

**VOLUME 7A, CHAPTER 56: “READY RESERVE ACCESSION, AFFILIATION,
ENLISTMENT, AND RETENTION BONUSES”**

SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

All changes are denoted by [blue font](#).

Substantive revisions are denoted by an asterisk (*) symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by [bold, italic, blue, and underlined font](#).

The previous version dated [September 2015](#) is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
All	Updated hyperlinks and formatting to comply with current administrative instructions.	Revision
560305	Extended Duration of Authority to December 31, 2016 per Public Law 114-92, section 612(b)(4), November 25, 2015.	Revision
560404	Extended Duration of Authority to December 31, 2016 per Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015.	Revision
560504	Extended Duration of Authority to December 31, 2016 per Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015.	Revision
560606	Extended Duration of Authority to December 31, 2016 per Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015.	Revision
560806	Extended Duration of Authority to December 31, 2016 per Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015.	Revision
560905	Extended Duration of Authority to December 31, 2016 per Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015.	Revision
561005	Extended Duration of Authority to December 31, 2016 per Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015.	Revision
561104	Extended Duration of Authority to December 31, 2016 per Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015.	Revision
Bibliography	Updated references.	Revision

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CHAPTER 56

**READY RESERVE ACCESSION, AFFILIATION, ENLISTMENT, AND
RETENTION BONUSES**

5601 GENERAL

560101. Purpose

This chapter establishes policy guidance pertaining to the accession, affiliation, enlistment, and retention bonuses for members of the Ready Reserve (RR).

560102. Authoritative Guidance

The bibliography at the end of this chapter lists the authoritative references.

5602 OFFICER ACCESSION AND AFFILIATION BONUS

560201. Officer Accession Bonus

A. Conditions of Entitlement. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may pay an accession bonus to an eligible officer who enters into an agreement with the Secretary:

1. To accept an appointment as an officer in the armed forces; and
2. To serve in the Selected Reserve (SELRES) of the RR in a designated skill for the period specified in the agreement.

B. Skills Designation. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned will designate the officer skills to which the bonus authority under this subparagraph is to be applied. A skill may be designated for an armed force if it is critical to increase the number of members accessed into that armed force who are qualified in that skill or are to be trained in that skill, or to mitigate a current or projected significant shortage of personnel in that armed force who are qualified in that skill.

560202. Officer Affiliation Bonus

A. Conditions of Entitlement. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may pay an affiliation bonus to an eligible officer in any of the armed forces who enters into an agreement with the Secretary to serve, for the specified period in the agreement, in the SELRES of the RR. The officer must enter into an agreement:

1. To serve in a critical officer skill designated by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned; or

2. To meet a manpower shortage in:
 - a. A unit of that [SELRES](#); or
 - b. A particular pay grade in that [armed force](#).
- B. Eligibility Criteria. An officer is eligible for an affiliation bonus if the officer either:
 1. [Is serving](#) on active duty for a period of more than 30 days, or
 2. Is a member of a Reserve Component ([RC](#)) not on active duty, and if the member formerly served on active duty, was released from active duty under honorable conditions; and
 3. Is not entitled to retired or retainer pay.
- C. Critical Skills Designation. The Secretary [of the Military Department](#) concerned will designate for an [armed force](#) under the [Secretary's](#) jurisdiction the critical officer skills to which the bonus authority under this subsection is to be applied. A skill may be designated as a critical officer skill for an [armed force](#) if it is critical for that [armed force](#) to have a sufficient number of officers who are qualified in that skill.

560203. Period of Obligated Service

An agreement entered into with the Secretary [of the Military Department](#) concerned under this paragraph will require the person entering into that agreement to serve in the [SELRES](#) for a specified period. The period specified in the agreement will be any period not less than 3 years that the Secretary determines appropriate to meet the needs of the [RC](#) in which the service is to be performed.

