

Department of the Army Pre-Retirement Briefing

HQ, Army Retirement Services 251 18th Street S., Suite 210 Arlington, VA 22202-3531 1 May 2018



Purpose

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



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

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Pre-Retirement Briefing Topics

- RSO Program
- Retired Pay & Taxes
- Cost of Living Allowances
- 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)
 https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/survivor-benefit-plan
- MyArmyBenefits
- Visit websites for complete information on <u>TRICARE</u>, <u>VA</u> <u>benefits</u>, <u>Social Security</u>



Population Served – and Still Growing

<u>Year</u>	<u> </u>	Active Soldiers	Retired Soldiers
1920		204,000	6,000
1950		593,000	62,000
1960		873,000	122,000
1970		1,323,000	282,000
1980	Active	777,000	425,000
1990	Soldiers Retired Soldiers	732,000	489,000
2000	1993	482,000	526,000
2010		561,376	847,000

In FY16, the Army paid \$20.3 Billion in retired and annuity pay to Retired Soldiers and surviving spouses







Army Retirement Services

current	
Population	
Served	

Active <u>Army</u>	<u>ARNG</u>	<u>USAR</u>	Retired <u>Soldiers</u>	Surviving <u>Spouses</u>	<u>Total</u>
468,161	336,879	190,699	979,265	247,327	2.22M

Pre-Retirement Policy

- 116 Retirement Services Officers
- Pre-Retirement Counseling
- SBP/RCSBP Counseling
- MyArmyBenefits website
- Soldier for Life website

Retirement is a <u>process</u>, 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 <u>mission</u> has changed, but your <u>duty</u> has not!



AR 600-8-7 – "Retirement Services Program"

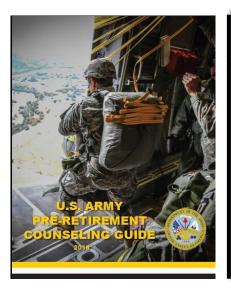
https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement





The Army Retirement Services Website

https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement





Survivor Benefit Plan

Former Spouse Information

ARMY RETIREMENT SERVICES

The Army Retirement Services Office evelops Army policy and oversees Army programs worldwide that prepare Soldiers and their Families for retirement, assist survivors of Soldiers who die on active duty, and serve Retired Soldiers, such ving spouses, and their Families until death in order to comply with federal laws, encourage Retired Soldiers to be Soldiers For Life, and improve recruiting and retention. In accordance with AR 600-8-7, Army Retirement Services develops Army policy and procedures for the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) program; publishes Echoes, the newsletter for Retired Soldiers and surviving spouses and their fauthes; develops policy for the operation of the Army Retirement Services Program; and administers the Army Chief of Staff's (CSA) Retiree Council.

RECENT BLOG ENTRIES

- Prepare Your Loved Ones
- Notify DFAS When Life-Changing Events Happen
- Some Veterans report challenges meeting monthly bills: Are you one of them?
- Working While Retired
- Get Ready for Tax Season!
 Make Sure Your myPay
 Account is Active



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.





Non-Regular Retirement Eligibility & Transfer to Retired Reserve

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 https://www.hrc.army.mil/TAGD/Reserve%20Component%20Retirements,
 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

<u>IRR/IMA/TPU PAB, AHRC-EPR-J</u> All PMOS'

Email: usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.epmd-pab-irr-ima-ret@mail.mil

Phone: (502) 613-5977

Officer Personnel Management Directorate

Officer Personnel Action Branch:

Email: usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.opmd-ldd-pabt@mail.mil

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 MEMBER'S POINTS OF CONTACT:

Veterans Inquiry Section: Email: usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-ask-hrc@mail.mil

Phone: (888) 276-9472





Some Planning Thoughts

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 pre-retirement 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: https://www.sfl-tap.army.mil/pages/transition/preseparation_timeline.aspx



Employment Restrictions

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.



http://www.dod.mil/dodgc/defense_ethics



180-Day Restriction on Hiring Retired Military

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 as part of the 2017 NDAA. 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 nonappropriated 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/

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Other Retirement Considerations

Retirement date

- 1st day of the month if for length-of-service
- any date for disability retirement

Active Duty Service Obligation

 due to promotion, PCS, transferring GI Bill, 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.

