

VOLUME 7B, CHAPTER 1: “INITIAL ENTITLEMENTS – RETIREMENTS”**SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES**

Changes are identified in this table and also 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 [December 2024](#) is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
All	Updated chapter and formatting to comply with administrative instructions.	Revision
3.8.3	Expanded title into a sentence to comply with formatting administrative instructions.	Revision
8.1	Updated to provide for elimination of the 75 percent cap on additional retired pay for extraordinary heroism for members of the Army, Air Force, and Space Force who served during the Vietnam Era.	Revision
References	Updated references.	Revision

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CHAPTER 1

INITIAL ENTITLEMENTS – RETIREMENTS

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 Purpose

1.1.1. This chapter provides information for the specific qualifications and entitlement for military retired pay, describes the basic types of retirement (regular, non-regular, and disability), discusses voluntary and involuntary retirements, and explains basic qualifications for the differing military retired pay programs (Final Pay, High-3, *reduced retirement (i.e., REDUX)*, Blended Retirement System (BRS), and Temporary Early Retirement Act (TERA)).

1.1.2. Additionally, this chapter provides guidance for all involuntary (mandatory) retirements, and voluntary retirements for all officers, warrant officers, and Army, Air Force, and Space Force enlisted members. Chapter 2 of this volume discusses the processes and procedures for voluntarily transferring enlisted members of the Navy and Marine Corps to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve.

1.2 Authoritative Guidance

The pay policies and requirements established by the DoD in this chapter are derived primarily from and prepared in accordance with, the United States Code (U.S.C.), including Titles 5, 10, 14, 37 and 38. Due to the subject matter in the chapter, the list of authoritative sources is extensive. The specific statutes, regulations, and other applicable guidance that govern each individual section are listed in a reference section at the end of the chapter.

2.0 MILITARY RETIRED PAY – INITIAL ENTITLEMENTS

2.1 Overview

Officers and enlisted members of the military may be retired for voluntary or involuntary reasons. Military retired pay is divided into three general categories: retired pay for Regular service, retired pay for non-Regular (Reserve/Guard) service, and retired pay for physical disability. With the exception of retirement for physical disability and certain temporary authorities for early retirement, a member must complete the requisite years of service (generally at least 20 years of service) in order to be eligible for retired/retainer pay. See section 3.0 for determining years of service for retired/retainer pay eligibility.

2.1.1. A warrant officer or an enlisted member of the Army, Air Force, or Space Force may be voluntarily retired after completion of 20 years of creditable service. Following such a voluntary retirement, an enlisted member of the Army, Air Force or Space Force becomes a member of the Retired Reserve. See Chapter 2 for rules on an enlisted member of the Navy or Marine Corps.

2.1.2. A commissioned officer may be voluntarily retired after completion of 20 years of active service, of which at least 10 years is active commissioned service.

2.1.3. Any members who continue on active duty after completion of 20 years of service may be retired for voluntary or involuntary reasons.

2.1.4. Members who incur a disability while serving on active duty or while called to active duty for training for 30 days or less may be retired.

2.1.5. Various chapters in Volume 7B provide specific details on eligibility, computation, and payment for each type of retirement.

2.2 Retired Pay Base

The retired pay base is usually determined by the date the member first entered military service. The specific method for calculating the retired pay base may differ for certain involuntary retirements, but it is always calculated using one of the following two methods defined in subparagraphs 2.2.1.1 and 2.2.1.2. Details are in Chapter 3.

2.2.1. The Date of Initial Entry into Military Service (DIEMS) determines whether the retired pay base is the monthly basic pay of the member just before retirement or an average of the highest 36 months of basic pay applicable during the member's career.

2.2.1.1. Final Basic Pay. For members who first entered military service before September 8, 1980, the retired pay base is generally the final basic monthly pay that the member received upon the date of retirement.

2.2.1.2. High-Three Average (High 36 Month Average). For members who entered the military service on or after September 8, 1980, the retired pay base is generally the average of the highest three years (36 months) of monthly basic pay to which the member received for any 36 months of active service whether those months are consecutive or not.

2.2.2. For a member entitled to retired pay for non-Regular (Reserve/Guard) service, the final basic pay or the high-36 average is usually determined using the rates to which the member was actually paid or to which the member would have been entitled if serving on active duty immediately before the date when retired pay is to begin. However, if a person opted to be discharged from the Service upon meeting service requirements for eligibility for retired pay but before meeting the age requirements for eligibility for retired pay, that person is a former member at the age of eligibility to receive retired pay, and, if that person entered the military service on or after September 8, 1980, the applicable rates are those in effect at the time of discharge.

2.3 Retired Pay Multiplier

There are three methods for computing a retired pay multiplier, depending on the applicable retirement system. For each of these methods, a member retired with a physical disability may alternatively have their retired pay multiplier calculated using their percentage of

disability, up to a maximum of 75 percent. The years of service for computing retired pay for Regular retirement are generally the total of years of active service. For non-Regular (Reserve/Guard) members, the years of service are the total of accumulated drill points combined with one point [for](#) each day of active duty divided by 360. See section 4.0 for determining years of service creditable for computing retired pay.

2.3.1. For members covered by Final Pay or High-3 legacy retirement plans, the retired pay multiplier is either 2.5 percent multiplied by the years of service creditable for computing retired pay or the percentage of disability awarded by the military service at retirement.

2.3.2. For members covered by the BRS, the percentage multiplier is either 2.0 percent multiplied by the years of service creditable for computing retired pay or the percentage of disability awarded by the military service at retirement.

2.3.3. Regular members who have a DIEMS date on or after August 1, 1986, but before January 1, 2018, were allowed the option to elect [a reduced retirement \(i.e., REDUX\)](#) accompanied by the Career Status Bonus (CSB). Except for disability retirees, the retired pay multiplier is the same as computed in subparagraph 2.3.1, except that it is reduced by one percentage point for each year the member retires short of completing 30 years of service. Section 631 of the National Defense Authorization Act Fiscal Year 2016, Public Law 114-92, amended 37 U.S.C. § 354 to discontinue authorization of any new CSB agreements after December 31, 2017. Note: The CSB reduction factor does not apply to disability retirees, notwithstanding the changes made by Public Law 114-92 (enacted on November 25, 2015 and effective on January 1, 2018) to [10 U.S.C. § 1401](#).

2.3.4. A member who retires for disability may choose a multiplier based on years of service, in accordance with subparagraphs 2.3.1, 2.3.2, or 2.3.3, as applicable, or based on the disability percentage awarded by the Service. However, if the member chooses the Service disability percentage, then the percentage is limited to no more than 75 percent.

2.4 Retired Pay Formulae

If a member entitled to retired or retainer pay would otherwise be entitled to retired pay computed under more than one formula, then the member is entitled to be paid under the applicable formula that is most favorable to the member. The retired pay formulae are more fully covered in Chapter 3. The formulae are as follows:

2.4.1. For Regular and non-Regular (Reserve/Guard) members covered by the legacy retirement pay plan, monthly retired pay is equal to the retired pay base multiplied by 2.5 percent multiplied by years of service. For Regular and non-Regular (Reserve/Guard) members covered by the BRS, monthly retired pay is equal to the retired pay base multiplied by 2.0 percent multiplied by years of service.

2.4.2. For disability retirement, the member may elect retired pay computed under subparagraph 2.4.1, or monthly pay equal to the retired pay base multiplied by military disability percentage, [not to exceed 75 percent](#).

2.4.3. For members retiring for Regular service that elected the REDUX retirement and received the CSB, retired pay is as computed in subparagraph 2.4.1, except the multiplier is reduced by one percentage point for each year the member retires short of completing 30 years of service. Note: Non-regular members who are retired for disability become entitled to immediate retired pay for disability. Once the retired pay for disability commences under [10 U.S.C., Chapter 61](#), the member's pay may not be recomputed at eligibility age (usually age 60) under [10 U.S.C., Chapter 1223](#). Retired pay under 10 U.S.C., Chapter 1223 may only be paid to a member who "is not entitled under any other provision of law, to retired pay from an armed force or retainer pay as a member of the Fleet Reserve or the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve."

2.5 Temporary Early Retirement Authority (TERA)

2.5.1. TERA provides the Secretary of Defense a temporary force management tool with which to affect the drawdown of military forces and yet maintain an adequate and effective well-trained military force. TERA provides the authority for voluntary retirement of members on active duty with at least 15 years, but less than 20 years of creditable service. An eligible member of the Armed Forces may apply for early retirement under the program and receive an annuity equivalent to 2.5 percent of the retired pay base for each year of service completed and a deduction of 1 percent for each year short of 20 years of service. The request is subject to the approval of the Secretary concerned. Drawdown periods are referenced in subparagraph 3.1.2. See Chapter 3 for computation of TERA payment.

2.5.2. A member of the Armed Forces approved for early retirement must:

2.5.2.1. Be currently serving on active duty;

2.5.2.2. Complete 15 or more years of active service upon the effective date of retirement;

2.5.2.3. Not be under evaluation for disability retirement under [10 U.S.C., Chapter 61](#); and

2.5.2.4. Meet grade, skill, years of service, and other eligibility criteria as established by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

2.6 Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)

Retiring members may participate in the SBP program. The SBP program pays a lifetime annuity to the designated survivor of 55 percent of a base amount elected by the member not to exceed full retired pay. Upon receiving notice of having completed sufficient service to qualify for retirement, a non-Regular (Reserve/Guard) member (except for not having attained the requisite age) may also participate in the SBP program. Detailed information regarding the SBP program begins in Chapter 42.

2.7 Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)

Both retired pay and survivor annuities are adjusted annually by the change in the Consumer Price Index. See Chapter 8 for detailed information on COLAs.

3.0 SERVICE CREDITABLE FOR RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY

3.1 Creditable Service and Service Reduction for Retirement Eligibility

3.1.1. Computation of Creditable Service for Determining Retirement Eligibility. A computation of creditable service for determining retirement eligibility may be required at any time during a member's military career. Generally, a member must complete at least 20 years of creditable service in order to qualify for retired or retainer pay. Upon completion of 20 years of creditable service, a member may request to be transferred to a retired or retainer status.

3.1.1.1. An enlisted member of the Army, Air Force, or Space Force who completes 20 years of creditable active service may request to be retired.

3.1.1.2. An enlisted member of the Navy or the Marine Corps who completes 20 years of creditable active service may request transfer to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve. See Chapter 2 for details regarding creditable service for transfers to the Fleet Reserve and Fleet Marine Corps Reserve.

3.1.1.3. An enlisted member of the Regular Army, Air Force, Space Force, Navy, or Marine Corps who completes 30 years of creditable active service or an enlisted member in the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve upon completion of a total of 30 years of combined active and Fleet Reserve service will, upon request, be retired.

3.1.1.4. A Regular or Reserve commissioned officer may voluntarily be retired after completion of 20 years of active service, at least 10 years of which is active commissioned service.

3.1.1.5. A non-Regular member who completes 20 years of creditable qualifying service, but has not yet attained the eligibility age applicable for retired pay, may request transfer to the inactive status list.