560204. Bonus Amount

- A. Effective January 6, 2006 through January 1, 2013, the amount of a bonus under section 5602 may be any amount, not in excess of \$10,000 that the Secretary [of the Military Department](#) concerned determines appropriate; and
- B. Effective January 2, 2013, the amount of a bonus under section 5602 may be any amount, not in excess of \$20,000 that the Secretary determines appropriate.

560205. Payment

- A. Upon acceptance of a written agreement by the Secretary [of the Military Department](#) concerned, the total amount of the bonus payable under the agreement becomes fixed. The agreement will specify whether the bonus is to be paid in one lump sum or installments.

B. A person entitled to a bonus who is called or ordered to active duty will be paid, during that period of active duty, any amount of the bonus that becomes payable to the member during that period of active duty.

560206. Relation to Other Accession Bonus

A person may not receive an affiliation bonus or accession bonus and financial assistance for the same period of service.

5603 CRITICALLY SHORT WARTIME HEALTH SPECIALIST IN THE SELRES

560301. Authorization

An officer of a RC who executes a written agreement to serve in the SELRES of an armed force for a period of at least 1 year but not more than 3 years, beginning on the date the officer accepts the award of special pay, may be paid special pay at an annual rate not to exceed \$25,000.

560302. Eligible Officers

An officer referred to in paragraph 560301 is an officer in a health care profession who is qualified in a specialty designated by Department of Defense (DoD) regulations as a critically short wartime specialty.

560303. Payment

Special pay under this section will be paid annually at the beginning of each 12-month period for which the officer has agreed to serve.

560304. Repayment

An officer who does not complete the period of service in the SELRES as specified in paragraph 560301 will be subject to the repayment provisions of Chapter 2.

*560305. Duration of Authority

Unless authorized by the Congress, no agreement under this section may be entered into after December 31, 2016.

5604 ENLISTMENT BONUS

The Enlistment Bonus criteria in this section reflect the transition to the consolidated bonus pay authorities of Title 37, United States Code (U.S.C.), Chapter 5, Subchapter II, effective October 1, 2013. Any contracts executed on or before September 30, 2013 should be paid under 37 U.S.C., Chapter 5, Subchapter I until the expiration of those respective contracts.

Entitlement criteria for 37 U.S.C., Chapter 5, Subchapter I are outlined in the July 2013 version of Volume 7A, Chapter 56.

560401. Eligibility

An enlistment bonus is authorized for individuals who enlist in a **RC** for a specific period and, if applicable, for service in a military skill that is experiencing critical personnel shortages as designated by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. The individual must:

A. Possess a high school diploma, a completion or attendance certificate in lieu of a high school diploma, or a General Educational Development (**GED**) program certificate;

B. Be an initial enlistee, a prior Military Service enlistee, or a reservist not on active duty who enlists in a **RC** of the Military Service department concerned, as defined:

1. Initial/Non-prior Service Enlistee. An Initial or Non-prior Service Enlistee is a person who has either never served or has served, but was released from such service before completing the basic training requirements of the Service of which the person was a member and the service was characterized as either honorable or uncharacterized.

2. Prior Military Service Enlistee. A Prior Military Service Enlistee is a person who has prior military experience but has not previously received an enlistment or retention bonus or who currently is not entitled to a Selective Retention Bonus (**SRB**) under section 5608;

C. Enlist for at least 2 years in a **RC** of a Military Service and serve for a specified period of obligated service in at least one of the following categories:

1. A designated military skill,

2. Career field,

3. Unit, or

4. Grade;

D. Execute a written agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned that specifies the:

1. Amount of the bonus;

2. Method of bonus payment - lump sum amount or periodic installments;

3. Period of obligated service;

4. Designated military skill or specialty, career field, unit, or grade, or such other condition or conditions of service imposed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;

E. Not be in receipt of an enlistment bonus, a retention bonus, an affiliation bonus, or a transfer bonus for the same period of service;

F. Not have previously received or be eligible to receive a [SRB](#) under section 5608 or a Critical Skills Retention Bonus;

G. Successfully complete training and become technically qualified in a designated skill if completion of such training and technical qualification forms the basis under which the bonus is paid; and

H. Meet any additional military service specific eligibility criteria and quality standards established by the Secretary of the Military Department [concerned](#).