Reassigned on a PCS

- must wait 1 year to retire (AR 350-100)





Post 9/11 GI Bill Transferability

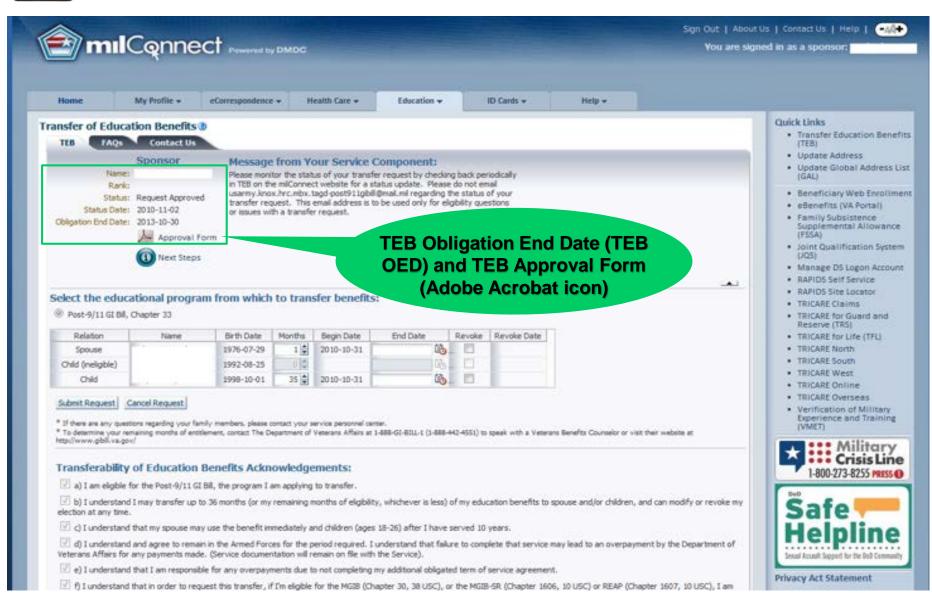
- Since 1 August 2013, Soldiers who transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits to their dependents incur a 4-year service obligation. Prior to that, the ADSO depended on when the benefits were transferred. Soldiers cannot retire until their service obligations are satisfied, with a few exceptions.
- 165 Soldiers left in FY13-15 w/o completing their ADSO.
 Result: AVG \$38K debt

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





TEB Request Page (http://milconnect.dmdc.mil)





Authorized vs. Selected Transition Center (TC)

- 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 yourDIEMS date (<u>D</u>ate of <u>I</u>nitialEntry into <u>M</u>ilitary <u>S</u>ervice)

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

Step 3: 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 http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil 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%)

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Years of service <u>20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 thru 40</u>
Final Pay Multiplier % 50 52.5 55 57.5 60 62.6 65 67.5 70 72.5 75 - 100
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Or just go to http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil 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 <u>last</u> 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	<u>20</u>	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 http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil 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
REDUX Multiplier %	40	43.5	47	50.5	54	57.5	61	64.5	68	71.5	75 - 100
High-36/Final Mult. %	50	52.5	55	57.5	60	62.5	65	67.5	70	72.5	75 - 100

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





Blended Retirement System Basics

(DIEMS on or after 1 Jan 18 <u>or</u> < 12 YOS/4,320 points as of 1 Jan 18 & opt-in to the BRS)

Defined Benefit

For non-regular retirement, at age 60 or earlier with creditable active service

- Basic qualifications for retirement do not change
- The pension is still the primary component of military retirement