3.1.1.6. Members who incur a qualifying disability while serving on active duty, while called to active duty for training for 30 days or less, or while performing inactive duty training may be retired for disability, at which time a service computation is required.

3.1.2. Reduction of the 20-Year Creditable Service Requirement. Under TERA, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned may reduce the 20 years of creditable service requirement to as few as 15 years for retirements during the periods of:

3.1.2.1. December 31, 2011 through December 31, 2025, for Regular retirements only;

3.1.2.2. October 23, 1992 through September 1, 2002, for Regular retirements; and

3.1.2.3. October 23, 1992 through December 31, 2001, for non-Regular retirements.

3.1.3. Reduction of the 10-Year Active Commissioned Service Requirement. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may also reduce the 10-year active commissioned service requirement to not less than 8 years for retirements during the following periods:

3.1.3.1. January 7, 2011 through September 30, 2018;

3.1.3.2. January 6, 2006 through December 31, 2008; and

3.1.3.3. October 1, 1990 through December 31, 2001.

3.1.4. Active Duty Beyond 20 Years of Service. A member who continues on active duty after completion of 20 years of service may be retired for voluntary or involuntary reasons. Involuntary reasons include court martial sentence, poor performance, failure to qualify for promotion, high year tenure, and age.

3.1.5. Service Creditable for Retirement Eligibility. Service creditable for the purpose of determining retirement eligibility varies with each type of retirement. For retirement types and the specific service creditable for each type, see paragraphs 3.2 through 3.8. See paragraph 3.9 for service that is not creditable.

3.2 Service Creditable for Regular Voluntary Retirement - Enlisted Members (Table 1-1)

The following is service creditable for Regular voluntary retirement for enlisted members:

3.2.1. All active service in the Uniformed Services; and

3.2.2. Service as a cadet or midshipman at Service academy.

3.3 Service Creditable for Voluntary Retirement - Regular and Reserve Commissioned Officers (Table 1-1)

The following constitutes service creditable for voluntary retirement for Regular and Reserve commissioned officers:

3.3.1. Active service in the Uniformed Services;

3.3.2. All service performed by an officer of the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, or Regular Space Force in the Medical Corps, under a contract to serve full-time and to take and change station as ordered, as:

3.3.2.1. A contract surgeon;

3.3.2.2. An acting assistant surgeon; or

3.3.2.3. A contract physician; and

3.3.3. All full-time service performed by an officer of the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, or Regular Space Force in the Dental Corps as:

3.3.3.1. A contract dental surgeon, or

3.3.3.2. An acting dental surgeon.

3.4 Service Creditable for Voluntary or Mandatory Retirement - Warrant Officers

The following constitutes service creditable for voluntary or mandatory retirement for warrant officers:

3.4.1. Active service in the Uniformed Services, except that for mandatory retirement at 30 years of service of an Army Warrant Officer, years of service includes only years of active service as a Warrant Officer; and

3.4.2. All service as:

3.4.2.1. A contract surgeon;

3.4.2.2. A Reserve nurse;

3.4.2.3. A contract dental surgeon;

3.4.2.4. An acting dental surgeon; and

3.4.2.5. A veterinarian in the quartermaster department, cavalry, or field artillery.

3.5 Service Creditable for Mandatory Retirement - Regular Commissioned Officers, Army, Air Force, and Space Force (Table 1-2)

The service creditable for mandatory retirement for Regular commissioned officers of the Army, Air Force, and Space Force includes years of service credited at the time of original appointment in the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, and Regular Space Force. Compute service creditable as stated in subparagraphs 3.5.1 through 3.5.7 to determine eligibility for promotion, except service in subparagraph 3.9.3, plus all years of active commissioned service in the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, and Regular Space Force after that appointment, or the applicable years of service.

3.5.1. A Reserve judge advocate appointed in the Regular Army is credited service after becoming 21 years of age, after December 7, 1941, and before the date of that appointment, or the number of the days, months and years by which the member's age at the time of appointment exceeds 25 years, whichever is greater, plus years of active commissioned service in the Regular Army or Regular Air Force after that appointment.

3.5.2. An officer appointed in the Regular Army, except the Army Nurse Corps or Army Medical Specialist Corps before December 31, 1947, other than an officer covered by subparagraph 3.5.1, or appointed in the Regular Army under the Act of December 28, 1945, is credited the sum of:

3.5.2.1. Years of active commissioned service in the Regular Army after that appointment, and

3.5.2.2. Years of active commissioned service in the Army after becoming 21 years of age and after December 7, 1941, under any earlier appointment.

3.5.3. An officer appointed in the Regular Army, except the Army Nurse Corps or Army Medical Specialist Corps after December 31, 1947, other than an officer appointed in the Women's Army Corps, Regular Army, under section 108 of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948, is credited the sum of:

3.5.3.1. Years of active commissioned service in the Regular Army after that appointment, and

3.5.3.2. Years of active commissioned service in the Army after becoming 21 years of age and after December 31, 1947, under any earlier appointment.

3.5.4. An officer of the Regular Air Force appointed in the Regular Army or Regular Air Force after December 31, 1947, under section 506 of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, is credited the sum of:

3.5.4.1. The years of active commissioned service in the Regular Army or Regular Air Force after that appointment; and

3.5.4.2. The years of active commissioned service in the Armed Forces after becoming 21 years of age and after December 6, 1941, under any earlier appointment.

3.5.5. An officer of the Air Force who was appointed in the Regular Army or Regular Air Force after December 31, 1947, other than an officer covered by subparagraphs 3.5.4 or 3.5.6, is credited the sum of:

3.5.5.1. The years of active commissioned service in the Regular Army or Regular Air Force after that appointment; and

3.5.5.2. The years of active commissioned service in the Air Force after becoming 21 years of age and after December 31, 1947, under any earlier appointment.

3.5.6. An officer of the Regular Air Force who was appointed in the Regular Air Force after July 19, 1956, other than an officer covered by subparagraph 3.5.4, or who is designated as a medical or dental officer, is credited the sum of:

3.5.6.1. The years of active commissioned service in the Regular Air Force after that appointment;

3.5.6.2. The years of active commissioned service in the Armed Forces after becoming 21 years of age and before appointment; and

3.5.6.3. The years credited for the purpose of determining grade, position on a promotion list, seniority, and eligibility for promotion under one of the following conditions:

3.5.6.3.1. Three years, if appointed in the Regular Air Force with a view to designation as a medical service officer, and if holding a degree of Doctor of Philosophy or comparable degree in science allied to medicine;

3.5.6.3.2. Not more than 8 years, if one of not more than 100 persons in any calendar year who are appointed from civil life or from Reserves of the Air Force who have qualifications not otherwise available from members of the Air Force on active duty; or

3.5.6.3.3. Not more than 2 years, if appointed while on active duty in the Air Force.

3.5.7. An officer of the Army, Air Force, or Space Force under the Defense Officer Personnel Management Act (DOPMA) is credited with the sum of:

3.5.7.1. The years of active service; and

3.5.7.2. The years of service, other than active service in subparagraph 3.5.7.1, with which the member was entitled to be credited on May 31, 1958, in computing basic pay.

3.5.8. The following rules apply to a regular commissioned officer who is to be retired or separated due to age under [10 U.S.C. § 1251](#):

3.5.8.1. If the officer has fewer than 20 years of creditable service, the officer shall be separated.

3.5.8.2. If the officer has at least 6 but fewer than 20 years of creditable service, the officer is entitled to separation pay computed under [10 U.S.C. § 1174\(d\)\(1\)](#).

3.5.8.3. Notwithstanding subparagraphs 3.5.8.1 and 3.5.8.2, a regular commissioned officer who was added to the retired list before January 1, 2021, shall be retired with retired pay computed under 10 U.S.C. § 1401.

3.6 Service Creditable for Mandatory Retirement - Regular Officers, Navy and Marine Corps (Table 1-2)

The following constitutes service creditable for mandatory retirement of Regular officers of the Navy and Marine Corps:

3.6.1. The total commissioned service of an officer on the active list in the line of the Navy or of the Marine Corps is computed from June 30 of the fiscal year in which the officer accepted that appointment. The computation applies when the officer has served continuously on the active list since appointment in the grade of ensign or second lieutenant, either upon graduation from the Naval Academy or under [10 U.S.C. § 2106](#) or [10 U.S.C. § 2107](#).

3.6.2. Every other officer on the active list in the line of the Navy or Marine Corps is considered to have the same service as in subparagraph 3.6.1, who:

3.6.2.1. Has not lost numbers or precedence; and

3.6.2.2. Is, or at any time has been, junior to the other officer for the purposes of eligibility for promotion and selection for promotion during the other officer's latest period of continuous service on the active list.

3.6.3. The total commissioned service of each officer on the active list of the Navy in the Supply Corps or the Civil Engineer Corps who originally was appointed as a Regular or as a Reserve in the grade of ensign in the line, or any staff corps, or in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) in the Civil Engineer Corps, and who has served continuously on active duty since that appointment, is computed from June 30 of the fiscal year in which the officer accepted that appointment, beginning August 7, 1947.

3.6.4. The total commissioned service of each officer originally appointed in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) or ensign in any staff corps of the Navy, except the Supply Corps and the Civil Engineer Corps, who since that appointment has served continuously on the active list of the Navy, is computed from June 30 of the fiscal year in which the officer accepted that appointment. This provision does not apply, however, to officers appointed under the Act of April 18, 1946.

3.6.5. Every other commissioned officer on the active list of the Navy in any staff corps is considered to have the same total commissioned service as the officer in the same corps described in subparagraphs 3.6.3 and 3.6.4, having the maximum total commissioned service who:

3.6.5.1. Has not lost numbers or precedence; and

3.6.5.2. Is, or at any time has been, junior to the other officer for the purposes of eligibility for promotion and selection for promotion during that other officer's latest period of continuous service on the active list.

3.6.6. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph 3.6.5, officers on the active list of the Navy in the Medical Service Corps, appointed under the Act of April 18, 1946, are considered to have total commissioned service equivalent to that of their running mates.

3.6.7. Officers on the active list of the Navy in the Nurse Corps are credited with:

3.6.7.1. Active service in the Nurse Corps and the Nurse Corps Reserve; and

3.6.7.2. Active service in the Nurse Corps and the Nurse Corps Reserve, which was abolished by the Army-Navy Nurses Act of 1947.

3.6.8. An officer of the Navy or Marine Corps under the DOPMA is credited with:

3.6.8.1. The years of active service; and

3.6.8.2. The years of service, other than the service included in subparagraph 3.6.8.1, with which member was entitled to be credited on May 31, 1958, in computing basic pay.

3.6.9. For regular commissioned officers to be retired or separated due to age under 10 U.S.C. § 1251, apply the rules set forth in subparagraph 3.5.8.

3.7 Service Creditable for Disability Retirement (Table 1-3)

3.7.1. Members who are unfit to perform their duties because of a disability incurred on active duty where the disability is at least 30 percent may be retired for disability. No minimum amount of creditable service is required.