NOTE: Reservists currently obligated to a Military Service under a delayed entry program are not eligible for an enlistment or affiliation bonus from another Military Service.

560402. Amount

The bonus amount to be paid will:

A. Be fixed upon acceptance of the agreement by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;

B. Be paid in a lump sum or in periodic installments; [and](#)

C. Not exceed \$20,000 for a minimum 2-year period of obligated service for an enlistment described in paragraph 560401.

560403. Repayment

A member who enters into an agreement and receives all or part of the bonus under the agreement, but who does not commence to serve in the [SELRES](#) or does not satisfactorily participate in the [SELRES](#) for the total period of service specified in the agreement, will be subject to the repayment provisions of Chapter 2.

*560404. Duration of Authority

Unless authorized by the Congress, no agreement under this section may be entered into after [December 31, 2016](#).

5605 ENLISTED AFFILIATION BONUS

560501. Eligibility

The Secretary of the Military Department **concerned** may pay an affiliation bonus to an enlisted member who:

A. Is currently serving on active duty or has served on active duty and is discharged or released under honorable conditions;

B. Has less than 20 years of total military service;

C. Provides the original DoD (DD) Form 214 (copy 1 or copy 4), “**Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty,**” or a reproduction with a certified true-copy stamp and the appropriate Federal Government authenticating seal imprinted thereon for each period of prior military service;

D. Executes an agreement to serve in the **SELRES** of the **RR** of a Military Service, for a period of not less than 2 years, in a:

1. Skill,

2. Unit, or

3. Pay grade designated after being discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions;

E. Executes a written agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned that specifies the:

1. Amount of the bonus;

2. Method of bonus payment - lump sum amount or periodic installments;

3. Period of obligated service; **and**

4. Designated military skill or specialty, career field, unit, or grade, or such other condition or conditions of service imposed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;

F. Is not in receipt of an enlistment, retention, or transfer bonus for the same period of time as an affiliation bonus; and

G. Has not previously received an affiliation bonus in the **SELRES**.

560502. Amount

The bonus amount to be paid will:

- A. Be fixed upon acceptance of the agreement by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;
- B. Be paid in a lump sum or in periodic installments; and
- C. Not exceed \$20,000 for a minimum 2-year period of obligated service for an affiliation described in paragraph 560501.

560503. Repayment

A member who enters into an agreement and receives all or part of the bonus under the agreement, but who does not commence to serve in the **SELRES** or does not satisfactorily participate in the **SELRES** for the total period of service specified in the agreement, will be subject to the repayment provisions of Chapter 2.

*560504. Duration of Authority

Unless authorized by the Congress, no agreement under this section may be entered into after **December 31, 2016**.

5606 PRIOR SERVICE ENLISTMENT BONUS

560601. Eligibility

The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may pay an individual with prior military service who reenlists in a **RC** of a Military Service after a break in reserve duty. The individual must:

- A. Enlist in a **RC** of a Military Service;
- B. Reenlist for a period of at least 2 years or extend the initial period of obligated service;
- C. Execute a written agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned to serve as an enlisted member in a **RC** that specifies the:
 - 1. Amount of the bonus;
 - 2. Method of bonus payment - lump sum amount or periodic installments;
 - 3. Period of obligated service; and

4. Designated military skill or specialty, career field, unit, or grade, or such other condition or conditions of service imposed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;

D. Agree to serve for a specified period in at least one of the following reenlistment or extension categories:

1. A designated military skill,
2. Career field,
3. Unit, or
4. Grade;

E. Successfully complete training or retraining and become technically qualified in a designated military skill, when additional training is required;

F. Provide the original DD 214 (copy 1 or copy 4), or a reproduction of the DD 214 with a certified true copy stamp and the appropriate Federal Government authenticating seal imprinted thereon for any period of prior military service, or other official documentation verifying member's satisfactory participation for all periods of prior service in the Regular Component;

G. Qualify under any additional eligibility criteria prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;

H. Possess a high school diploma, a completion or attendance certificate in lieu of a high school diploma, or a [GED](#) program certificate; and

I. Be an initial enlistee, a prior Military Service enlistee, or a reservist not on active duty who enlists in a [SELRES](#) of the Military Service department concerned, as defined in section 560401.B.