2.0% x

Years of Service

High-36 Month Average of Base Pay



Defined Contribution



Individual Contribution	Agency Automatic Contribution	Agency Matching Contribution	Total TSP Monthly Contribution
0%	1%	0%	1%
1%	ى 1%	ຸາ 1%	3%
2%	1%	£ 2%	5%
3%	M 1%	ALEM 3%	7%
4%	1%	3.5%	8.5%
5%	1%	4%	10%

NOTE: Currently serving members who opt-in will see matching contributions immediately

Continuation Pay

- Mid-career incentive designed to maintain force retention
- Payable at 12 years of service
- AC: 2.5x to 13x monthly basic pay (0.5x to 6x for RC)

Lump Sum

- At retirement, may elect lump sum of 25% or 50% of retired pay from retirement to age 67
- At age 67, reverts back to full annuity



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: www.tsp.gov



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 70½.
- 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 Facts



- Retired pay -- paid by DFAS-Cleveland
- Payable on the 1st of the month (when the 1st 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 address current
- Monthly electronic Retiree Account Statements (eRAS)
 are available in your myPay account

https://myPay.dfas.mil/myPay.aspx





Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)

<u>All Retirement Plans</u>

- 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





Dividing Retired Pay as Property If Divorced

Uniformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act (USFSPA)

NOT 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

http://comptroller.defense.gov/Portals/45/documents/fmr/Volume_07b.pdf



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Allotments

- 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 https://myPay.dfas.mil
- More information available at: https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/manage/allotments.html





MyArmyBenefits

Featuring the personalized Retirement Calculator!!



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

http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil

Links directly to DEERS information through CAC or DS Logon.





Taxes*

Federal taxes are due on all retired military compensation

No State Income Tax

Alaska Florida Nevada New Hampshire

Tennessee

South Dakota

Texas

Washington

Wyoming

No State Tax On Retired Pay

Alabama Michigan

Arkansas Minnesota

Connecticut Mississippi Hawaii Missouri

Illinois New Jersey

Iowa New York

Kansas Ohio

Louisiana Pennsylvania

Maine West Virginia

Massachusetts Wisconsin

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!

Some State Tax On Retired Pay

Arizona Colorado

Delaware

Georgia

Idaho

Indiana

Kentucky

Maryland

Nebraska

New Mexico

North Carolina

Oklahoma

Oregon

South Carolina

Washington DC

State Tax on ALL Retired Pay

California

Montana

North Dakota

Rhode Island

Utah

Vermont

Virginia

Home of Residence is determining factor; not Home of Record!

^{*}State taxes as of 11 April 2018. 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.



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 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.





Take Transition Leave or Cash it in?

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 over 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.





Permissive TDY*

* At Commander's Discretion

Purpose: Facilitate transition to civilian life (e.g. house-hunting, job-hunting, CSP)



20 Days:

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

<u> 30 Days:</u>

- 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):

- Up to 120 days (w/GO approval) or 30 days (w/COL approval) for approved CSPs
- Not able to combine with other PTDY, leaves, or passes



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Retirement Physical

- 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 Claim (1-89 days left)

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





VA Compensation for Service-Connected Disability

VA rates disabilities 0% - 100%

- Each % has an assigned dollar amount
- Basic rates effective 1 December 2017 (Veteran only): from \$136.24 (10%) to \$2973.76 (100%) (30% & higher = Extra dependent allowance)
- Tax free payments
- For Retired Soldiers <50% disabled, disability pay offsets military retired pay \$ for \$
- 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

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



VA Service-Connected Disability Compensation Rates

%	Vet	Vet +	Vet + Sp +	
Disabled	Only	Spouse	1 Child	
10	\$136.24			
20	269.30			
30	417.15	466.15	503.15	
40	600.90	666.90	714.90	
50	855.41	937.41	998.41	
60	1083.52	1182.52	1255.52	
70	1365.48	1481.48	1566.48	
80	1587.25	1719.25	1816.25	
90	1783.68	1932.68	2041.68	
100	2973.86	3139.67	3261.10	





