIEMS on or after 1 Jan 18 and those who opted-in to the BRS)





## **Thrift Savings Plan**



- •You stop contributing to TSP at retirement
- Your options at retirement: 1--do nothing and draw returns when permitted; or 2--roll into an IRA or 401K

•May resume active participation if you become a federal civilian employee; military and civilian TSP accounts may be combined.

•If you are moving, please make sure that you fill out the Form TSP-9 when separating for change of address. TSP info: <u>www.tsp.gov</u>





### **Thrift Savings Plan**

#### Account Withdrawal Deadline



- If you decide to leave your money in the TSP, be aware that you will be required to start withdrawing your money by April 1 of the year following either:
  - The year you turn age 70½, if you are separated from Federal employment or the uniformed services. -OR-
  - The year you separate from Federal service or the uniformed services, if you are not separated from Federal service or the uniformed services when you reach age 70<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.
- As a helpful reminder, the TSP will notify you before your required withdrawal date and mail you important tax information about your TSP withdrawal, as well as information about the IRS required minimum distributions.







- Retired pay -- paid by DFAS-Cleveland
- Payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month (when the 1<sup>st</sup> falls on a weekend or holiday, the pay date is moved to the previous business day)
- Use *myPay* to make online changes to pay, reissue 1099Rs, change bank account, change email address, manage allotments, etc.
- Keep correspondence and email addresses current
- Monthly electronic Retiree Account Statements (eRAS) are available in your *myPay* account





## **Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)**

#### All Retirement Plans

- Based on difference between Consumer Price Index from last year's 3rd Qtr CY to current year's 3rd Qtr CY
- Partial first year COLA

Final Basic Pay or High-3 Plan or Blended Retirement System

Full annual COLA

#### REDUX (\$30K CSB) Plan

- Reduced until 62 (COLA minus 1%)
- At 62, one-time catch-up
- COLA minus 1% after 62



28

**Dividing Retired Pay as Property If Divorced** 

Uniformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act (USFSPA)

#### •<u>NOT</u>AUTOMATIC

Up to state courts and can be any amount

•After 23 December 2016, a service member's disposable income is limited to the amount of basic pay based on pay grade, years of service, and pay table at the time of the court order with COLA increases.

- Award not tied to length of marriage
- DFAS direct payment requirements:
  - Marriage overlapped 10 years with service
  - Limited to 50% of "disposable" retired pay\*\*

\*\*In cases where there are payments both under the USFSPA and a garnishment for child support or alimony, the total amount payable cannot exceed 65% for garnishments

https://comptroller.defense.gov/Portals/45/documents/fmr/Volume\_07b.pdf https://www.dfas.mil/garnishment/usfspa/legal.html



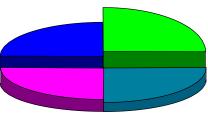








- In retirement, permitted to have:
  - -Maximum of 6 "discretionary" allotments
  - -You can have an unlimited amount of "non-discretionary" allotments.
- For recalled Soldiers at retirement:
  - NONE continue from active duty
  - ALL must be re-initiated after separation
  - WHY? DFAS-CL has no interface with DFAS-IN
- Can start/stop/change allotments in *myPay* at <a href="https://myPay.dfas.mil">https://myPay.dfas.mil</a>
- More information available at: <u>https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/manage/allotments.html</u>







#### **Benefit Library**

- Federal Fact Sheets
- State and Territory Benefits Fact Sheets
- Resource Locators

#### **Benefit Calculators**

- Retirement
- Survivor Benefits
- Deployment Calculator

#### **Benefits Help Desk Operations**

#### **Wounded Warrior Special Module**

- Wounded Warrior / DRE Calculator
- Sustaining Income Calculator

#### **Casualty Operations Special Module**

Survivor Benefits Report



https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil

through CAC or DS Logon.







Federal taxes are due on all retired military compensation

			, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
No State	No St	ate Tax	Some State Tax	State Tax
Income Tax	<u>On Re</u>	etired Pay	On Retired Pay	on ALL
Alaska	Alabama	Minnesota	Arizona	<b>Retired Pay</b>
Florida	Arkansas	Mississippi	Colorado	California
Nevada	Connecticut	Missouri	Delaware	Montana
New Hampshire	Hawaii	New Jersey	Georgia	Rhode Island
South Dakota	Illinois	New York	Idaho	Utah
Tennessee	Iowa	North Dakota	Indiana	Vermont
Texas	Kansas	Ohio	Kentucky	Virginia
Washington	Louisiana	Pennsylvania	Maryland	
Wyoming	Maine	West Virginia	Nebraska	
	Massachusett	s Wisconsin	New Mexico	<u>Home of</u>
	Michigan		North Carolina	<u>Residence</u> is
			Oklahoma	determining

You pay NO Social Security or Medicare tax on retired pay. You'll collect full Social Security benefits when you reach the age of eligibility!