3.7.2. Members who are unfit to perform their duties because of a disability incurred on active duty where the disability is less than 30 percent may be retired for disability but only if they have 20 years of service computed under [10 U.S.C. § 1208](#), as set forth in subparagraphs 3.7.3 and 3.7.4.

3.7.3. In computing those years of service for this purpose, a member of a Regular Component of the Armed Forces is credited with the greater of:

3.7.3.1. All service the member is considered to have for the purpose of separation, discharge, or retirement for length-of-service, or

3.7.3.2. The sum of active service as a member of the Armed Forces as a nurse, Reserve nurse after February 2, 1901, contract surgeon, contract dental surgeon, or acting dental surgeon;

3.7.3.3. Active service as a commissioned officer of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), or the Public Health Service (PHS). This includes active service as a member of the Environmental Science Services Administration and of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the predecessor organizations to NOAA and PHS; and

3.7.3.4. Active service while participating in exercises or performing active duty training and drills in the National Guard, under [32 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503, 504, and 505](#).

3.7.4. A member who is not a member of a Regular Component of the Armed Forces is credited with the number of years of service that would count if computing years of service under [10 U.S.C. § 12733](#), dividing the sum of the following by 360:

3.7.4.1. All days of active service;

3.7.4.2. All days of full-time service while performing annual training duty or attending prescribed periods of instruction at a school designated as a military service school by law or by the Secretary concerned; and

3.7.4.3. One day for each point credited under [10 U.S.C. § 12732\(a\)\(1\)\(B\)-\(F\)](#), but not more than:

3.7.4.3.1. 130 days for any one year of service that includes October 30, 2007, and in any subsequent year of service;

3.7.4.3.2. 90 days in any one year of service between October 30, 2000 and October 29, 2007;

3.7.4.3.3. 75 days in any one year of service between September 23, 1996 and October 29, 2000; or

3.7.4.3.4. 60 days in any one year of service before the year of service that includes September 23, 1996.

Note: The credit includes points at the rate of 15 per year for membership in a Reserve Component of an Armed Force, in the Army or the Air Force without component, or service (except in a regular component) before July 1, 1949 in the categories provided in 10 U.S.C. § 12732(a)(1).

3.7.4.4. One day for each point credited under 10 U.S.C. § 12732(a)(2)(E) related to funeral honors.

3.7.5. The service is responsible for determining the creditable service for a member who is retired for disability.

3.8 Service Creditable for Age and Service Retirement - Non-Regular Member (Table 1-4)

3.8.1. A member or former member of the Reserve Component of an Armed Force, including the National Guard is entitled to retired pay computed under [10 U.S.C. § 12739](#) (See Chapter 3, Table 3-1, Rule 13) for non-Regular service upon application if he or she:

3.8.1.1. Has attained the eligibility age applicable under subparagraph 3.8.6;

3.8.1.2. Has performed at least 20 years of service (subject to subparagraph 3.8.5), as set forth in subparagraph 3.8.2;

3.8.1.3. If completing 20 years of service before April 25, 2005, performed the last 6 years of qualifying service while a member of any category named in 10 U.S.C. § 12732(a)(1) (but not while a member of a Regular Component, the Fleet Reserve, or the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve). If completing 20 years of service before October 5, 1994, the number of years of such qualifying service must be 8 years; and

3.8.1.4. Is not entitled under any other provision of law to retired pay from the Armed Forces or retainer pay as a member of the Fleet Reserve or the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, except as provided in Chapter 7, section 1.0.

3.8.2. Creditable service to meet the 20 years requirement includes:

3.8.2.1. Service performed in the Uniformed Services;

3.8.2.2. Years of service before July 1, 1949, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 12732; or

3.8.2.3. Each 1-year period after July 1, 1949, in which the member earned at least 50 points as calculated under 10 U.S.C. § 12732(a)(2).

3.8.2.4. For the purpose of subparagraph 3.8.2.3 all service in the National Guard is treated as if it were service in a Reserve Component if the member was later appointed in the U.S. Army National Guard or U.S. Air National Guard, or as a Reserve of the Army, Air Force, or Space Force and served continuously in the National Guard from date of Federal recognition to date of that appointment.

* 3.8.3. [The Secretary concerned will notify each member who has completed the years of service required for eligibility for retired pay. A Notice of Eligibility will be sent to the member concerned within one year after the person completes that service.](#)

3.8.3.1. A member who has been notified under [10 U.S.C. § 12731\(d\)](#) that the years of service requirement has been met for eligibility for retired pay may not have that eligibility denied or revoked on the basis of any error, miscalculation, misinformation, or administrative determination of years of service performed, unless it resulted directly from fraud or misrepresentation of the member.

3.8.3.2. The notification of eligibility, which is based on the member's completion of the service requirement, conforms to applicable Military Department regulations. A nonconforming written notice, administratively issued, which shows completion of service requirements of eligibility for retired pay, may not result in the denial of retired pay unless evidence shows that the member caused the service record to be altered or confused.

3.8.3.3. The number of years of creditable service upon which retired pay is computed may be adjusted to correct any error, miscalculation, misinformation, or administrative determination. When a correction is made, the retiree is entitled to retired pay in accordance with the number of years of creditable service, as corrected, from the date the retiree is granted retired pay.

3.8.3.4. Notwithstanding subparagraph 3.8.3.3, the granting of retired pay to a retiree under 10 U.S.C., Chapter 1223 is conclusive as to that retiree's entitlement to such pay only if the payment of retired pay began after October 14, 1966. A notification that a member has completed the years of service required for eligibility for retired pay under 10 U.S.C., Chapter 1223 is conclusive as to that member's subsequent entitlement to such pay only if the notification is made after October 14, 1966.

3.8.4. A member who has met age and service requirements for retired pay, but is retained under [10 U.S.C. § 12308](#), with member's consent, may be credited with that service for all purposes. A member, however, who elects to receive retired pay under 10 U.S.C. § 12731, may not be retained simultaneously on active duty or in active service under 10 U.S.C. § 12308.

3.8.5. A temporary special retirement qualification authority, [10 U.S.C. § 12731a](#), authorized the Secretary of the Military Department concerned to treat a member as having met the 20 years of service requirement if the member completed at least 15 years of service and requested transfer to the Retired Reserve, during the period beginning on October 23, 1992, and ending on December 31, 2001.

3.8.6. Subject to subparagraph 3.8.6.1, the eligibility age for a non-regular retirement for age and service is 60 years of age.

3.8.6.1. After January 28, 2008, the eligibility age for purposes of subparagraph 3.8.6 will be reduced, subject to subparagraph 3.8.6.5, below 60 years of age in the case of a member who, as a member of the Ready Reserve, serves on active duty or performs active service described in subparagraphs 3.8.6.2 through 3.8.6.4. The reduction will be 3 months for each aggregate of 90 days on which the member serves on such active duty or performs such active service in any fiscal year after January 28, 2008, or in any two fiscal years after September 30, 2014. A day of duty may be included in only one aggregate of 90 days for purposes of this subparagraph.

3.8.6.2. Service on active duty is pursuant to a call or order to active duty under a provision of law referred to in [10 U.S.C. § 101\(a\)\(13\)\(B\)](#) or under [10 U.S.C. § 12301\(d\)](#) or [10 U.S.C. § 12304b](#). Such service does not include a call or order to active duty under [10 U.S.C. § 12310](#).

3.8.6.3. Active service is also service under a call to active service authorized by the President or the Secretary of Defense under 32 U.S.C. § 502(f) for purposes of responding to a national emergency declared by the President or supported by Federal funds.

3.8.6.4. If the member is wounded, otherwise injured, or becomes ill while serving on active duty pursuant to a call or order to active duty under subparagraph 3.8.6.2 or 3.8.6.3, and the member is ordered to active duty under 10 U.S.C. § 12301(h)(1) to receive medical care for the wound, injury, or illness, then each day of active duty under that order for medical care will be treated as a continuation of the original call or order to active duty for purposes of reducing the eligibility age of the member under this subparagraph.

3.8.6.5. The eligibility age under subparagraph 3.8.6.1 may not be reduced below 50 years of age for any person.

3.9 Service Not Creditable for Determining Retirement Eligibility

3.9.1. Enlisted Member's Lost Time. The following periods of absence from duty during a term of enlistment are not creditable to an enlisted member unless they are made up by the member upon return to full duty so as to complete the term for which the member was enlisted. The periods of absence from duty are:

3.9.1.1. Desertion;

3.9.1.2. Absence from organization, station, or duty for more than 1 day without proper authority, as determined by competent authority;

3.9.1.3. Confinement by military or civilian authorities for more than 1 day in connection with a trial, whether before, during, or after the trial; and

3.9.1.4. The member's inability for more than 1 day, as determined by competent authority, to perform assigned duties because of intemperate use of drugs or alcoholic liquor, or because of disease or injury resulting from the member's misconduct.

3.9.2. Officer's Lost Time. Prior to February 11, 1996, a commissioned or warrant officer was entitled to credit for every day in a commissioned or warrant status, without regard to absence of any kind, whether authorized or unauthorized, and including confinement prior to and during trial. In addition, absence during which a member was serving on active duty as an enlisted member was creditable if the enlisted member also held a commission as a Reserve officer. After February 10, 1996, a commissioned or warrant officer may not count the following periods of absence for any purpose other than the computation of length-of-service for basic pay:

3.9.2.1. Desertion;

3.9.2.2. Absence from organization, station, or duty for more than 1 day without proper authority, as determined by competent authority;

3.9.2.3. Confinement by military or civilian authority for more than 1 day in connection with a trial, whether before, during, or after the trial; or

3.9.2.4. Inability to perform assigned duties for more than 1 day, as determined by competent authority, because of intemperate use of drugs or alcoholic liquor, or because of disease or injury resulting from the member's misconduct. The period of such desertion, absence, confinement, or inability to perform duties may not be counted in computing, for any purpose other than basic pay under [37 U.S.C. § 205](#), the officer's length-of-service.

3.9.3. Constructive Service. Constructive service, credited under 10 U.S.C. § 3287 (a)(2)(A) or (B) (repealed), 10 U.S.C. § 3294(b) (repealed), or section 506(c) of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, is not included in the service computation under subparagraph 3.5.1. Creditable constructive service creditable may be:

3.9.3.1. Three years, if appointed as a chaplain, or for service in the Judge Advocate General's Corps or in the Veterinary Corps of the Regular Army;

3.9.3.2. Three years, if appointed in the Medical Service Corps and if holding the degree of Doctor of Philosophy or comparable degree recognized by the Surgeon General; or

3.9.3.3. Four years (five, if member completed a 1-year internship) credited at the time of appointment in the Medical or Dental Corps for the purpose of determining grade, position on a promotion list, seniority in grade in the Regular Army, and eligibility for promotion.