Applying to the VA for Service-Connected Disability

- Even 0% rating documents health (\$\$ begins at 10%)
- Lifetime reevaluations and appeals available from VA
- VA ID card expedites future VA care
- Survivor annuity, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation payable <u>if</u> your death is service-connected
- \$10K (or \$30K) Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (S-DVI) policy available to disabled
- At retirement, you have easiest access to your medical records to support your claim (can apply at any time)

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





CRSC & CRDP Comparison



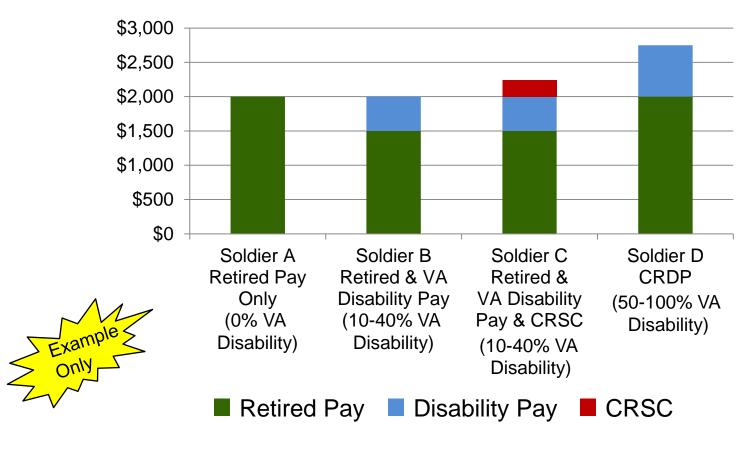
Combat-Related Special Compensation	Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay			
Combat-related disabilities	Service-connected disabilities			
Armed conflict (e.g. wounds)Simulated combat (e.g. FTX)	Retired pay that would have been waived by the Soldier in order to receive disability pay is restored (i.e., no \$ for \$ off-set of retired pay)			
Hazardous service (e.g. parachute duty)				
 Instrumentalities of war (e.g. combat vehicles) 				
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/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)





Medical Records

- 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)











Gulf War Veterans

- 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 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.



- 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



VGLI Premium Schedule – Monthly Rates (Examples)

Insurance	Age							
Amount	<u>40-44</u>	<u>45-49</u>	<u>50-54</u>	<u>55-59</u>	<u>60-64</u>	<u>65-69</u>	<u>70-74</u>	75 &over
\$400K	\$68.00	\$88.00	\$144.00	\$268.00	\$432.00	\$600.00	\$920.00	\$1840.00
\$300K	\$51.00	\$66.00	\$108.00	\$201.00	\$324.00	\$450.00	\$690.00	\$1380.00
\$250K	\$42.50	\$55.00	\$90.00	\$167.50	\$270.00	\$375.00	\$575.00	\$1150.00
\$200K	\$34.00	\$44.00	\$72.00	\$134.00	\$216.00	\$300.00	\$460.00	\$900.20
\$150K	\$25.50	\$33.00	\$54.00	\$100.50	\$162.00	\$225.00	\$345.00	\$690.00
\$100K	\$17.00	\$22.00	\$36.00	\$67.00	\$108.00	\$150.00	\$230.00	\$460.00
\$50K	\$8.50	\$11.00	\$18.00	\$33.50	\$54.00	\$75.00	\$115.00	\$230.00

http://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/vgli_rates_new.asp



VA Info Sources

Online:

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

By Phone:

• 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

In-Person:

County VA Director (blue pages of phone book)





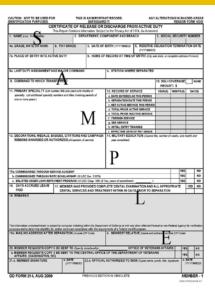






DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)

- Check for accuracy before signing <u>Your</u> personal responsibility!
- Copies:
 - #1 Service member
 - #2 Service Personnel File
 - #3 United States 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 (NOT a courthouse 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 https://www.hrcapps.army.mil/portal/ 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 http://www.ebenefits.va.gov can 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 http://www.archives.gov/veterans/militarysevice-records/
- ➤ Installation military personnel divisions or ARNG State headquarters may provide Soldiers and Veterans with copies of DD Form 214(s) available in iPERMS.