<u>of</u> <u>ce</u>is ning factor; not Home of **Record!** 

\*State taxes as of 10 April 2019. Conditions or limitations apply. Check state law. See the MyArmyBenefits state fact sheets at http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Home/Benefit\_Library/State Territory Benefits.html for details.

Oregon

South Carolina

Washington DC



## **Army Emergency Relief**

Helping the Army take care of its own since 1942



### Did you know...

•AER's sole mission is to provide emergency financial assistance to relieve the distress of Army personnel, Retired Soldiers, and their families.

•As a Retired Soldier, you are eligible for all categories of assistance and you may continue to contribute through an allotment from your retired pay.

- Also awards scholarships to spouses and children of Retired Soldiers.
- For assistance, contact the AER section on your nearest Army installation, other service aid societies or the American Red Cross.





### USE Leave

- Take accrued leave as transition leave
- Transition Leave is ordinary leave granted to assist separating Soldiers with their personal affairs
- Still draw a paycheck
- Full benefits while you are on transition leave (BAH, BAS, incentive pay, etc.)

### **CASH IN** Leave

- Cash in/sell up to 60 days if you have not sold back any leave <u>over the course</u> of your career
- Leave that you sell back is automatically taxed at 25%
   Federal tax plus state tax
- When you sell leave back, it will be base pay only, You do not get benefits such as BAH, BAS, incentive pay, etc.





### **Transition Permissive TDY\***

\* At Commander's Discretion

**<u>Purpose</u>**: Facilitate transition to civilian life (e.g. house-hunting, job-hunting, CSP)



### 10 Days (and may be authorized an additional 10 days):

- CONUS-based Soldiers
- OCONUS-based Soldiers (at same OCONUS location)

### 10 Days (and may be authorized an additional 20 days):

•CONUS-based Soldiers who entered active duty from OCONUS and will return to OCONUS

OCONUS-based Soldiers, at a CONUS or another OCONUS location

### Career Skills Program (CSP):

- For approved CSPs outside of a 50-mile radius, up to 120 days (w/COL or higher approval) or 30 days (w/COL or delegated field grade commander approval)
- Not able to combine with other PTDY, leaves, or passes

AR 600-8-10, Personnel Absences, Leaves and Passes





•Army requires a retirement physical

•NET 6 months and NLT 1 month before retirement/start of transition leave\*

• Your last record of active duty health



- Assists with claim for VA service-connected disability
- Most sites now provide combined Service and VA retirement physical

Use the results of your retirement physical to apply for VA disability benefits under the:

- Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) Program (90-180 days left)
- Fully Developed or Standard Claim (1-89 days left)

VA goal is to start disability payments within 60 -120 days of retirement. Visit the VA web site at <u>https://www.va.gov</u> or call 1-800-827-1000

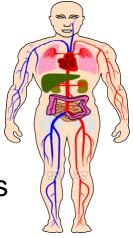




### **Service-Connected Disability**

#### VA rates disabilities 0% - 100%

- -Each % has an assigned dollar amount
- Basic rates effective 1 December 2018 (Veteran only): from \$140.05 (10%) to \$3057.13 (100%) (30% & higher = Extra dependent allowance)
- Tax free payments
- For Retired Soldiers <50% disabled, disability pay offsets military retired pay dollar for dollar
- Free VA medical care for service-connected conditions
- -0% rating means a condition is service related, but is not severe enough to merit disability pay





https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/types-compensation.asp