3.9.4. Other Non-creditable Service. This service may not be counted for the purpose of determining retirement eligibility under paragraph 3.7:

3.9.4.1. Service, other than active service, in an inactive section of the Organized Reserve Corps or Army Reserve, or inactive section of the officer's section of the Air Force Reserve;

3.9.4.2. Service, other than active service, after June 30, 1949, while on the Honorary Retired List of the Naval Reserve or of the Marine Corps Reserve;

3.9.4.3. Service in the inactive National Guard or in a non-federally recognized status of the National Guard;

3.9.4.4. Inactive service in the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; and

3.9.4.5. Service in any status other than that as a commissioned officer, warrant officer, nurse, flight officer, aviation midshipman, appointed aviation cadet, or enlisted member, and that is described in paragraph 3.1 as creditable.

4.0 SERVICE CREDITABLE FOR COMPUTING RETIRED PAY

4.1 Service for Percentage Multiple

Service authorized to be used as a percentage multiple is specified in each law section authorizing computation of retired pay for each type of retirement. Information on retirement types and service for percentage multiple are provided in this section.

4.2 Voluntary Retirement - Enlisted Members

4.2.1. Years of active service.

4.2.2. Years of service not included in subparagraphs 4.3.1 with which the member was entitled to be credited on June 1, 1958, in computing basic pay. See Volume 7A, Chapter 1, section 2.0.

4.2.3. Years of service not included in subparagraphs 4.2.1 or 4.2.2, with which the member would be entitled to be credited under 10 U.S.C. § 12733. See [paragraph 4.7](#).

4.3 Voluntary Retirement Commissioned Officers

4.3.1. Years of active service is creditable in the Uniformed Services.

4.3.2. Crediting of constructive service for medical and dental officers or an internship is not authorized after September 14, 1981, unless a member was already enrolled in such a program and later graduated, and was commissioned as a medical or dental officer; however, post-September 14, 1981, time is creditable in computing retired pay provided the officer is retirement eligible.

4.3.3. Service creditable in computing retired pay should include time an officer served in the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (USUHS). For an officer of the Medical Corps or Dental Corps of the Army or Navy, an officer of the Air Force designated as a medical or dental officer, or an officer of the PHS commissioned as a medical or dental officer, credit actual time served in the program. Any credit otherwise accrued during the same period by reason of Reserve membership would not be used in determining the multiplier for computing retired pay.

Example: An O-6 with 20 years and 6 months service under 37 U.S.C. § 205 (excludes time at USUHS) is receiving basic pay for an O-6 over 20 years. If this member served 4 years and 6 months at USUHS, then, upon retirement, the member is to receive retired pay computed at 62.5 percent of basic pay as an O-6. The 62.5 percent is computed as 2.5 percent times 25 (20.5 plus 4.5) years of service as this computation will include the USUHS time.

4.3.4. The years of service, not included in subparagraphs 4.3.1 or 4.3.2, with which the member was entitled to be credited on June 1, 1958, in computing basic pay. See Volume 7A, Chapter 1, section 2.0.

4.3.5. Years of service not included in subparagraphs 4.3.1, 4.3.2, or 4.3.3, with which the member would be entitled to be credited under 10 U.S.C. § 12733. See paragraph 4.7.

4.4 Voluntary Retirement - Warrant Officers

See service credited under paragraph 4.3.

4.5 Mandatory Retirement

4.5.1. Army, Air Force, and Space Force service credited is the same as under paragraphs 3.5 or 4.3, whichever is more favorable.

4.5.2. Navy and Marine Corps service credited is the same as under paragraphs 3.6 or paragraph 4.3, whichever is more favorable.

4.6 Disability Retirement

Service is credited as described under subparagraph 3.7.3 and 3.7.4, regardless of disability percentage.

4.7 Age and Service Retirement – Non-Regular

Total days of service, divided by 360 equals equivalent years and any fraction of a year of service. Note: Under 10 U.S.C. § 1401, before applying percentage factor, each full month of service that is in addition to the number of full years of service is creditable as one-twelfth of a year. The remaining fractional parts of a month are disregarded.

4.7.1. Days of active service;

4.7.2. Days of full-time service under [32 U.S.C. § 316](#) and 32 U.S.C. §§ 502 through 505, while performing annual training duty or attending a prescribed course of instruction at a school designated as a Service school by law or by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee); or

4.7.3. One day for each point credited under 10 U.S.C. § 12732(a)(1)(B)-(F), but not more than:

4.7.3.1. 130 days for any one year of service that includes October 30, 2007, and in any subsequent year of service;

4.7.3.2. 90 days in any one year of service between October 30, 2000, and October 29, 2007;

4.7.3.3. 75 days in any one year of service between September 23, 1996, and October 29, 2000; or

4.7.3.4. 60 days in any one year of service before the year of service that includes September 23, 1996.

Note: The credit includes points at the rate of 15 per year for membership in a Reserve Component of an Armed Force, in the Army, the Air Force, or the Space Force without component, or service (except in a regular component) before July 1, 1949, in the categories named in 10 U.S.C. § 12732.

4.7.4. One day for each point credited under 10 U.S.C. 12732(a)(2)(E) related to funeral honors.

5.0 UNIFORM RETIREMENT DATE ACT (URDA), TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE SECTION 8301

5.1 Authority

5.1.1. Retirement is effective on the first day of the month after that in which retirement would otherwise be effective, except as otherwise specifically provided by statute.

5.1.2. Notwithstanding subparagraph 5.1.1, the rate of final pay under [10 U.S.C. § 1406](#), applicable to members who first became members before September 8, 1980, is computed as of the date retirement would have occurred but for the provisions of subparagraph 5.1.1. See Table 1-5. Members who enter a Uniformed Service after September 7, 1980, receive the retired pay based on an average of basic pay rates for the period actually served, not to exceed a 36-month period. See Chapter 3 for gross pay computation.

5.2 Special Provisions

Under specific circumstances, computation may be based on another basic pay rate that may provide greater pay. See Chapter 3, sections 2.0, 3.0, and 4.0.

6.0 RANK AND PAY GRADE

6.1 General Determination

6.1.1. Grade at Retirement. Unless entitled to a higher grade under some other provisions of law, those Regular and Reserve members who retire other than for disability will retire in the Regular or Reserve grade they hold on the date of retirement. See Volume 7A, Comparable Grades.

6.1.2. Time-in-Grade Requirement. Pursuant to [10 U.S.C. § 1370](#), a commissioned officer, other than a commissioned warrant officer of the Army, Air Force, Space Force, Navy, or Marine Corps, who voluntarily retires in a grade above the grade of O-3, (captain in the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, or lieutenant in the Navy), must have served on active duty in that grade for a period of not less than 3 years.

6.1.2.1. The Secretary of Defense may reduce the active-duty service in-grade requirement of not less than three years to a period of not less than two years for any officer. This authority may not be delegated.

6.1.2.2. In the case of an officer to be retired in a grade at or below the grade of major general or rear admiral, the Secretary of Defense may authorize the Secretary of the military department concerned to reduce the active-duty service in-grade requirement to a period of not less than two years. This authority may not be further delegated.

6.1.3. Waiver of Not Less Than Two Years Active-Duty Service In-Grade Requirement. The President may waive the service in-grade requirements, as stated in subparagraphs 6.1.2.1 and 6.1.2.2, in individual cases involving extreme hardship or, exceptional or unusual circumstances. This authority of the President may not be delegated.

6.1.4. Retirement to the Next Lower Grade. An officer who does not meet the service-in-grade requirement retires in the next lower grade in which the member served on active duty satisfactorily. Officer grade determinations are made by the Service.

6.1.5. Officers in Grades 0-9 and 0-10.

6.1.5.1. An officer in the grade of general or admiral, or lieutenant general or vice admiral, may retire in that grade if the Secretary of Defense certifies, in writing, to the President and the [Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives](#) that the officer served on active duty satisfactorily in that grade.

6.1.5.2. The 3-year service in-grade requirement cannot be reduced or waived if the officer is under investigation for alleged misconduct or if an adverse personnel action is pending against the officer for alleged misconduct.

6.1.6. Reserve Officers

6.1.6.1. Pursuant to [10 U.S.C. § 1370a](#), unless entitled to a higher grade, or to credit for satisfactory service in a higher grade under some other provision of law, a member who becomes entitled to a non-Regular Reserve retirement will, upon application, receive credit for satisfactory service in the highest grade held in which that person served satisfactorily, as determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee).

6.1.6.2. To receive credit for satisfactory service in an officer grade below lieutenant colonel or commander, other than a warrant officer grade, a member must serve satisfactorily in that grade, as determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee) as a Reserve commissioned officer in an active status, or in a retired status on active duty, for at least 6 months.

6.1.6.3. To receive credit for satisfactory service in a grade above major or lieutenant commander, a member must serve satisfactorily in that grade, as determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, as a Reserve commissioned officer in an active status, or in a retired status on active duty, for at least 3 years.

6.1.6.3.1. A member who completes at least 6 months of satisfactory service-in-grade, upon transfer from an active status or upon discharge as a Reserve commissioned officer for mandatory age or years of service, may receive credit for satisfactory service in the grade in which serving at time of transfer or discharge in that grade, notwithstanding failure of the person to complete three years of service in that grade, if the person transferred from an active status or discharged as a reserve commissioned officer:

6.1.6.3.1.1. Solely due to the requirements of a nondiscretionary provision of law requiring that transfer or discharge due to the member's age or years of service; or

6.1.6.3.1.2. Because the member no longer meets qualifications for membership in the Ready Reserves solely because of a physical disability, in accordance with Chapter 61 of Title 10, and at the time of such transfer or discharge the member meets the service requirements established by 10 U.S.C. § 12731(a) for eligibility for retired pay under chapter 1223 of Title 10, unless the disability is described in 10 U.S.C. § 12731(b).

6.1.6.3.2. If a member completes at least 6 months of satisfactory service-in-grade while serving as adjutant general under [32 U.S.C. § 314](#) or as assistant adjutant general to such adjutant general, and the member has failed to complete 3 years of service in such grade solely because the member's appointment to such position has been terminated or vacated under [32 U.S.C. § 324\(b\)](#), then the member may be credited with satisfactory service in that grade, notwithstanding the failure of the member to complete three years of service in that grade.

6.1.6.3.3. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may allow credit in a higher grade to a member who has been recommended for promotion in a report of a promotion board but before the member is promoted to the recommended grade. Such credit may be allowed when a member who is in the next lower grade serves in a position after recommendation where the minimum authorized grade for the position the member is serving in is the higher grade to which the member is recommended for promotion. The period of service credited may not include any period before the date that the Senate provides advice and consent for the appointment of that member in the recommended grade.

6.1.6.3.4. A member who qualifies for Federal recognition in a higher grade by a board under [32 U.S.C. § 307](#) who serves in that grade in a position for which the higher grade is the minimum authorized grade and is appointed as a Reserve officer in that grade may receive credit for having served in that grade. The period of service for which the credit is afforded to the extent authorized by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned may be only the period the member served in the position after the Senate provides advice and consent for the appointment.

6.1.6.3.5. A member who completes at least 6 months of satisfactory service in a grade above colonel (or, in the case of the Navy, in a grade above captain), and while serving in an active status in such grade, is involuntarily transferred (other than for cause) from active status, may be credited with satisfactory service for the grade in which serving at the time of such transfer, even though he or she does not complete 3 years of service in that grade.