560602. Limitations

A member may not be paid a Prior Service Enlistment Bonus if he/she:

- A. Has previously received an enlistment bonus;
- B. Has previously received or is currently entitled to a [SRB](#);
- C. Has previously received or [is currently](#) entitled to a Critical Skill Retention Bonus;
- D. Has more than 16 years of total military service;

E. Was released or is being released from active duty for the purpose of enlistment in a [RC](#); or

F. Is not projected to occupy a position for which the member previously served successfully and has completed training or retraining in the critical specialty for the position.

560603. Amount

The bonus amount to be paid will:

A. Be fixed upon acceptance of the agreement by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned; and

B. Not exceed \$40,000.

560604. Method of Payment

A. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned must establish the method of payment for the bonus (lump sum or periodic installments). Payment should be disbursed based on training milestones, amounts, and length of enlistment. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned must not pay a person or member any portion of the bonus prior to completion of basic recruit training.

B. Members with prior military service who do not require formal training to be technically qualified in the skill for which the bonus is being paid will receive their first installment no earlier than 30 days after arrival at the first permanent duty station following entry on active duty.

560605. Repayment

A member who does not complete the term of enlistment or who is not technically qualified in the skill for which the bonus was paid will be subject to the repayment provisions of Chapter 2.

*560606. Duration of Authority

Unless authorized by the Congress, no agreement under this section may be entered into after [December 31, 2016](#).

5607 NONAVAILABILITY

560701. [RR](#)

Members of the [RR](#) who incur a period of authorized nonavailability (such as temporary overseas residence, missionary obligation, [or](#) overseas employment obligation) will have their

incentive suspended. During the period of nonavailability, those **members** will not be entitled to incentive payments. If subsequently assigned to the Reserve status and skill that they had previously contracted for, then the members may be reinstated in the incentive program if they extend their term of service, or contract for service, to be able to serve the full original incentive contract period. Entitlement to subsequent payments will resume on the adjusted anniversary date of satisfactory and creditable Reserve Service, as appropriate. The date will be adjusted for that period of nonavailability. Failure to meet reinstatement criteria in a capacity for which previously contracted will result in termination of the incentive and recoupment, as appropriate.

560702. **SELRES**

Members of the **SELRES** may incur a period of authorized nonavailability of up to 1 year for valid personal reasons as determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. These members will be:

A. Transferred to the Individual Ready Reserve or the Inactive National Guard, as appropriate, during the period of nonavailability, and will be suspended from their incentive. During the period of nonavailability, the member will not be entitled to subsequent incentive payments or any incentives available to members of the **RR**, not in the **SELRES**; and

B. If, within 1 year, members are subsequently reassigned to a **SELRES** skill or unit type that they had previously contracted for, then the members may be reinstated in the incentives program if they extend their term of service, or contract for service, to be able to serve the full original incentive contract period. Entitlement to subsequent payments will resume on the adjusted anniversary date of satisfactory creditable **SELRES** service. The date will be adjusted for that period of nonavailability. Failure to meet reinstatement criteria in a capacity for which previously contracted will result in termination of the incentive and recoupment, as appropriate.

5608 **SRB**

The **SRB** criteria contained in this section reflect the transition to the consolidated special, incentive, and bonus pay authorities 37 U.S.C., Chapter 5, Subchapter II, effective October 1, 2013. Any contracts executed on or before September 30, 2013 should be paid under 37 U.S.C., Chapter 5, Subchapter I until the expiration of those respective contracts. Entitlement criteria for 37 U.S.C., Chapter 5, Subchapter I are outlined in the July 2013 version of Volume 7A, Chapter 56.