### Applying to the VA for Service-Connected Disability

- *Lifetime* reevaluations and appeals available from VA
- VA ID card expedites future VA care
- Survivor annuity, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation payable <u>if your death is service-connected</u>
- \$10K (or \$30K) Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (S-DVI) policy available to disabled
- <u>At retirement</u>, you have easiest access to your medical records to support your claim (<u>can apply</u> at any time)

http://www.benefits.va.gov/COMPENSATION/types-disability.asp





#### **CRSC & CRDP Comparison**



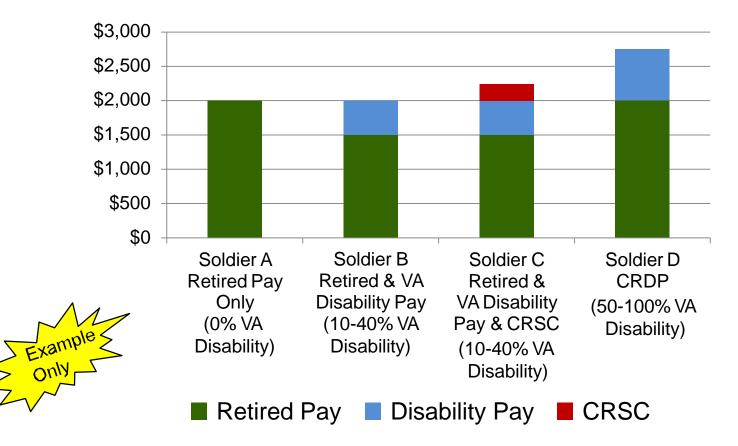
<b>Combat-Related Special Compensation</b>	Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay
Combat-related disabilities	Service-connected disabilities
<ul> <li>Armed conflict (e.g. wounds)</li> </ul>	Retired pay that would have been waived by the
<ul> <li>Simulated combat (e.g. FTX)</li> </ul>	Soldier in order to receive disability pay is restored (i.e., no dollar for dollar off-set of retired pay)
Hazardous service (e.g. parachute duty)	
<ul> <li>Instrumentalities of war (e.g. combat vehicles)</li> </ul>	
10%-100% disability rating (combat related)	50%-100% disability rating (service connected)
Not taxable; not divisible in divorce	Taxable; divisible in divorce
Receiving retired pay	20-year (Active or RC) or TERA retirement
Must apply to HRC	Automatic; no application required
https://www.hrc.army.mil/TAGD/Apply%20for%20 CRSC	https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/disability/crdp. html



# **Retirement and Disability Payments**

### Tying It All Together

Retired pay is reduced dollar-for-dollar by VA Disability Pay unless the Soldier qualifies for Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP)





NOTE: Example depicts four Soldiers retired at the same pay grade and years of service



- Belongs to the Government per AR 40-66
- Make a copy of your records
- Make a copy of Family member records
- May be hard to obtain after retirement
- Can be placed on CD or emailed (Varies by record type)











- DOD and VA offers a free Gulf War Registry Health Exam for eligible Veterans
  - DoD: Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program (CCEP)
  - VA: Gulf War Registry Program
- Exam results entered into central registry
- Family members and survivors may also be eligible for benefits
- Receive newsletter
- Applies to any Veteran who served on active military service for any period from August 2, 1990, to the present and meets the wartime service requirement.

#### http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/



# SGLI & VGLI

•You must **apply** to convert SGLI to VGLI within one year and 120 days from discharge.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

•If you submit a VGLI application within 240 days after discharge, you can obtain this coverage regardless of health.

- You can retain VGLI for as long as you pay the premiums.
- Premiums may be paid by allotment, check or money order, if paid monthly
- Discounts are offered for the following pay schedules:
  - quarterly (2.5%)
  - semi-annually (3.75%)
  - annually (5%)

•All terminally ill policyholders with less than 9 months to live will be eligible to take up to 50% of their SGLI or VGLI coverage in a lump sum.

- Applying for VGLI is simple using one of the following methods:
  - Apply through <u>eBenefits</u>
  - Download and complete SGLV 8714, Application for Veterans' Group Life Insurance and mail it to the Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance



#### http://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/index.asp



# **VA Info Sources**

#### <u>Online</u>:

- https://www.va.gov
- https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage
- https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/web/myhealthevet/home
- Send e-mail inquiries
- Download forms
- Get benefits information
- Apply for benefits

### <u>Bv Phone:</u>

- Benefits: 1-800-827-1000
- Education: 1-888-442-4551
- VA Life Insurance: 1-800-669-8477
- SGLI/VGLI: 1-800-419-1473
- Gulf War: 1-800-749-8387
- TDD **Dial 711**
- Women Veterans Hotline

1-855-829-6636

#### <u>In-Person:</u>

County VA Director (blue pages of phone book)





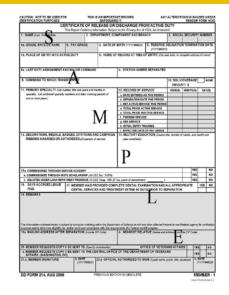






#### DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)

- Check for accuracy before signing <u>Your</u> personal responsibility!
- Copies:
  - #1 Service member
  - #2 Service Personnel File
  - #3 Department of Veterans Affairs
  - #4 Member; only copy that contains reason for discharge; of interest to some employers
- File your copies (1 & 4) in a safe place (<u>NOT a courthouse</u> unless they assure you that it will not be accessible by the general public!)