6.1.6.4. When a member's length-of-service in the highest grade held does not meet the service-in-grade requirements, the member receives credit for satisfactory service in the next lower grade in which the member serves satisfactorily for at least 6 months as determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

6.1.6.5. The Secretary of Defense may authorize the Secretary of a Military Department concerned to reduce the 3-year period required in subparagraph 6.1.6.3 for an officer above major or lieutenant commander, to a period of not less than 2 years for any person, including a person who, upon transfer to the Retired Reserve or discharge, is to be credited with satisfactory service in a general or flag officer grade. The authority of the Secretary of Defense may not be delegated.

6.1.6.6. The number of reserve commissioned officers of an armed force in the same grade for whom a reduction is made under this section may not exceed the number equal to 2 percent of the strength authorized for that fiscal year for reserve commissioned officers of that armed force in an active status in that grade.

6.1.7. Grade on Retirement for Physical Disability. Pursuant to [10 U.S.C. § 1372](#), unless entitled to a higher grade under some other provision of law, members of the Armed Forces who retire for disability under Chapter 61 of Title 10 are entitled to the highest of:

6.1.7.1. The grade or rank in which serving when placed on the Temporary Disability Retired List or, if not carried on that list, on date of retirement;

6.1.7.2. The highest temporary grade or rank in which member satisfactorily served, as determined by the Secretary of the armed force from which the member retired;

6.1.7.3. The permanent regular or reserve grade to which the member would have been promoted had it not been for the disability for which the member is retired and which was found to exist upon physical examination; or

6.1.7.4. The temporary grade to which the member would have been promoted had it not been for the disability for which the member is retired, if eligibility for that promotion was required based on the cumulative years of service or years of service in grade, and the disability was found upon physical examination.

6.2 Special Provisions

6.2.1. Commissioned officers of the Regular or Reserve Component of the Army, Air Force, or Space Force and Regular officers of the Navy or Marine Corps may, at the discretion of the President, be retired by and with the consent of the Senate, in the highest grade held at any time on the active list if they have served as:

6.2.1.1. Chief of Staff to the President;

6.2.1.2. Chief of Staff of the Army;

6.2.1.3. Chief of Naval Operations;

6.2.1.4. Chief of Staff of the Air Force;

6.2.1.5. Chief of Space Operations;

6.2.1.6. Senior member of the Military Staff Committee of the United Nations;

6.2.1.7. General or lieutenant general in a position of importance and responsibility designated by the President;

6.2.1.8. Admirals or vice admirals in positions of great importance and responsibility designated by the President under [10 U.S.C. § 601](#);

6.2.1.9. Chief or assistant chief of a branch of the Regular Army for at least 4 years;

6.2.1.10. Surgeon General of the Army or Air Force in the grade of lieutenant general;

6.2.1.11. Permanent professor of the U.S. Military Academy (USMA) or U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA). If the grade is below brigadier general and service as professor is long and distinguished, then the professor may, at the discretion of the President, be retired in the grade of brigadier general; or

6.2.1.12. Chiefs of Bureaus or Judge Advocate General.

6.2.2. Regular and Reserve commissioned officers of the Army and Air Force are entitled to the grade equal to the highest temporary grade in which they served on active duty satisfactorily for not less than 6 months. See exception in subparagraph 6.1.2.

6.2.3. Where an existing statute authorizes computation of pay based on a grade in which the member served satisfactorily that is higher than the pay of the grade otherwise entitled, computation is based on the higher grade:

6.2.3.1. Without regard to whether that grade was temporary or permanent, and

6.2.3.2. Even though the military service in which the member held that higher grade is not the military service in which retired.

6.2.4. Retired warrant officers of the Army, Air Force, and Space Force and enlisted members of the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, and Regular Space Force are entitled to be advanced on the retired list to the highest grade in which they served on active duty satisfactorily, when their active service plus time on the retired list equals 30 years.

6.2.5. Unless otherwise entitled to a higher grade, officers of the Regular Navy or Regular Marine Corps holding a permanent grade of W-1 or above, retired with 30 or more years of service, are retired in the grade in which they are serving at the time of retirement.

6.2.6. Unless otherwise entitled to a higher grade, members of the Navy and Marine Corps retired while serving in a temporary grade to which they were appointed in time of war or national emergency that terminates on date of detachment are retired in the grade they would hold if they had not received such appointment.

6.2.7. Warrant officers of the Navy and Marine Corps who retire after completion of 20 years of service may elect to be retired in the highest grade entitled under any provision of law.

6.2.8. Unless otherwise entitled to a higher grade, members, other than retired members of the Navy or Marine Corps, when retired, are advanced on the retired list to the highest officer grade in which they served satisfactorily under a temporary appointment.

6.2.9. A courtesy title is not to be used for computation of pay. The grade for pay purposes is determined under the criteria of general determinations and special provisions as prescribed in this paragraph, with specific reference to the section of law that authorizes the grade for pay purposes.

6.2.10. Members promoted while missing-in-action, whose status is changed to killed in action, are exempted from the 6-month time-in-grade requirement since promotions received while in a missing status are “fully effective for all purposes” under [37 U.S.C. § 552\(a\)](#). Note: This provision is applicable only to members of the Army and Air Force.

6.2.11. A member who enters a Uniformed Service after September 7, 1980, and who later retires, may receive retired pay computed from a retired pay base made up of active duty pay rates from more than one grade.

6.3 Satisfactory Service

The determination as to what constitutes satisfactory service for the purpose of retirement in the highest grade is within the discretionary power of the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee). The Service determines the retired grade.

7.0 NON-CITIZENS

7.1 Philippine Constabulary/Philippine Scout

The Act of February 2, 1901, as amended by the Act of May 16, 1908, authorized the President of the United States to organize a Military Component to be known as the Philippine Scouts and make it a part of the Regular Army. Retirement eligibility was the same as for enlisted men of the Regular Army. Officers were entitled to the same pay, privileges, and retirement benefits as authorized officers of like grade and service of the Regular Army. The Philippine Constabulary/Philippine Scouts are no longer maintained as a continuing part of the Army.

7.2 Insular Force

The Insular Force of the U.S. Navy was established by Executive Order on April 5, 1901, as amended on June 25, 1901. The Secretary of the Navy was authorized to enlist 500 natives of the Islands of the Philippines and Guam. Members of the Insular Force were eligible for transfer to the Fleet Reserve or to the retired list. The Insular Force is no longer maintained as a continuing part of the Navy.

7.3 Payment

7.3.1. Philippine Scouts. Adjustments of retired pay of Philippine Scouts will be made to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index as provided by [10 U.S.C. § 1401a](#).

7.3.2. Change in Citizenship of Non-Regular Retirees. If a member's citizenship status changes after retirement, then it may have an impact on the member's retired pay. See Chapter 6 for additional information on change or loss of U.S. citizenship.

8.0 HEROISM PAY

*8.1 Entitlement

8.1.1. Regular Retirement. Enlisted members of the Army, Air Force, Space Force, Navy, and Marine Corps, retired after the completion of 20 or more but less than 30 years of active service for Regular retired pay computation purposes, who are credited by the Secretary concerned with extraordinary heroism in the line of duty, will receive a 10 percent increase to retired or retainer pay. [Enlisted members of the Army, the Air Force, and the Space Force, with 20 or more, but less than 30, years of service who are credited by the Secretary concerned with extraordinary heroism in the line of duty, will receive a 10 percent increase to their retired pay, but the total amount of monthly retired pay may not exceed 75 percent of the retired pay base upon which retired pay is](#)

based. Effective December 23, 2024, members who served during the Vietnam Era (the period beginning on August 5, 1964 and ending on March 27, 1973) are not subject to the restriction of 75 percent of the retired pay base upon which retired pay is based. Enlisted members of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard with 20 or more, but less than 30, years of active service are eligible to have retired or retainer pay increased by 10 percent without the restriction of 75 percent of the retired pay base upon which retired pay is based.

8.1.2. Non-Regular Retirement. Entitlement to increased Reserve retired pay for heroism became effective October 1, 2002, and applies with respect to retired pay for months beginning on or after that date. Enlisted members of the Reserve Component retired after the completion of less than 30 years of service for non-Regular retired pay computation purposes, who are credited by the Secretary concerned with extraordinary heroism in the line of duty, will receive a 10 percent increase to their retired pay, but the total amount of monthly retired pay may not exceed 75 percent of the retired pay base upon which the computation is based. For enlisted members who retired after December 31, 2006, with more than 30 years of service, the total amount of monthly retired pay may not exceed the sum of 75 percent of the retired pay base upon which the computation is based and 2.5 percent of years of service credited for the computation of retired pay.

8.1.3. Disability Retirement. Enlisted members retired for disability who otherwise are eligible for voluntary retirement for 20 or more, but less than 30, years of service, and who are entitled to a 10 percent increase in pay for certified acts of extraordinary heroism, are entitled to an additional computation under the computation for a length-of-service retirement. However, in no case may the retired pay multiplier for a disability retirement based upon less than 30 years of service exceed 75 percent.

8.2 Determination of Entitlement

The Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee) has the authority to grant 10 percent of additional retired pay to an individual who has performed an act of extraordinary heroism in the line of duty. The Secretary's determination as to extraordinary heroism is conclusive for all purposes.

8.3 Special Provisions

8.3.1. Advancement on the Retired List. Retired enlisted members of the Regular Army or Air Force receiving the 10 percent additional increase in pay for extraordinary heroism are not entitled to the 10 percent increase when advanced to a higher grade on the completion of 30 years of service. See Chapter 9.

8.3.2. Recomputation After a Period of Active Duty. For detailed information on recomputation after subsequent active duty, see Chapter 7, section 2.0.

8.3.2.1. Retired enlisted members of the Army, Air Force, and Space Force are entitled to the 10 percent increase in retired pay for extraordinary heroism when pay is recomputed to reflect active service performed after the date of retirement. The retired pay may not exceed 75 percent of the monthly basic pay upon which retired pay is based. **Effective**

December 23, 2024, members who served during the Vietnam Era (the period beginning on August 5, 1964 and ending on March 27, 1973) are not subject to the restriction of 75 percent of the retired pay base upon which retired pay is based. Regardless of when the member's retired pay was recomputed, benefits will not accrue under this provision for any period prior to November 1, 1992.

8.3.2.2. Enlisted members of the Navy and Marine Corps who elected to receive retainer pay are entitled to the 10 percent increase in their pay for extraordinary heroism when that pay is recomputed to reflect active service performed after date of transfer.

9.0 PAYMENT

9.1 Effective Date of Payment

Pay accrues on a day-to-day basis from and including the date on which retirement is effective, except members who are transferred to the Fleet Reserve/Fleet Marine Corps Reserve. These members become entitled to pay on the day after the date of transfer. Amounts of retired pay and retainer pay due a retired member of the uniformed services will be paid on the first day of each month beginning after the month in which the right to such pay accrues. When the payment date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the Director of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service may authorize the payment of retired pay and retainer pay on the preceding workday but not more than three days before the last day of the pay period. See also Chapter 14.

