

## CHAPTER 61

**BONUS PROGRAM FOR THE INDIVIDUAL READY RESERVE  
AND INACTIVE NATIONAL GUARD**6101 AUTHORITY

Title 37 U.S.C., section 308h (reference (aa)), authorizes a bonus for the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) and Inactive National Guard (ING). Current or prior Military Service members must enlist, reenlist, or voluntarily extend an enlistment in the IRR or ING for 3 years or more to qualify for the bonus.

6102 BASIC CONDITIONS OF ENTITLEMENT

★ An enlisted member of the IRR/ING is authorized a bonus during the period 29 May 1984 through 30 September 1985 and 24 February 1986 to 30 September 1998 under the following conditions:

610201. An individual must:

- A. Remain an enlisted member during the period of enlistment, reenlistment, or extension;
- B. Be qualified in and assigned a primary or secondary military occupational specialty (MOS) rate, specified Navy ratings or NEC's or Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) in a combat or combat support skill designated by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned;
- C. Enlist, reenlist, or extend for 3 or 6 years beyond the military service obligation in accordance with Military Service regulations;
- D. Not have completed more than 14 years of total Military Service.

610202. An individual who completes obligation to one Military Service may be accepted by another Military Service for enlistment under this program, provided the individual possesses a skill approved by the gaining Military Service for the payment of the bonus.

610203. Army members who transfer from the ING to the IRR may continue to receive this bonus provided such members continue to serve satisfactorily.

6103 AMOUNTS PAYABLE

610301. An amount not to exceed \$1,500 may be paid to a person who enlists, reenlists, or extends for a period of 6 years or \$750 to a person who enlists, reenlists, or extends for a period of 3 years.

A. A bonus paid for a 6-year reenlistment or extension contract will be as follows: \$500 shall be paid at the time of the enlistment, reenlistment, or extension with the remainder paid in equal annual increments.

B. A bonus paid for a 3-year reenlistment or extension contract will be in equal annual increments.

610302. An additional amount of up to \$1,500 may be paid for a subsequent reenlistment or extension provided the individual meets the eligibility criteria of section 6102, above.

6104 OBLIGATION

A member must be contractually obligated to serve satisfactorily, as prescribed by the regulations of the Military Service concerned, in the IRR or ING for the full term of enlistment, reenlistment, or extension. As a condition of receipt of the bonus, recipients must agree to participate in an annual muster of the Reserve Component or in active duty for training as may be required by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned. The use of extensions in lieu of reenlistments is authorized and encouraged to reduce the administrative burden of the reenlistment process and to eliminate the need for the oath of enlistment or reenlistment. Participants must obligate themselves to continue to serve in the same MOS unless excused for the convenience of the government. A bonus recipient who later transfers to the Selected Reserve is not required to refund the IRR and ING bonus. Bonus recipients who transfer to the Selected Reserve are not eligible for a selected Reserve reenlistment bonus during the period for which an IRR or ING bonus was paid.

6105 TERMINATION OF BONUS ENTITLEMENT

Entitlement to the IRR and ING bonus will be terminated if a member:

610501. Fails to participate satisfactorily in the Ready Reserve in accordance with the regulations of the Military Service concerned;

610502. Accepts a civilian position where membership in the Reserve Component is a condition of employment (persons on temporary assignment excluded);

610503. Is separated from the Ready Reserve as an enlisted member for any reason (including enlistment or voluntary recall into the active forces);

610504. Becomes a simultaneous member of an authorized officer program drawing a stipend; or

610505. Moves to a nonbonus-qualified MOS, unless at the express direction of the Military Service concerned (through no fault of the member).

6106 RECOUPMENT OF PAYMENTS

610601. Any refund made by a member shall not affect the period of obligation of such member to serve as a Ready Reservist. Recoupment of unearned portions of the IRR and ING bonus is required when the member:

A. Fails to satisfactorily complete the designated term of enlistment, reenlistment, or extension of enlistment for which the bonus was paid unless the failure was due to reasons beyond the control of the member (for example, death, injury, illness, or other impairment not the result of member's misconduct);

B. Accepts a civilian position where membership in the Reserve Component is a condition of employment, if less than one-half of the contract term for which a bonus is payable has been served (persons on temporary assignment excluded);

C. Separates from the Ready Reserve as an enlisted member (including enlistment or voluntary recall into the active component) other than by death or to accept an appointment as an officer in the Ready Reserve;

D. Accepts an immediate appointment as an officer in the Ready Reserve, if less than 1 year of the term has been served; or,

E. Moves to a nonbonus-eligible MOS, unless at the express direction of the Military Service concerned (through no fault of the member).

610602. Recoupment will be the amount of bonus received multiplied by the quotient produced by dividing the number of whole months remaining unserved by the number of months in the term of the bonus. The product is the amount recouped.

Example: An individual reenlists in the IRR for 3 years and receives the maximum bonus of \$750. Five months later, the individual is disqualified from entitlement to the bonus:

Amount of bonus received	\$ 750.00
Multiplied by:	
Number of whole months remaining divided by term of bonus: $31/36 = .8611$	X
	<u>.8611</u>
Amount to be recouped	\$ 645.83

610603. However, reduce the amount to be recouped by an amount equal to any reduction taken under Chapter 35, subparagraphs 350702.F or 350802.D.