# **Obtaining a Copy of Your DD Form 214**

Copies of a Retired Soldier's DD Form 214(s) may be obtained from the following sources, as applicable:

- Retired Soldiers may access their records through the HRC My Records Portal by logging in with their DS login at <u>https://www.hrcapps.army.mil/portal/</u> and clicking on "Reserve/Retiree/Veteran Record"
- Retired Soldiers separated after 1 October 2002 who do not have DD Form 214(s) available in iPERMS, forward request to Commander, U.S. Army Human Resources Command (AHRC-PDR-HI), 1600 Spearhead Division Avenue, Department 420, Fort Knox, KY 40122-5402
- Retired Soldiers and Veterans who register for level 2 premium eBenefits through the Veterans Administration at <u>http://www.ebenefits.va.gov can</u> obtain copies of DD Form 214(s) from iPERMS through the Defense Personnel Records Information Retrieval System.
- Retired Soldiers who retired prior to 1 October 2002, forward requests to the National Personnel Records Center. Relevant information may be found at <u>https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records</u>
- Installation military personnel divisions or ARNG State headquarters may provide Soldiers and Veterans with copies of DD Form 214(s) available in iPERMS.



- Retirement Certificate
- Presidential <u>Certificate of Recognition if 20 YOS</u>
- Presidential <u>Letter</u> of Recognition if 30 YOS or other special category (e.g., CSA, SMA, Medal of Honor Recipient or former POWs who qualify for or have been awarded the POW Medal.)
- Retirement Ceremony (optional)
- Spouse Certificate of Appreciation *(if applicable)*
- Army Retiring Soldier Commendation Program Package
  - Contains a letter signed by the Secretary of the Army, the Army Chief of Staff, and the Sergeant Major of the Army, a U.S. Flag, a U.S. Army Retired Lapel Button, and two Soldier for Life window decals.





# **Army Retiring Soldier Commendation Program**







•The Army Retiring Soldier Commendation Program package (ARSCP), was created by ASA (M&RA) in 2009

- •Flag required by 10 USC §3681 (active duty retirement) since 1998 and T10 USC §12605 since 1999 (Reserve Component retirement)
- Retired Army Lapel Button required by Army policy since 1968
- Presented to Active Duty Soldiers at retirement
- Presented to Reserve Component Soldiers upon entry into the Retired Reserve

 Package includes a U.S. Flag, Retired Army Lapel Button, 2 window decals, and a tri-signed letter

 Installation, State, RSC Retirement Services Officers order ARSCP packages





- <u>By Age</u>
- Officers and enlisted, up to age 60
- Warrant officers, up to age 62
- General officers, on a case-by-case basis
- <u>By Category</u>
- Cat I: Non-disability, retired less than 5 years, under 60
- Cat II: Non-disability, retired 5 years or more, under 60
- Cat III: All military retired Soldiers not in category I or II to include WOs and health care professionals who retire from AD after age 60

https://www.hrc.army.mil/content/Retiree%20Recall







- Same privileges as active duty (with some being Space-A)
- Family members need new ID cards to reflect sponsor's retired status
- Children are eligible up to age 21 or 23 if full-time student; indefinite if incapacitated
- Permanent ID card to Family members at age 75 or who are permanently disabled; under 75 renew every 4 years
- Dependent parents/parents-in-law may qualify

FIND NEAREST ID CARD ISSUING FACILITY https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/





- Soldier turns in Common Access Card (CAC)
- Retired ID card is not a CAC, so...
  - No access to DOD Enterprise Email
  - No access to CAC-enabled systems
  - Must change *myPay* account to commercial email
  - Must obtain DS Logon Account to access records and systems

**DS Logon:** Request an account online at <u>https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/identitymanagement</u> or visit an ID Card facility or VA Regional Office





# **Former Spouse ID Card**

#### Authorized ONLY if:

- The marriage and the sponsor's creditable service overlapped by at least 20 years OR –
- The marriage and the sponsor's creditable service overlapped by at least 15 years but less than 20 years.