9.1.1. Regular Retirement. Except as otherwise provided by law, the effective date of retirement is the first day of the month after the month in which service requirements are fully met.

9.1.2. Disability Retirement. Placement on the Temporary and Permanent Disability Retired Lists may become effective on any day of the month as specified by the Secretary of the military service concerned (or designee).

9.1.3. Mandatory Retirement for Age and Service. Members attaining age and service requirements for involuntary retirements are retained on active duty through the last day of the month in which age and service requirements are met.

9.1.4. Non-Regular Retirement. Reservists are entitled to pay effective on the date on which the requirements for age and service have been met, or on the first day of any later month that the retiree may elect.

9.2 Revocation of Retirement and/or Transfers

9.2.1. Where proper officials have made a determination that a member is entitled to retirement and retired pay on the basis of physical disability, after the effective date of retirement, the retirement orders are final and can be reopened only upon a showing of fraud, substantial new evidence, mistake of law, or mathematical miscalculation. Subsequent information showing that the decision may have resulted from the exercise of poor judgement alone does not provide a basis

to cancel or modify the prior order. However, the initial retiring action may be cancelled or revoked before the date that it is legally effective because the individual concerned has not yet acquired any rights or become entitled to any retirement benefits under the revoked retiring order.

9.2.2. Transfer of members to the Fleet Reserve/Fleet Marine Corps Reserve and to the retired list of the Regular Navy or Marine Corps or the Retired Reserve is conclusive for all purposes. The Secretary may correct any error or omission in the determination as to the member's grade and years of creditable service.

9.2.3. Payment of active duty pay and allowances may be permitted after the first of the month in which retirement is effective until retirement orders are actually delivered to the member later in the same month, provided prior notice of retirement orders had not been received.

9.2.4. Where advance notice of retirement orders is given, but orders are not delivered, an attempt may be made to revoke them after they become effective and replace them with orders directing retirement at a later date. When it is apparent that the member had no knowledge of the lack of legal authority for this action, and active duty pay and allowances were received "under color of authority," the "de facto rule" permits repayment of active duty pay and allowances paid for the period and later collected.

9.3 Computation

For detailed information on gross pay computation, see Chapter 3.

9.3.1. Monthly Pay. Compute monthly pay as if each month had 30 days. The daily rate is 1/30 of the monthly rate.

9.3.2. Intermediate Day. When retirement begins on an intermediate day of the month, compute pay at the rate of 1/30 for the actual number of days after date of retirement but only through the 30th day of that month. If pay begins on February 28, then pay accrues for 3 days. If the pay begins on February 29, then pay accrues for 2 days.

Table 1-1. Voluntary Retirement

R U L E	A person who is	of the	and years of service total	including at least	may retire under 10 U.S.C. §	with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
1	an enlisted member	Army	20 (note 1)		7314	rule 4.
2	an enlisted member	Air Force (AF) or Space Force (SF)	20 (note 1)		9314	rule 4.
3	a Regular enlisted member	Army	30		7317	rule 4.
4	a Regular enlisted member	AF or SF	30		9317	rule 4.
5	a commissioned officer	Army	20 (note 1)	10 years of active commissioned service (note 2)	7311	rule 5.
6	a commissioned officer	AF or SF	20 (note 1)	10 years of active commissioned service (note 2)	9311	rule 5.
7	a Regular commissioned officer	Army	30		7318	rule 5.
8	a Regular commissioned officer	AF or SF	30		9318	rule 5.
9	a commissioned officer	Army	40		7324	rule 5.
10	a commissioned officer	AF or SF	40		9324	rule 5.
11	a warrant officer	Armed Forces	20 (note 1)		1293	rule 3.
12	a warrant officer	Army	40		7324	rule 5.
13	a warrant officer	AF or SF	40		9324	rule 5.
14	a Regular officer W-1 and above	Navy or Marine Corps (MC) Reserve	40		8321	rule 6.
15	a Regular officer W-1 and above	Navy or MC Reserve	30		8322	rule 7.

Table 1-1. Voluntary Retirement (Continued)

R U L E	A person who is	of the	and years of service total	including at least	may retire under 10 U.S.C. §	with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
16	a Regular officer W-1 and above	Navy or MC	20 (note 1)	10 years of active commissioned service (note 2)	8323 (note 3)	rule 6.
17	a Regular enlisted member (note 4)	Navy or MC Reserve	30		8326	rule 7.
18	an enlisted member	Navy, MC, Navy Reserve, or MC Reserve	20 (Note 1)		may transfer to Fleet Reserve/ Fleet MC Reserve under section 8330	with retainer pay computed under rule 14.
19	an officer or enlisted member	Navy Reserve or MC Reserve	30		8327 (note 5)	rule 8.
20	an officer or enlisted member	Navy Reserve or MC Reserve	20 (Note 1)	10 years of active service served in the 11 years immediately before retirement	8327 (note 5)	rule 8.

NOTES:

1. See subparagraphs 3.1.1 and 3.1.2. Under TERA, Public Law (P.L.) 102-484, § 4403, October 23, 1992, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee) may reduce the 20 years of creditable service requirement for regular retirement to 15 years of creditable service. Legislative history for TERA is located at 10 U.S.C. § 1293 note. The authority was continuously extended numerous times and ended on September 1, 2002, under P.L. 107-314, § 554. [P.L. 112-81, section 504\(b\)](#) reinstated this authority effective December 31, 2011, with the end date extended to December 31, 2025, under P.L. 114-328, § 508(a), December 23, 2016. For non-regular retirement, see 10 U.S.C. § 12731a, Temporary special retirement qualification authority, in effect October 23, 1992 - December 31, 2001.

2. See subparagraph 3.1.3.1. Under the Temporary Authority to Reduce Minimum Length of Active Service as a Commissioned Officer Required for Voluntary Retirement as an Officer, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee) may reduce the 10-year active service requirement to not less than 8 years. [P.L. 111-383, section 506](#), January 7, 2011, extended this authority to September 30, 2013. The most recent period for this authority commenced January 7, 2011, and ended September 30, 2013. [Title 10, U.S.C. § 7311\(b\)\(2\)](#), 10 U.S.C. § 9311(b)(2), and 10 U.S.C. § 8323(a)(2)(B).

3. Members mandatorily retired under P.L. 86-155 thereafter are considered as having retired voluntarily pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 8323. See P.L. 86-155, section 3. There are no officers processed under P.L. 86-155 after June 1, 1966.

4. Includes Regular enlisted members holding temporary appointment as commissioned officer or warrant officer.

5. [Title 10, U.S.C. § 8327](#) applies only to persons who were members of the Navy Reserve or the Marine Corps Reserve on January 1, 1953. This section terminates on January 1, 1973.

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement - Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers

R U L E	A person who is a	and has at least	who holds the Regular grade of	and time in grade is	and is age	is retired by Secretary of the Military Department concerned under 10 U.S.C. §				with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
						Army	AF or SF	Navy or Marine Corps	Armed Forces	
1	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army, AF, SF, Navy, or MC	20 years	below Brigadier General or Rear Admiral (lower half) (note 1)		62 (notes 4 and 23)	1251	1251	1251	1251	rule 9.
2	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF	20 years	below Major General (note 1)		60	3883 (note 2)	8883 (note 3)			rule 10 or 12.
3	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF	35 years (note 3)	Major General	5 years	60	3884 (note 2)	8884 (note 2)			rule 10 or 12.
4	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF	35 years (note 3)	Major General	5 years	62	3885 (note 2)	8885 (note 2)			
5	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF	35 years (note 3)	Major General	5 years	64	3886 (note 2)	8886 (note 2)			
6	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF	20 years (note 3)	any grade (note 5)			3913 (note 2)	8913 (note 2)			
7	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF	28 years (note 3)	Lieutenant Colonel (note 6)			3916 (note 2)	8916 (note 2)			

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement – Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers (Continued)

R U L E	A person who is a	and has at least	who holds the Regular grade of	and time in grade is	and is age	is retired by Secretary of the Military Department concerned under 10 U.S.C. §				with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
						Army	AF or SF	Navy or Marine Corps	Armed Forces	
8	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF	30 years (note 3)	any grade (note 7)	5 years		3919 (note 2)	8919 (note 2)			rule 10 or 12.
9	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF		Colonel (note 8)	5 years		3921 (note 2)	8921 (note 2)			rule 10 or 12.
10	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF		Brigadier General	5 years		3922 (note 2)	8922 (note 2)			rule 10 or 12.
11	Regular commis- sioned officer of the Army or AF		Major General	5 years		3923 (note 2)	8923 (note 2)			rule 10 or 12.
12	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	35 years of total commis- sioned service (note 3)	Rear Admiral (notes 9 and 11)	5 years				6371 (notes 2 and 10)		rule 11.
13	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	35 years of total commis- sioned service (note 3)	Rear Admiral (notes 11 and 12)	7 years				6372 (notes 2 and 13)		rule 11.
14	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	35 years of total commis- sioned service (note 3)	Major General (notes 11 and 14)	5 years				6373 (note 2)		rule 11.

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement – Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers (Continued)

R U L E	A person who is a	and has at least	who holds the Regular grade of	and time in grade is	and is age	is retired by Secretary of the Military Department concerned under 10 U.S.C. §				with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
						Army	AF or SF	Navy or Marine Corps	Armed Forces	
15	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	35 years of total commissioned service (note 3)	Rear Admiral (Navy), - Brigadier General (USMC) (note 9)					6374 (note 2)		rule 11.
16	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	35 years of total commissioned service (note 3)	Rear Admiral (Navy), Brigadier General (USMC) (notes 11 and 14)	5 years				6375 (note 15)		rule 11.
17	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	30 years of total commissioned service (note 3)	Captain (Navy), Colonel (USMC) (notes 9 and 16)					6376 (note 2)		rule 11.
18	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	31 years of total commissioned service (note 3)	Captain (Navy), Colonel (USMC) (notes 11 and 17)							rule 11.
19	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	30 years of total commissioned service (note 3)	Captain (Navy), Colonel (USMC) (notes 12 and 16)					6377 (notes 2 & 18)		rule 11.
20	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	31 years of total commissioned service (note 3)	Captain (Navy), Colonel (USMC) (notes 11, 12, and 17)					6377 (notes 2 & 18)		rule 11.

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement – Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers (Continued)

R U L E	A person who is a	and has at least	who holds the Regular grade of	and time in grade is	and is age	is retired by Secretary of the Military Department concerned under 10 U.S.C. §				with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
						Army	AF or SF	Navy or Marine Corps	Armed Forces	
21	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	26 years (note 3)	Commander (Nurse Corps) (notes 11, 12, and 16)					6377 (notes 2 & 18)		rule 11.
22	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	35 years (note 3)	Captain (Navy), Commander (Nurse Corps) (notes 7 and 12)		62			6378 (notes 2 & 19)		
23	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	26 years of total commissioned service (note 3)	Commander, Lieutenant Colonel (note 16)					6379 (note 2)		rule 11.
24	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	20 years of total commissioned service (note 3)	Lieutenant Commander, Major (note 16)					6380 (note 2)		rule 11.
25	Regular officer of the Navy or MC designated for limited duty	30 years of active naval service	Navy officer serving in grade below Commander MC officer of any grade					8372		rule 11.
26	Regular officer of the Navy or MC designated for limited duty who twice fails promotion	Eligible to retire under any provision of law	Commander or Lieutenant Commander (Navy), Major (MC) (notes 16 and 20)					8372		rule 11.

