

VOLUME 7A, CHAPTER 35: “SEPARATION PAYMENTS”**SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES**

All changes are denoted by **blue font**.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an * 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 June 2010 is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
350101.D Bibliography	Clarified accrued leave payment for members on duty under 6 months.	Update
350101.E Bibliography	Updated reasons for serving unsatisfactorily for enlisted and officer members.	Update
350102.A.4 Bibliography	Added provisions for Reserve Component personnel to carry forward leave, regardless of separation or release from active service.	Add
350102.B.1, 2, 3, and 4; Bibliography	Updated ending date for 75 day leave accrual to September 30, 2013.	Update
350102.C Bibliography	Changed accrued leave method for usage to Last In, First Out manner.	Update
350105.B	Updated addresses for beneficiary claims of leave payment (Navy and Marine Corps members).	Update
350201.C	Removed old date in half separation pay entitlement criteria.	Update
350401, Bibliography	Clarified cadet and midshipman eligibility for disability severance pay.	Add
350901, Bibliography	Updated extension of authority for voluntary separation pay (VSP) through December 31, 2018.	Update
351103, Bibliography	Extended retroactive stop loss compensation through October 21, 2012.	Update
Table 35-1; Bibliography	Added new Note 9 to Rule 2 regarding Reserve Component members accruing leave.	Add

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
Table 35-1, Rule 9; Bibliography	Included information related to separation payment of soldiers who separate with less than 6 months of service.	Add
Table 35-2 Bibliography	Added new Note 5 to Rule 6 regarding Reserve Component members accruing leave.	Add
Bibliography	Updated references within chapter.	Update

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CHAPTER 35

SEPARATION PAYMENTS

3501 ACCRUED LEAVE PAY

350101. General Entitlement

A. A member who is discharged or separated under honorable conditions is entitled to payment of unused accrued leave unless the member continues on active duty under conditions that require accrued leave to be carried forward or, in the case of a Reserve Component member, the member elects to have the leave carried forward to the member's next period of active service. An enlisted member who voluntarily extends their enlistment for the first time is also entitled to payment for unused accrued leave.

1. Conditions for Payment of Unused Accrued Leave. See Tables 35-1 through 35-4 for specific rules governing whether a member may be paid for unused accrued leave.

2. Career Leave Payment Limitation of 60 days

a. Effective February 10, 1976, a military member is entitled to receive payment for no more than 60 days of accrued leave during a military career. Payments for unused accrued leave made before that date shall be excluded from this 60-day limitation.

b. Effective July 14, 1976, a military member eligible for an unused accrued leave settlement is authorized an election with regard to payment or carryover of the leave. The member may elect to receive payment for a portion of the unused leave, not to exceed a career total of 60 days, and to have the remaining accrued leave carried forward to a new or extended enlistment. The total of paid and carried forward leave may exceed 60 days.

3. One-Time Leave Payment. An enlisted member of the Armed Forces who would lose accumulated leave in excess of the 120 days in subparagraph 350102.B.1 may elect to be paid for such leave up to 30 days. This election can only be taken once during a career. This leave payment does apply against the 60 days of leave paid during a career as stated in subparagraph 350101.A.2. This one-time payment exception applies to members who:

a. Serve on active duty for a continuous period of at least 120 days in an area in which the member is entitled to hostile fire pay/imminent danger pay;

b. Are assigned to a deployable ship or mobile unit or to other duty designated by the Secretary concerned as qualifying;

c. On or after August 29, 2005, are performing duty designated by the Secretary of Defense as qualifying duty for the purposes of this subparagraph;
or

d. Serve on active duty in a duty assignment in support of a contingency operation.

4. Exceptions to the 60-Day Career Leave Payment Limitation

a. Contingency Operations. The 60-day leave payment limitation does not apply with respect to leave accrued by a member of a Reserve Component or in the Retired Reserve or by a retired member of the Regular Army, Regular Navy, Regular Air Force, or Regular Marine Corps, or a member of the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve during any period while the member also is:

(1) Serving on active duty in support of a contingency operation on or after December 5, 1991, or

(2) Serving on active duty in connection with the Persian Gulf conflict (other than for training) under authority of Title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.), sections [672](#), [688](#), [12302](#), [12304](#), [12306](#), or [12307](#), on or after August 2, 1990.

b. Active Duty of 31 to 365 Days. The 60-day leave payment limitation does not apply to leave accrued by a member of a Reserve Component while serving on active duty, full-time National Guard duty, or active duty for training during a period of more than 30 days, but not in excess of 365 days, beginning on or after October 1, 2001.

c. Death on Active Duty. The 60-day leave payment limitation does not apply to leave accrued by a member who dies while on active duty (or a member or former member who dies after retirement or discharge, but before receiving payment of accrued leave). Payment of accrued leave for a deceased member is based upon the unused accrued leave that he or she carried forward into the leave year in which deceased plus the unused leave that accrued during that leave year, beginning on or after February 10, 1996.

d. Career Leave Payment Total. Unused leave accrued specifically under the conditions of subparagraphs [350101.A.4.a](#) through [350101.A.4.c](#) is additional to the member's career leave payment limitation of 60 days. Such unused excepted leave may be carried forward into a new contract period of active duty and later be eligible for payment in addition to other leave to which the 60-day career ceiling applies. See paragraph [350102](#) for rules that apply to accounting for accrued and used leave, and subparagraph [350103.B](#) for calculating the payment amount and the possible application of the combat zone tax exclusion (CZTE).