#### **OVERLAP**

#### PRIVILEGE(S)

20+ years......Full (medical, commissary, exchange, MWR)
15 years, but less than 20.....Medical care (for 1 yr from date of divorce)

Less than 15 years.....None

**Note:** A former spouse is not eligible for medical benefits if enrolled in an employer-sponsored health plan. Benefits terminate upon remarriage of the former spouse.





See <u>http://www.tricare.mil</u> for more details

#### When On Active Duty



- you are enrolled in TRICARE Prime and pay no fees
- your family members pay no enrollment fees, but must choose a TRICARE option and apply for enrollment in TRICARE Prime
- When You Retire. \*\*You must reenroll within 90 days of your retirement date to avoid a lapse in coverage.\*\*
  - TRICARE Prime Managed care option. MTFs are principal source of health care (100% covered)
    - Annual fee is \$594 per family or \$297 per individual plus co-pays for treatment at non-MTF TRICARE network providers.
  - TRICARE Select Fee for Service Plan. Schedule appointments with any TRICARE authorized provider.
    - Copays and cost shares based on the type of care and type of provider you see. Deductible of \$150 (individual), no more than \$300 per family.
  - TRICARE Young Adult for children between ages 23 and 26
    - Not subsidized by the Federal Government. Premiums are \$324 per month (Prime) or \$225 per month (Select), plus copays and cost shares.
  - TRICARE For Life Medicare wrap-around coverage. Supplements Medicare when you turn 65. Must have Medicare Part A & Part B.



#### Healthcare Decisions . . .

#### – US Family Health Plan

- Began as US Public Health Service hospitals
- TRICARE Prime Option for Retired Soldiers and eligible family members up to age 65.
- <u>- http://www.usfhp.com/</u>or (800) 748-7347
- The annual fee is \$594 per family or \$297 per individual



#### Department of Veterans Affairs

 Vets separated under any condition other than dishonorable including Army Reserves or Army National Guard



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

called to active duty by a federal order who completed the full period

- Some Vets may be required to pay a co-pay for treatment of their nonservice connected conditions. Private health insurance may reduce or eliminate the co-pay.
- Most Vets must complete a financial assessment at time of enrollment



- http://www.va.gov/health/ or 1-877-222-VETS (8387)



 On January 1, 2019, the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) was replaced by the Federal



Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP).

- Able to select from a choice of ten nationwide and regional dental carriers, to include Delta Dental and four national and international vision carriers.
- High and Standard plan options available for both dental and vision with varying monthly premium rates based on coverage.
- Service members have 60 days from date of retirement to enroll in a FEDVIP dental and/or vision plan. (to avoid a lapse in coverage)
- Premiums can be deducted from retired pay.

Visit <a href="https://www.benefeds.com/">https://www.benefeds.com/</a> for transition updates





# No-Cost Dental Care MAY Be Furnished –

- 1. For service-conditions existing at retirement
  - -- On a <u>one-time</u>basis
  - -- Must apply within 180 days of discharge



- -- <u>Not eligible if necessary treatment was completed by dental treatment facility</u> within 180 days of retirement (reflected on DD Form 214)
- 2. For service-connected, non-compensable conditions of POWs who were incarcerated less than 90 days *NOTE: Complete treatment is furnished to those who were POWs more than 90 days*
- 3. If you are not eligible for VA Dental Care, the VA implemented a comprehensive national <u>VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP)</u> to give enrolled Veterans and <u>CHAMPVA</u> beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase dental insurance through <u>Delta Dental</u> and <u>MetLife</u> at a reduced cost. Participation is voluntary and purchasing a dental plan does not affect Veterans current eligibility for VA dental services and treatment.



https://www.va.gov/dental/

https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/vadip/index.asp



# **Federal Long Term Care Insurance**

#### Who is eligible?

- Retired members of the uniformed services who are entitled to retired or retainer pay
- Retired Gray Area Soldiers, even if they are not yet receiving their retired pay
- Qualified relatives including your current spouse of eligible annuitants, surviving spouse, domestic partner, and adult children are considered qualified and eligible to apply