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement – Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers (Continued)

R U L E	A person who is a	and has at least	who holds the Regular grade of	and time in grade is	and is age	is retired by Secretary of the Military Department concerned under 10 U.S.C. §				with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
						Army	AF or SF	Navy or Marine Corps	Armed Forces	
27	Regular officer of the Navy designated for limited duty who is not recommended for promotion	35 years of service	Commander					8372		rule 11.
28	Regular officer of the Navy designated for limited duty	38 years of service	Captain					8372		rule 11.
29	Regular officer of the Navy or MC		any grade below Fleet Admiral		62			6390 (note 2)		rule 11.
30	Regular officer of the Navy or MC		Rear Admiral, Major General, and Brigadier General		62			6394 (note 2)		rule 11.
31	Regular officer of the Navy or MC	20 years of active commissioned service (note 3)	Lieutenant Commander, Major and below (Nurse Corps)					6396 (note 2)		rule 11.
32	female Regular officer of the Navy or MC	26 years of active commissioned service						6398 (note 2)		rule 11.

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement – Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers (Continued)

R U L E	A person who is a	and has at least	who holds the Regular grade of	and time in grade is	and is age	is retired by Secretary of the Military Department concerned under 10 U.S.C. §				with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
						Army	AF or SF	Navy or Marine Corps	Armed Forces	
33	female Regular officer of the Navy or MC	30 years of active commis- sioned service	Captain Colonel (note 21)					6398 (note 2)		rule 11.
34	female Regular officer of the Navy or MC	20 years of active commis- sioned service	Lieutenant Commander, Major (note 5) and below					6400 (note 2)		rule 11.
35	commis- sioned officer of the Army	More than 30 years of commis- sioned service (note 22)	USMA - permanent professor or Director of Admissions			7320				rule 10.
36	commis- sioned officer of the AF or SF	More than 30 years of commis- sioned service (note 22)	USAFA - permanent professor or Director of Admissions				9320			rule 12.
37	commis- sioned officer of the Army, AF, SF or Navy	blank	USMA - permanent professor or Director of Admissions USAFA - permanent professor or registrar, and U.S. Naval Academy - permanent professor		64	1251(a), 1252	1251(a), 1252	1251(a), 1252		rule 9.

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement – Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers (Continued)

R U L E	A person who is a	and has at least	who holds the Regular grade of	and time in grade is	and is age	is retired by Secretary of the Military Department concerned under 10 U.S.C. §				with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
						Army	AF or SF	Navy or Marine Corps	Armed Forces	
38	permanent Regular warrant officer of the Armed Forces who twice fails to be selected for promotion	20 years (note 23)	Warrant Officer 1, Warrant Officer 2, and Warrant Officer 3						580	rule 9.
39	permanent Regular warrant officer of the Armed Forces	20 years	Warrant Officer 1, Warrant Officer 2, Warrant Officer 3, and Warrant Officer 4		55 (note 24)				1255 (repealed by P.L. 90.130, November 8, 1967)	rule 9.
40	permanent Regular warrant officer of the Armed Forces	20 years (note 23)	Warrant Officer 1, Warrant Officer 2, Warrant Officer 3, and Warrant Officer 4		62				1263	rule 9.
41	permanent Regular warrant officer of the Armed Forces	30 years of active service (For Army warrant officer, must be 30 years active service as a warrant officer)	Any grade, except Navy W-5 shall be retired upon completion of 33 years of total active service.						1305	rule 9.

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement – Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers (Continued)

R U L E	A person who is a	and has at least	who holds the Regular grade of	and time in grade is	and is age	is retired by Secretary of the Military Department concerned under 10 U.S.C. §				with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
						Army	AF or SF	Navy or Marine Corps	Armed Forces	
42	Regular officer of the Army, AF, SF, MC, or Navy	28 years of commissioned service Note 25	Lieutenant Colonel, Commander (Navy)			633	633	633	633	rule 9.
43	Regular officer of the Army, AF, SF, MC, or Navy	30 years of commissioned service	Colonel, Captain (Navy)			634	634	634	634	rule 9.
44	Regular officer of the Army, AF, SF, MC, or Navy	30 years of commissioned service	Brigadier General, Rear Admiral (Lower Half) (Navy)	At least 5 years		635	635	635	635	rule 9.
45	Regular officer of the Army, AF, SF, MC, or Navy	35 years of commissioned service	Major General, Rear Admiral (Navy)	At least 5 years		636	636	636	636	rule 9.
46	Regular officer of the Army, AF, SF, MC, or Navy	38 years of commissioned service	Lt General, Vice Admiral (Navy)	At least 5 years		636	636	636	636	rule 9.
47	Regular officer of the Army, AF, SF, MC, or Navy	40 years of commissioned service	General, Admiral (Navy)	At least 5 years		636	636	636	636	rule 9.

Table 1-2. Mandatory Retirement - Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers (Continued)

NOTES:

1. Member is exempt from mandatory retirement at age 62 if holding one of the following positions: permanent professor or director of admissions of U.S. Military Academy, permanent professor at U.S. Naval Academy, or permanent professor or registrar of U.S. Air Force Academy. See Rule 37.
2. Sections repealed by P.L. 96-513, December 12, 1980, effective September 15, 1981.
3. Army or AF service is computed under paragraph 3.5 (10 U.S.C. §§ 3927 and 8927 were repealed by P.L. 96-513).
4. Deleted.
5. Member was not recommended for promotion.
6. Member was on the lieutenant colonel promotion list.
7. Member was excessive number in any grade.
8. Member was on the colonel promotion list.
9. Member was not restricted in performance of duty.
10. Title 10, U.S.C. § 6371, Executive Order 11284, May 27, 1966 was revoked by Executive Order 12553, February 25, 1986.
11. Member was not recommended for continuation on active duty.
12. Member is restricted in performance of duty.
13. Title 10, U.S.C. § 6372 was repealed by P.L. 96-513, December 12, 1980 (94 Stat. 2898).
14. Member who served as Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps.
15. Title 10, U.S.C. § 6375 was repealed by P.L. 87-123, August 3, 1961.
16. Member failed selection for promotion twice to next higher grade and was not on promotion list.
17. Member was not on promotion list and retirement subject to completion of 5-years of service in grade.
18. Title 10, U.S.C. § 6377(c) was repealed by P.L. 90-130, November 8, 1967.
19. Any Navy captain or commander who will complete 35 years of total commissioned service or who will become age 62 in the fiscal year in which the selection board is convened is ineligible for consideration for retention.
20. Deleted.
21. Except female officers on promotion list or serving as assistant to Chief of Naval Personnel with rank of captain, or assistant to Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps with rank of colonel.
22. Compute service under paragraph 3.3.
23. Compute service under paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6. Title 10, U.S.C. § 1263 allows a retirement of a Warrant Officer age (at age 62), but only if the member already has 20 years of service.
24. The statute, which pertained to female Regular warrant officers, was repealed by P.L. 90-130, November 8, 1967 (81 Statute 374).
25. This rule is not applicable to a Navy officer to whom Rule 25 or 26 applies or who is a permanent professor at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Table 1-3. Disability Retirement

R U L E	A person who is	of the	ordered to active duty for	and is determined	may retire under 10 U.S.C. §	with retired pay computed under Chapter 3, Table 3-1
1	an enlisted member, warrant officer, or commissioned officer	Armed Forces entitled to basic pay	30 days or less or on inactivity-duty training	unfit to perform duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating because of physical disability (note 1)	1204	rule 1.
2	an enlisted member, warrant officer, or commissioned officer	Armed Forces entitled to basic pay	30 days or less	unfit to perform duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating because of physical disability and placed on the TDRL (note 1 and 2)	1205	rule 2.
3	an enlisted member, warrant officer, or commissioned officer	Armed Forces entitled to basic pay	more than 30 days	unfit to perform duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating because of physical disability (note 1)	1201	rule 1.
4	an enlisted member, warrant officer, or commissioned officer	Armed Forces entitled to basic pay	more than 30 days	unfit to perform duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating because of physical disability and placed on the TDRL (note 1 and 2)	1202	rule 2.

NOTES:

1. Member must have at least 20 years of service as computed under 10 U.S.C. § 1208 (see para. 3.7) or a disability rating of at least 30 percent. ([10 U.S.C. §§ 1201](#), [1202](#), [1204](#), and [1205](#)).
2. Disability is not determined to be of a permanent nature and stable, but Secretary determines that accepted medical principles indicate that the disability may be of a permanent nature.

Table 1-4. Age and Service, Non-Regular Retirement

R U L E	A person who is	of the	and has at least	and is age	may retire under	with retired pay computed under
1	an enlisted member, warrant officer, or commissioned officer	Armed Forces, Reserve, or National Guard (note 1)	20 years of service (note 2)	60 or is otherwise eligible (note 3)	10 U.S.C. § 12731 (note 4)	Chapter 3, Table 3-1, rule 13.

NOTES:

1. Persons completing the 20-year requirement before April 25, 2005, must have performed the last 6 years of qualifying service as a member of a Reserve Component, except that in the case of a member who completed 20 years of service before October 5, 1994, the number of years of such qualifying service will be 8 years.
2. Compute service for entitlement to retired pay under 10 U.S.C. § 12732; see paragraph 3.8. The Secretary concerned had authority to reduce the 20 years of service requirement to 15 years during the period October 23, 1992, to December 31, 2001, under 10 U.S.C. § 12731a.
3. The eligibility will be reduced below 60 years of age by 3 months for each aggregate of 90 days on which a member of the Ready Reserve performs active duty or active service pursuant to a call or order under 10 U.S.C. §§ 101(a)(13)(B), 12301(d), or 12304b or 32 U.S.C. § 502(f) in any fiscal year after January 28, 2008, or in any two consecutive fiscal years after September 30, 2014. The eligibility age may not be reduced below 50 years of age.
4. Member is entitled to retired pay under 10 U.S.C. § 12739 upon application only if not entitled to retired or retainer pay under any other provision of law.

Table 1-5. Rate of Basic Pay for Retired Computation Pay Computation under 10 U.S.C. § 1406 - Final Basic Pay Retirees (note 1)

R U L E	A member who	and is	who fully qualified or met requirements to be retired	and retirement is	will have retired pay computed using active-duty basic pay rates in effect on
1	retires on other than the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change	an enlisted member, warrant officer, or commissioned officer	at any time	voluntary, mandatory, disability, Reservist (age and service)	the first day of retirement (notes 2 and 3).
2	retires on the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change	an enlisted member (note 3)	at any time	voluntary	the first day of retirement (note 2).
3	retires on the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change	a warrant officer	at any time	voluntary	the day before the first day of retirement (notes 2 and 3).
4	retires on the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change	a commissioned officer	before the month immediately preceding the active-duty basic pay rate change date (note 4)		the first day of retirement (note 2).
5	retires on the first day of an active duty basic-pay rate change	a commissioned officer	at any time prior to the active-duty basic pay rate change date	voluntary (note 4)	the first day of retirement (note 2).
6	retires on the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change	a commissioned officer	during the month immediately preceding the active-duty basic pay rate change date	voluntary	the day before the first day of retirement unless the member specifically requests retirement on a day later than the first day of eligibility for voluntary retirement under the applicable statute; in which case, use active-duty pay rates in effect on the first day of retirement (notes 2 and 6).
7	retires on the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change	a warrant officer	any time	mandatory	the day before the first day of retirement (note 2).