560801. Eligibility

A **SRB** is authorized for members who reenlist in a Military Service for a specific period and, if applicable, for service in a military skill that is experiencing critical personnel shortages as designated by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. The individual must:

A. Serve in pay grade E-3 or higher;

B. Reenlist for a period of at least 3 years or voluntarily extend an enlistment for a period of at least 1 year in an active status;

C. Execute a written agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned that specifies the:

1. Amount of the bonus,
2. Method of bonus payment - lump sum amount or periodic installments,
3. Period of obligated service, and
4. Designated military skill or specialty, career field, unit, or grade, or such other condition or conditions of service imposed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;

D. Agree to serve for a specified period in at least one of the following reenlistment or extension categories:

1. A designated military skill;
2. Career field;
3. Unit; or
4. Grade;

E. Meet skill qualification prior to payment of the SRB for a member transferring into a designated military skill; and

F. Qualify under any additional eligibility criteria prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

560802. Limitations

A. A re-entry or reenlistment must occur no later than 3 months (or within a lesser period if so prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned) after the date of discharge or release from active duty.

B. Veterans with more than a 3-month but less than a 4-year break in active status may qualify for a broken service, or a prior service re-entry, SRB program in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

C. The original DD 214 (copy 1 or copy 4), a reproduction of the DD 214 with a certified true-copy stamp and appropriate Federal Government authenticating seal

imprinted thereon, or other official documentation verifying the member's satisfactory participation for all periods of prior service in the active component and **SELRES** are acceptable documentation of prior active duty service for a break in active duty service greater than 24 hours.

D. Members with prior enlisted service and subsequent service as officers who were discharged or released from active duty and who, within 3 months after discharge or release from active duty as an officer, reenlist in the same **RC** of a Military Service in which they previously served as an enlisted member may be eligible for a **SRB**. The individual must meet all other requirements established in paragraph 560801.

E. Two or more extensions may not be combined to gain eligibility for a **SRB**. Additionally, eligibility gained through an extension may not be increased by future extensions.

F. Members who reenlist or voluntarily extend an enlistment to gain sufficient obligated service to participate in a program leading to commissioned or warrant officer status are not eligible for **SRB**.

G. A member is not eligible for a **SRB** if the member was discharged or released from active duty or service in an active status based upon a determination of misconduct, substandard duty performance, or moral or professional dereliction.

H. A **SRB** may not be paid to an enlisted member who has completed more than 20 years of active duty or service in an active status, or who will complete a total of 24 years of service before the end of the period of active duty or active status for which the bonus is offered.

I. Generally, a member may not use any preexisting period of obligated service to satisfy an obligated service requirement under a **SRB** agreement, unless such service is determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned **to be consistent with the requirements of 37 U.S.C. section 371**; and

1. Such preexisting period of obligated service is necessary for the member to qualify for continuous submarine duty incentive pay and is service for which no bonus was previously authorized or payable; or

2. Such preexisting period of obligated service includes no more than a 2-year period of an unserved voluntary extension of enlistment for which no bonus was previously authorized or payable, and the member agrees to an additional 2-year period of obligated service in connection with the **SRB**.

560803. Amount

The **SRB** may not exceed \$10,000 for each year of obligated service in a **RC**. The maximum amount for a **SRB** is \$40,000.

A. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned must determine the amount of the **SRB** based on a business case model that targets retention of adequate levels of enlisted personnel in a reenlistment or extension category.

B. Members may receive more than one **SRB** at a time, but the total combined **SRB** payments over a career must not exceed \$80,000.

C. **SRB** amounts may be prorated for extension requests greater than one year and reenlistments greater than 3 years. The additional service time will be calculated on a monthly basis at a rate equal to 1/12th the annual amount. Total bonus amounts are limited to \$40,000 per **SRB** and \$80,000 over a career.