#### What are the benefits?

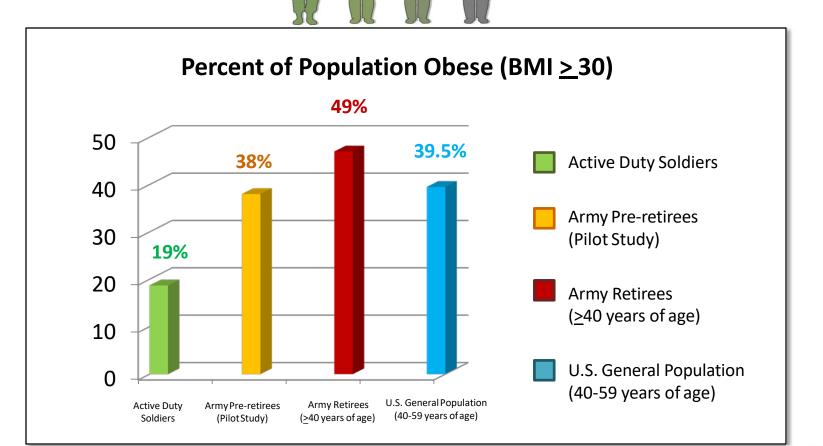
- Long term care is not covered by TRICARE, TRICARE for Life, the VA or Medicare
- The FLTCIP can help protect your retirement income and assets by reimbursing for:
  - care provided in your own home
  - services provided in nursing homes and assisted living facilities
  - community-based care and services

#### When's the best time to apply?

- Premiums are based on your age at the time of application
- If you're currently healthy, you can avoid the risk that a future illness or condition may disqualify you from obtaining coverage at a later date <u>https://www.LTCFEDS.com</u>



# **Avoid Post-Retirement Weight Gain**



Source: All Active Duty Soldiers (all ages) and the Army Retirees (>40 years of age): Data 7 March 2017 from M2, based on last recorded ht./wt.

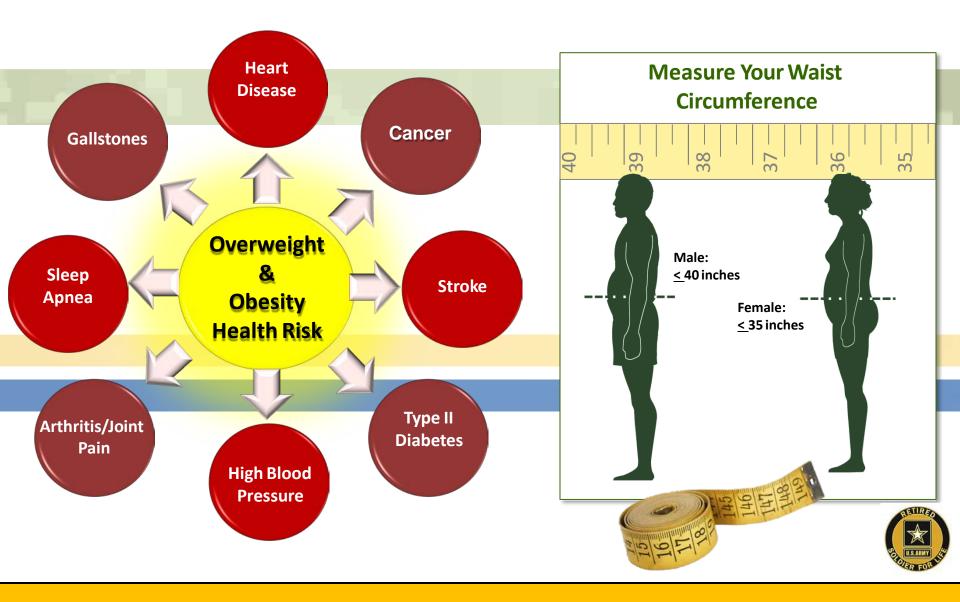
U.S. General Population: JAMA 2014; 311(8):806-814. (Table 4: Adults aged 40 – 59 for all races/Hispanic origin groups)

Website: <u>http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1832542</u>

*Army Pre-Retiree Pilot Study Data:* Data collected 2015-2017. 5 Pilot Test Sites (Fort Bragg, Fort Meade, Fort Belvoir, Fort Sill, and Aberdeen Proving Ground). N=649 of Army pre-retirees; Average Age = 44.6



# **Know Your Risk**



# Set a goal - Make a plan – Take action



#### **Employ self-monitoring tactics**

- Weigh yourself weekly and graph it
- Measure waist circumference
- Try on "marker clothes"
- Go "high-tech" with nutrition or fitness apps
- Use an activity tracker
- Determine your threshold
  - Set a 3 pound weight gain limit
  - Take corrective action sooner than later

Easier to prevent weight gain than to try and lose it and keep it off.