Table 1-5. Rate of Basic Pay for Retired Computation Pay Computation under 10 U.S.C. § 1406 - Final Basic Pay Retirees (note 1) (Continued)

R U L E	A member who	and is	who fully qualified or met requirements to be retired	and retirement is	will have retired pay computed using active-duty basic pay rates in effect on
8	retires on the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change	a commissioned officer	any time	mandatory	the day before the first day of retirement (note 2).
9	retires on the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change	an enlisted member, warrant officer, or commissioned officer	during the month immediately preceding the active-duty basic pay rate change date without Secretarial action designating an earlier retirement date	disability (note 5)	the day before the first day of retirement (note 2).
10	retires on the first day of an active-duty basic pay rate change		any time	Non-regular (age and service)	the date the member is granted retired pay; however, if a discharged former member, who entered the military service on or after September 8, 1980, the rate in effect at discharge. See subparagraph 2.2.2. (note 2).

NOTES:

1. See [5 U.S.C. § 8301\(b\)](#). A retired pay base of average high-36 basic pay is used in lieu of a final basic pay rate in the computation of retired pay for members who enter the Uniformed Services after September 7, 1980. 10 U.S.C. §§ 1406 and 1407.
2. For members who qualify for retirement on an earlier computation date under the same or some other provision of law, compute under rates in effect on that earlier date based on grade and service credited at that time, if that rate is greater (10 U.S.C. § 1401a(f)).
3. Not applicable to Navy and Marine Corps enlisted members transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve.
4. Applicable only to retirements under 10 U.S.C. § 8323.
5. If otherwise retirement eligible, then follow rule for that retirement.
6. This rule is effective for retirements on or after December 1, 2000. For retirements prior to that date, compute retired pay using active-duty basic pay rates in effect on the day before the first day of retirement, regardless of the date on which the member requested to be retired. See section 5.0.

REFERENCES*CHAPTER 1 – INITIAL ENTITLEMENTS-RETIREMENTS****1.0 – GENERAL**

- 1.1 10 U.S.C. §§ 1401, 1406, 1407, 1409
P.L. 114-92, sections 631-635,
November 25, 2015
P.L. 114-328, sections 631-634, December 26, 2016

2.0 – MILITARY RETIRED PAY – INITIAL ENTITLEMENTS

- 2.1 10 U.S.C. §§ 1406, 1407, 1409
- 2.1.2 P.L. 114-92, sections 631-635, November 25, 2015
P.L. 114-328, sections 631-634, December 26, 2016
- 2.2 10 U.S.C. §§ 1406, 1407
- 2.3 10 U.S.C. § 1409
P.L. 114-92, sections 631-635, November 25, 2015
P.L. 114-328, sections 631-634, December 26, 2016
- 2.3.2 10 U.S.C. § 1401
- 2.3.3 P.L. 114-92, section 634, November 25, 2015
37 U.S.C. § 354
- 2.4.1 P.L. 114-92, sections 631-635, November 25, 2015
P.L. 114-328, sections 631-634, December 26, 2016
P.L. 111-383, section 631, January 7, 2011
- 2.5 P.L. 111-383, section 532, January 7, 2011
P.L. 102-484, section 4403, October 23, 1992
- 2.6 10 U.S.C. § 1447(6)(A)

3.0 – SERVICE CREDITABLE FOR RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 10 U.S.C. §§ 7311, 8323, 9311
P.L. 111-383, section 506, January 7, 2011
P.L. 112-239, section 505, January 2, 2013
- 3.1.1 10 U.S.C. §§ 1293, 7311, 8323, 9311
- 3.1.2 DoDI 1332.46, December 21, 2018
- 3.1.2.1 P.L. 112-81, section 504, December 21, 2011
P.L. 114-328, section 508, December 23, 2016
- 3.1.2.2 P.L. 102-484, section 4403, October 23, 1992
P.L. 107-314, section 554, December 2, 2002
- 3.1.2.3 10 U.S.C. § 12731a
10 U.S.C. § 1293 note

REFERENCES (continued)

3.1.3	10 U.S.C. §§ 7311, 8323, 9311 P.L. 101-510, section 523, November 5, 1990 P.L. 106-398, section 571, October 30, 2000 P.L. 109-502, section 506, January 1, 2006 P.L. 111-383, section 506, January 7, 2011 P.L. 112-239, section 505, January 2, 2013
3.2	10 U.S.C. §§ 7325, 9325, 8330, 8326, 8683 (repealed), 1043
3.2.6	Manuscript (MS) Comptroller General (Comp Gen) B-195448, April 3, 1980
3.3	10 U.S.C. §§ 7326, 9326, 8321-8323, 1043
3.4	10 U.S.C. §§ 1293, 1305, 8321, 8322, 1043
3.4.2	P.L. 81-351, § 511, October 12, 1949
3.5.7	10 U.S.C. §§ 1401, 1405
3.6	10 U.S.C. §§ 2106, 2107
3.7	10 U.S.C. §§ 1208, 1043, 12732, 12733
3.8.1 through 3.8.6	10 U.S.C. §§ 12731, 12732, 12733, 1043, 12738 58 Comp Gen 390 10 U.S.C. § 12731a
3.8.6	P.L. 113-291, section 625, December 19, 2014 P.L. 116-92, section 604, December 20, 2019 10 U.S.C. §§ 101, 12301, 12304b, 12731 10 U.S.C. § 12731(f)
3.9.1 and 3.9.2	10 U.S.C. § 972 38 Comp Gen 352 38 Comp Gen 553 10 U.S.C. § 972(b)(4)
3.9.4.5	10 U.S.C. § 12732(b)(7)

4.0 – SERVICE CREDITABLE FOR COMPUTING RETIRED PAY

4.1	10 U.S.C. §§ 1405, 7361, 9361, 8333
4.3	10 U.S.C. §§ 1405, 7361, 9361, 8333 37 U.S.C. § 205(a)(7) MS Comp Gen B-195855, April 1, 1980
4.3.2	Office of the Under Secretary of Defense - Military Personnel Policy memo, July 1, 2002 54 Comp Gen 675
4.4	10 U.S.C. §§ 1351, 1401, 1405
4.5.1 and 4.5.2	10 U.S.C. §§ 3927 (repealed), 8927 (repealed), 1405
4.6	10 U.S.C. § 1208
4.7	10 U.S.C. § 12733

REFERENCES (continued)

5.0 – UNIFORM RETIREMENT DATE ACT (URDA) APPLICATION 5 U.S.C. 8301

5.1.2 P.L. 96-342, September 8, 1980

6.0 – RANK AND PAY GRADE

6.1.1 through 6.1.7 10 U.S.C. §§ 7341, 7342, 7343, 9341, 9342, 9343
10 U.S.C. § 1370(b) - (d)
10 U.S.C. § 1370a

P.L. 96-513, section 629, December 12, 1980

P.L. 101-510, section 522, November 5, 1990

P.L. 106-398, section 571, October 30, 2000

40 Comp Gen 240

10 U.S.C. § 1372

32 U.S.C. § 307

6.2.1 through 6.2.10 10 U.S.C. §§ 1370(c), 1406(i), 7342, 7343, 5133,
8962

49 Comp Gen 618

10 U.S.C. §§ 8325, 8321, 8322, 8323, 89343

10 U.S.C. §§ 601, 602 (repealed), 603

P. L. 96-342, September 8, 1980

6.3 10 U.S.C. §§ 7341, 7344, 7342, 9342 7343

10 U.S.C. §§ 9341, 9343, 9344

10 U.S.C. §§ 8321, 8322, 8323, 8325

10 U.S.C. §§ 1371 and 1401, Formula 2

P.L. 112-239, section 1076(f)(19), January 2, 2013

7.0 - NON-CITIZENS

7.1 Section 36, Act of February 2, 1901, 31 Stat 757,
Act of May 16, 1908

Section 22a, Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Statute 770

7.2 Executive Order, April 5, 1901 and June 25, 1901

7.3 10 U.S.C. § 1401a

7.3.2 48 Comp Gen 699

10 U.S.C., Chapter 1223

10 U.S.C. § 12731

37 Comp Gen 207

8.0 – HEROISM PAY

8.1.1 [P. L. 118-159, section 604, December 23, 2024](#)

[10 U.S.C. § 1402\(f\)\(2\)](#)

[10 U.S.C. § 12731\(c\)\(2\)\(E\)](#)

REFERENCES (continued)

	10 U.S.C. §§ 9361, 8330, 7361
	10 U.S.C. § 1409
8.1.2	10 U.S.C. § 12739
8.1.3	55 Comp Gen 701
	43 Comp Gen 805
	56 Comp Gen 740
	MS Comp Gen B-259559, June 6, 1995
8.3.1	10 U.S.C. 12739
8.3.2.1	10 U.S.C. § 1402
	P.L. 102-484, section 642, October 23, 1992
	10 U.S.C. § 1402(f)
	10 U.S.C. § 1402a(f)
	P.L. 118-159, section 694, December 23, 2024
8.3.2.2	41 Comp Gen 22
9.0 – PAYMENT	
9.1.1	5 U.S.C. § 8301
9.1.2	10 U.S.C. § 1221
9.1.4	10 U.S.C. § 12731
	38 Comp Gen 146
	48 Comp Gen 652
9.2.1	31 Comp Gen 296
	32 Comp Gen 558, 559
9.2.2	10 U.S.C. § 8332
9.2.3 and 9.2.4	39 Comp Gen 312
9.3	5 U.S.C. § 5505
	20 Comp Gen 772
	4 Comp Gen 757
	5 Comp Gen 935
	10 Comp Gen 11
Table 1-1	
Notes 1	10 U.S.C. § 1293 (Note)
	10 U.S.C. § 12731a
Note 2	10 U.S.C. §§ 7311, 9311, 8323
Table 1-4,	10 U.S.C. § 12731
Note 1	10 U.S.C. §§ 12731(f)
	P.L. 106-398, section 571, October 30, 2000
Note 2	P.L. 102-484, section 4417, October 23, 1992
	10 U.S.C. §§ 12731, 12731a
Note 3	10 U.S.C. § 12731(f)(2)
Note 4	10 U.S.C. § 12731(a)(4)

REFERENCES (continued)

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DoDI 1332.46, December 21, 2018
P.L. 112-81, section 504, December 31, 2011
P.L. 114-328, section 508, December 23, 2016
10 U.S.C. § 1293 note
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