At Retirement, You Will Also Receive...

- Retirement Certificate
- Presidential <u>Certificate</u> of Recognition if 20 YOS
- 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 rewarded 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







- 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



Mobilization/Retiree Recall

- By Age
- Officers and enlisted, up to age 60
- Warrant officers, up to age 62
- General officers, on a case-by-case basis



- By Category
- 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%20Mobilization%20and%20Recall%20Continuum%20of%20Service%20Application

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



Travel & Transportation

(Contact Your Transportation Office)

Travel

- Authorized from last duty station to home of selection (includes Family members)
- If home of selection is OCONUS, costs limited to those payable had a CONUS site been selected

<u>Transportation of Household Goods (HHGs)</u>

- From last duty station to home of selection
- May ship stored HHGs
- Non-temporary storage authorized for 1 year
- If retiring OCONUS, POV shipment to CONUS authorized

<u>Time Limit on Travel & Transportation Allowances</u>

- Typically one year
- Exceptions may be requested prior to 1st anniversary of retirement
- Additional Info Sources: Defense Transportation Regulation 4500.9, found at http://www.ustranscom.mil and the Joint Travel Regulation at https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Docs/perdiem/JTR.pdf





Personal Property Household Goods (HHG)

Entitlements expire 6 years from the effective date of the orders

Extension of the transportation entitlement

 Submit an extension request to the transportation office prior to the retirement anniversary date yearly (includes an extension of the transportation entitlement for HHG in nontemporary storage (NTS).

Local move of HHG

- Authorized from government/privatized quarters to a residence in local area
- Local move radius varies by installation. Estimate 50 mile radius.
- Does not impact the move to the HOS
- HHG may be split between the delivery to the local residence and nontemporary storage (NTS)
- HHG in the residence in the local area and in non-temporary storage (NTS) may be transported to the HOS at a later date
- Local move weight allowance is the authorized weight 18,000 pounds in lieu of unlimited.



Personal Property Household Goods Storage

Shipments to multiple locations

- Total weight of all shipments may not exceed the authorized weight allowance
- Total cost of all shipments may not exceed the cost to ship the authorized weight allowance to the HOS in one lot.

Non-temporary Storage (NTS) is always at origin, not at destination

- Begins on the date the order is issued
- Terminates 1 year from the effective date of retirement
- After the 1 year entitlement expires, storage is converted to a commercial account at the Soldier's expense. Contact the transportation office for a delivery out of storage.
- When HHG are released for delivery, additional storage is not authorized, it must be a DIRECT delivery.
- Think non-temporary storage first, place HHG in NTS when HOS is unknown or delivery address at HOS is unknown, or new house being built.

ID Cards

- 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/





Impact of ID Card Changes at Retirement

- 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

https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/identitymanagement

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.

<u>OVERLAP</u>

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

<u>Note</u>: 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.



Healthcare Decisions...

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 Retired

- TRICARE Prime Managed care option. MTFs are principal source of health care (100% covered)
 - ❖ Annual fee is \$578.16 per family or \$289.08 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.