# **Use These Resources Now...**



- Contact your local Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) to get help from a Registered Dietitian
- Visit your local Army Wellness Center (AWC)
- https://soldierforlife.army.mil
- http://www.myarmyonesource.com
- https://p3.amedd.army.mil/



 Retired Soldiers may travel within CONUS or OCONUS



- May FAX request to site; stay on list 60 days
- Instructions on signing up by fax or e-mail provided on AMC page at the link below
- Benefit <u>ends</u> for Family members with death of the Retired Soldier

#### https://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/AMC-Space-Available-Travel-Page/







# Your Exchange Benefits in Retirement





Savings and special offers are right at your fingertips-shopmyexchange.com



- Name brand discounts (10%+)
- Weekly Facebook discounts (<u>www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX</u>)
- eNewsletter online discounts
- Buddy list specials/local events



- Consider joining to be heard
- A group of 35 organizations lobbies on behalf of Soldier/retiree/survivors issues



- Percentage of Veterans in Congress
  - House: (114th) 18%; (115th) 18%; (116th) 18%
  - Senate: (114th) 12%; (115th) 22%; (116th) 17%

Keep up on legislative matters at: https://www.congress.gov/





"Your mission has changed, but your duty has not"

Opportunities to <u>Still Serve</u> include:

- Installation volunteer positions
- Military service organizations
- Veterans service organizations



Talk to your retirement services officer about joining

- Installation Retiree Councils
- CSA Retired Soldier Council

Recent Council reports available at:

https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/csa-retired-soldier-council





# **Retired Soldier Mission: To Hire and Inspire**

#### To Hire

- Hire Veterans if you can
- Refer Veterans to jobs you know of
- Refer job openings to the closest American Job Center run by the Department of Labor



### To Inspire

- Talk to young people about joining the military
- Tell your Army story!
- Connect the 99% who don't serve with the 1% who do; correct the misperceptions about the military!



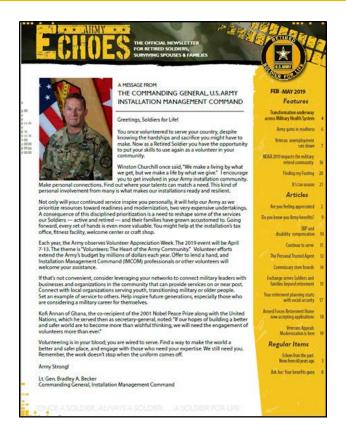
### Army Echoes



- Official Army publication for communicating with Retired Soldiers/Families
- 3 issues: FEB, JUN, OCT
- Apps for iPhone, iPad, Android phones

•All Retired Soldiers and SBP annuitants with *myPay* accounts now receive *Army Echoes* electronically at their email addresses in *myPay.* 

# Change your email address in myPay to a commercial email address before you retire!



- Receive Army Echoes **BEFORE** you retire! Subscribe at <u>https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/echoes-subscription</u>.
- •Subscribe to the *Army Echoes* Blog to receive frequent news between editions at: <u>https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/blog</u>.





# Where Do You Find Retirement Information?

- Army G-1 Retirement Services Office Homepage <u>https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement</u>
  - U.S. Army Retirement Planning Guide
  - USAR & ARNG Non-Regular Retirement Guides
  - DA Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Briefing
- MyArmyBenefits at <a href="https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/">https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/</a>
- Army Installation Retirement Services Officers (RSOs)
   <u>https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/contact-us</u>
- HRC Reserve Retirements Branch
   <u>https://www.hrc.army.mil/TAGD/Reserve%20Component%20Retirements</u>
- USAR Mission Support Command (MSC)/Readiness Division RSOs listed at: <u>https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/reserve-component-retirement-services</u>
- State RSOs can assist National Guard Soldiers
   <u>http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/benefit-library/resource-locator</u>
- SBP vs. Life Insurance Comparison tool <u>http://actuary.defense.gov/</u>





# For more information

#### Army https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement











Air Force https://www.retirees.af.mil/

#### Navy

http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/support/retired\_activities/Pages/default.aspx

#### Marine Corps

https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/webcenter/portal/MRAHome

#### **Coast Guard**

https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/





# Thank you for your service!!



# **QUESTIONS?**