560804. Method of Payment

The **SRB** may be paid either in installments or in a single lump sum. If the Secretary of the Military Department concerned elects to pay the **SRB** in installments, [subparagraphs 560804.A-D](#) apply.

A. The initial payment must not be less than 50 percent of the total bonus paid at the time of reenlistment or when the Service member begins serving in the extension. The remainder is paid in equal annual installments. If necessary, the Military Service concerned must make appropriate adjustments to the amounts so that all payments are made before the Service member completes 24 years of active service.

B. The initial payment to a Service member who reenlists with a break in active duty greater than 24 hours is to be made no earlier than 30 days after arrival at the first permanent duty station following reenlistment, although the bonus is computed from the actual date of reenlistment.

C. Where there is lost time, the subsequent installment payments will be delayed by the number of days of lost time.

D. Discharge for the purpose of immediate reenlistment does not affect a member's entitlement to subsequent **SRB** installment payments.

560805. Repayment

A member who does not complete the term of enlistment within the element of the **SELRES** for which the bonus was paid to the member under this section will be subject to the repayment provisions of Chapter 2.

*560806. Duration of Authority

Unless authorized by the Congress, no agreement under this section may be entered into after [December 31, 2016](#).

5609 MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY (MOS) CONVERSION BONUS

560901. Eligibility

The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may pay a conversion bonus to a member of the [armed forces](#) who agrees to convert to, and serve for a period of not less than 3 years in, a MOS for which there is a shortage of trained and qualified personnel. A member must:

A. At the time the agreement is executed, be serving in a pay grade E-6, with not more than 12 years of service;

B. Have completed all service obligations incurred for receipt of an enlistment bonus as prescribed in section 5604, a retention bonus as prescribed in 5608, or a critical skills retention bonus;

C. Meet all eligibility requirements prescribed in section 5604;

D. Execute a written agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned that specifies:

1. Amount of the bonus;

2. Method of bonus payment - lump sum amount or periodic installments;

3. Period of obligated service; and

4. Designated military skill or specialty, career field, unit, or grade, or such other condition or conditions of service imposed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

560902. Amount

The bonus payment will not exceed \$4,000.

560903. Payment

The bonus may be payable in a lump sum, upon approval and completion of the conversion training.

560904. Repayment

A member who does not convert and complete the period of service in the MOS specified in the agreement will be subject to the repayment provisions of Chapter 2.

*560905. Duration of Authority

Unless authorized by the Congress, no agreement under this section may be entered into after [December 31, 2016](#).

5610 TRANSFER BETWEEN COMPONENTS OF A MILITARY SERVICE BONUS

561001. Eligibility

The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may pay a bonus to an enlisted member who agrees to transfer from the [RC](#) to the [RR](#) or vice versa of the same service. The member must:

A. Execute a written agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned that specifies the:

1. Amount of the bonus;
2. Method of bonus payment - lump sum amount or periodic installments;
3. Period of obligated service; and
4. Designated military skill or specialty, career field, unit, or grade, or such other condition or conditions of service imposed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;

B. Agree to serve for a specified period in at least one of the following reenlistment or extension categories:

1. A designated military skill,
2. Career field,
3. Unit, or
4. Grade;

C. Not be in receipt of an enlistment bonus, retention bonus, an affiliation bonus, or a transfer bonus for the same period of service;

D. Satisfactorily complete all terms of enlistment within their current component; and

E. Qualify for reenlistment in the Regular Component or RC of the Military Service to which the member is transferring.

561002. Amount

The bonus for transfer between components of a Military Service may not exceed \$10,000 and is payable upon approval of the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

561003. Method of Payment

The Secretary of the Military Department concerned must establish the method of payment for the bonus (lump sum or periodic installments).

561004. Repayment

A member who does not complete the terms of the transfer bonus or who is not technically qualified in the skill for which the bonus was paid will be subject to the repayment provisions of Chapter 2.