See https://tricare.mil for more details



Healthcare Decisions . . . (Cont'd)

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.
- http://www.usfhp.com/ or (800) 748-7347
- Annual fee is \$578.16 per family or \$289.08 per individual



Department of Veterans Affairs

Vets separated under any condition other than dishonorable including
 Army Reserves or Army National Guard
 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
- https://www.va.gov/health/ or 1-877-222-VETS (8387)





TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP)

(Currently administered by Delta Dental Federal Government Programs)

TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (available through 31 December 2018)

Who Is Eligible

- Retired Soldiers of any age
- Gray Area Soldiers, not yet age 60





A REGISTERED MARK OF DELTA DENTAL PLANS ASSOCIATION

Spouses, unremarried surviving spouses, and eligible children of both

Where It's Available

U.S., Puerto Rico, Canada, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa,
 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Overseas TRDP

What it Costs

- Dependent on location; monthly rates \$25-\$120
- Costs borne by participant; no government subsidy
- Must enroll within 120 days of retirement to avoid the 12-month waiting period for major care (e.g. crowns, bridges, implants, dentures)

See https://trdp.org for more details



Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP)

 Beginning on January 1, 2019, TRDP will be replaced by the Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP).



- Will be able to select from a choice of ten nationwide and regional dental carriers, to include Delta Dental.
- High and Standard plan options available with varying monthly premium rates based on coverage.
- Enrollment in FEDVIP will begin on 12 November 2018 and continue through 10 December 2018. You must select a FEDVIP dental plan to continue your coverage as there will not be automatic enrollment for those already in TRDP.
- Can continue to have premiums deducted from your retired pay.

Visit https://tricare.benefeds.com for transition updates.



VA Dental Care

No-Cost Dental Care MAY Be Furnished –

- 1. For service-conditions existing at retirement
 - -- On a one-time basis
 - -- Must apply within 180 days of discharge
 - -- Not eligible if necessary treatment was completed by dental treatment facility within 180 days of retirement (reflected on DD Form 214)
- For service-connected, non-compensable conditions of POWs who were incarcerated <u>less than</u> 90 days <u>NOTE</u>: 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/health/services/dentalhttps://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



Staying Healthy in Retirement

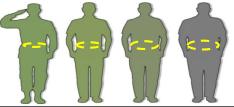
Protect Your Health During Retirement

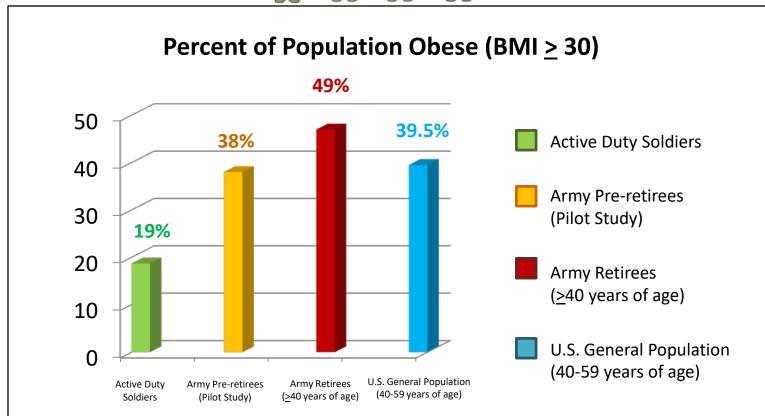


How do you envision your health over the next 20 – 40 years?



Avoid Post-Retirement Weight Gain





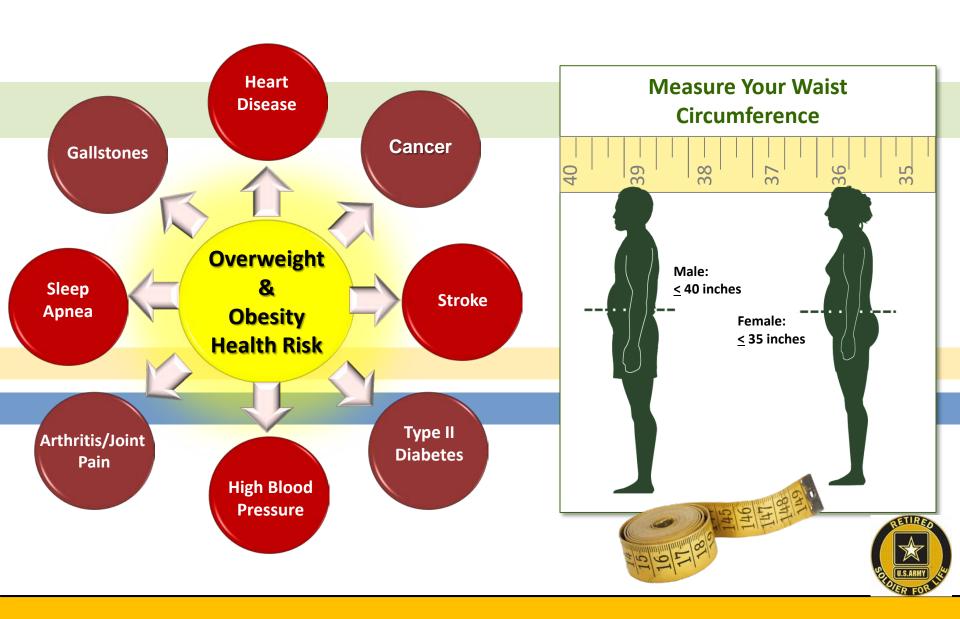
Source: All Active Duty Soldiers (all ages) and the Army Retirees (≥ 40 years of age): Data 7 March 2017 from M2, based on last recorded ht./wt. U.S. General Population: JAMA 2014; 311(8):806-814. (Table 4: Adults aged 40 − 59 for all races/Hispanic origin groups)

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

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.

FOR PEAK PERFORMANCE, REACH ALL TARGETS AND + GOALS

SLEEP

24HOUR

24HOUR

10,000 STEPS 5,000 ADDITIONAL (SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE DAY)

DAYS
OR MORE
RESISTANCE
TRAINING
TRAINING
TRAINING
TRAINING
TRAINING

PERFORMANCE
TRIAD

TARGET
BEHAVIORS

EAT AT 8
LEAST 8
SERVINGS OF FRUITS & VEGETABLES PER DAY 6

GO CAFFEINE 6 SEFORE BEDTIME TO RESET SLEEP

RE-FUEL SAFTER STRENUOUS EXERCISE

150 75 % T X VIGOROUS INTENSITY AEROBIC EXERCISE (PER)

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/



"Space-A" Travel

- 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
- Benefit ends for Family members with death of the Retired Soldier



http://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/





Your Exchange Benefits in Retirement

EXCHANGE

"We're honored to serve those who have served."



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







At your local Exchange and Express!









- Tri-weekly coupons by text
- Name brand discounts (10%+)
- Weekly Facebook discounts (www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX)
- eNewsletter online discounts
- Buddy list specials/local events

Military Service Organizations

- Consider joining to be heard
- 35-organization group lobbies on behalf of Soldier/retiree/survivors issues
- Percentage of Veterans in Congress
 - House: (114th) 18%; (115th) 18%
 - Senate: (114th) 12%; (115th) 22%



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



Retired Soldier Motto:

"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 https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/army-echoes.
- Subscribe to the *Army Echoes Blog* to receive frequent news between editions at: https://soldierforlife.army.mil/node/100.





Where Do You Find Retirement Information?

- Army G-1 Retirement Services Office Homepage <u>https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement</u>
 - DA Pre-Retirement Counseling Guide
 - USAR & ARNG Non-Regular Retirement Guides
 - DA Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Briefing
- MyArmyBenefits at http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/
- Army Installation Retirement Services Officers (RSOs) https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/contact-us
- 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: https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/preparing-to-retire
- State RSOs can assist National Guard Soldiers
 http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/benefit-library/resource-locator
- SBP vs. Life Insurance Comparison tool <u>http://actuary.defense.gov/</u>

For more information

Army

https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement











Air Force

http://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/oracle/webcenter/page/scopedM D/s27e2e39a_cae9_4df8_b480_b92d843cc504/Page597ffdaf_e78d_4896_b364_1 96ed4dbc87e.jspx

Coast Guard

http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/



Thank you for your service!!