*561005. Duration of Authority

Unless authorized by the Congress, no agreement under this section may be entered into after December 31, 2016.

5611 TRANSFER BETWEEN MILITARY SERVICES BONUS

561101. Eligibility

The Secretary of the gaining Military Department may pay a bonus to an enlisted member who agrees to transfer and serve in another Military Service for a specified period in a designated military skill, career field, unit, or grade, or to meet some other condition or conditions imposed by the Secretary of the gaining Military Department. The member must:

A. Execute a written agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned that specifies the:

1. Amount of the bonus;
2. Method of bonus payment - lump sum amount or periodic installments;
3. Period of obligated service; and

4. Designated military skill, career field, unit, or grade, or such other condition or conditions of service imposed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned;

B. Agree to serve for a specified period in at least one of the following reenlistment or extension categories:

1. A designated military skill,
2. Career field,
3. Unit, or
4. Grade;

C. Not have failed to satisfactorily complete any term of enlistment in a Military Service;

D. Qualify for reenlistment in the RC of the Military Service to which the member is transferring;

E. Prior to the transfer, have fulfilled the requirements established by the Secretary with jurisdiction over the Military Service to which the member is transferring; and

F. Not be in receipt of an enlistment bonus, a retention bonus, an affiliation bonus, or a transfer bonus for the same period of service.

561102. Amount and Method of Payment

The Secretary of the gaining Military Department may pay the transfer bonus in one \$10,000 lump sum amount upon approval of the transfer by the Secretary of that Military Department. Alternatively, the bonus may be paid in annual installments, the total of which may not exceed \$10,000.

561103. Repayment

A member who does not complete the terms of the transfer bonus or who is not technically qualified in the skill for which the bonus was paid will be subject to the repayment provisions of Chapter 2.

*561104. Duration of Authority

Unless authorized by the Congress, no agreement under this section may be entered into after December 31, 2016.

*BIBLIOGRAPHY

CHAPTER 56 – READY RESERVE ACCESSION, AFFILIATION, ENLISTMENT, AND RETENTION BONUSES

5602 – OFFICER ACCESSION AND AFFILIATION BONUS

560201	37 U.S.C. § 308j(b)
560202	37 U.S.C. § 308j(a) Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 1205.21, September 20, 1999
560204.A	Public Law 109-163, section 634(b), January 6, 2006
560204.B	Public Law 112-239, section 616, January 2, 2013

5603 – CRITICALLY SHORT WARTIME HEALTH SPECIALIST IN THE [SELRES](#)

560301	37 U.S.C. § 302g
* 560305	Public Law 114-92, section 612(b)(4), November 25, 2015

5604 – ENLISTMENT BONUS

560401	37 U.S.C. § 331 DoDI 1304.31, March 12, 2013
* 560404	Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015

5605 – ENLISTED AFFILIATION BONUS

560501	37 U.S.C. § 331 DoDI 1304.31, March 12, 2013
* 560504	Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015

5606 – PRIOR SERVICE ENLISTMENT BONUS

560601	37 U.S.C. § 331 DoDI 1304.31, March 12, 2013
* 560606	Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015

5607 – NONAVAILABILITY

DoDI 1205.21, September 20, 1999

5608 – [SRB](#)

560801	37 U.S.C. § 331 DoDI 1304.31, March 12, 2013
* 560806	Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015

5609 – MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY (MOS) CONVERSION BONUS

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| 560901 | 37 U.S.C. § 331
DoDI 1304.31, March 12, 2013 |
| * 560905 | Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015 |

5610 – TRANSFER BETWEEN COMPONENTS OF A MILITARY SERVICE BONUS

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| 561001 | 37 U.S.C. § 331
DoDI 1304.31, March 12, 2013 |
| * 561005 | Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015 |

5611 – TRANSFER BETWEEN MILITARY SERVICES BONUS

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| 561101 | 37 U.S.C. § 331
DoDI 1304.31, March 12, 2013 |
| * 561104 | Public Law 114-92, section 614(1), November 25, 2015 |