Example: On January 1, 2001, a National Guard member on active duty, under [Title 32, U.S.C.](#), is mobilized for 3 years with his unit under [10 U.S.C. 672](#). Although previously paid for career leave of 48 days, the member has elected to carry forward all 32 days of accrued unused leave from the pre-mobilization period. On April 6, 2001, he is discharged and immediately ordered to active duty for another period of 3 years. The member used leave from April 2 through April 5, 2001 (4 days). He has 36 days accrued unused leave at discharge (32 days from his balance brought forward, plus 8 days of

accrued under the mobilization, minus the 4 days of leave used). He may elect to be paid for a maximum of 16 days of leave at discharge, which includes the 12 days up to the 60-day limitation, plus 4 days of excepted leave (earned 8 days of excepted leave less the 4 days used). The remaining balance of 20 days (or more, if he takes payment for less than the full 16 days of leave) may be carried forward into the new active duty period. If payment is made for 12 or less days, then 4 days of the carryover are an exception to the 60-day payment limitation and may be paid in the future if they remain unused.

B. Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, a member sentenced to unsuspended dismissal or unsuspended dishonorable or bad-conduct discharge by court-martial may be required to take leave pending review of the conviction (i.e., appellate leave) as provided by [Article 76a, Uniform Code of Military Justice](#). Such member may elect to be paid in a lump sum for the leave accrued to his or her credit as of the day before the day the leave begins. Otherwise, each day of appellate leave shall be charged as a day of leave and the member paid accordingly until all of the member's accrued leave is used. Payment shall be based on the rate of basic pay to which the member was entitled on the day before the day leave is to begin.

C. A member who is discharged under other than honorable conditions forfeits all accrued leave at the time of discharge and is not entitled to payment for accrued leave, regardless of the length of time the separated member has served.

* D. Except as provided in subsection E below, a member who receives an uncharacterized discharge before completing 6 months of active duty will be considered as having received an honorable discharge with payment of accrued leave being authorized.

* E. A member, who is discharged before completing 6 months of active duty because of failure to serve satisfactorily, forfeits all accrued leave at the time of discharge. Such forfeiture also applies to any member with prior military service who had a break in service of 90 or more consecutive days. The following constitute reasons for failure to serve satisfactorily.

1. Enlisted reasons:
 - a. Defective enlistment and inductions (minority and fraudulent entry only);
 - b. Entry-level performance and conduct;
 - c. Unsatisfactory performance;
 - d. Drug and/or alcohol abuse rehabilitation failure;
 - e. Misconduct; moral and/or professional dereliction;
 - f. Separation in lieu of trial by court-martial; and

g. Security (unless the member receives an honorable discharge).

2. Officers reasons:

a. Separation for cause (e.g., officers separated for substandard performance of duty);

b. Dropped from the rolls;

c. Misconduct; moral and/or [professional dereliction](#);

d. Separation in lieu of trial by court-martial; and

e. Security (unless the member receives an honorable discharge).

350102. Leave Accounting

A. Accrued leave must be carefully accounted for and accurately identified as to the time and circumstances under which it was earned. The number of days accrued and value of unused leave that is to be sold depends upon the timeframe and circumstances under which it was earned.

1. Leave accrued on or before August 31, 1976 is valued using basic pay, basic allowance for housing, basic allowance for subsistence, and, if applicable to the individual, the personal money allowance. This leave is generally called “saved leave.”

2. Leave earned on or after September 1, 1976 is valued using only basic pay.

3. Leave accrued in a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area or while hospitalized as a result of action in such a zone or area is generally known as CZTE leave. See paragraph [440103](#) for full descriptions of the circumstances under which such leave accrues. CZTE leave for enlisted members is exempt from Federal income tax. CZTE leave for officers is exempt from Federal income tax up to a specified limit. See subparagraph 350103.B for a discussion of tax exclusion limits. All leave earned during a month in which a member serves for any period of time in a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area is CZTE leave. A single day of qualifying service in such circumstance qualifies all leave accrued in that month as CZTE leave.

* [4. A member of a Reserve Component who accumulates leave during a period of active service may carry over any accumulated leave to the member’s next period of active service without regard to separation or release from active service if the separation or release is under honorable conditions. This accumulated leave is subject to fiscal year carry](#)

forward limitations (75 days during the period October 1, 2008, to September 30, 2013, and 60 days thereafter).

* B. Leave accrues to a service member serving on active duty for 30 days or more. It is accrued at the rate of 2½ days for each month of active service, excluding periods of absence from duty without or over leave, periods of confinement resulting from courts-martial, and periods of leave required to be taken pending review of court-martial conviction. For partial months, it accrues at the rate of ½ day for any period of 6 days or less. A member may not carry forward a leave balance of more than 60 days into a new fiscal year, except during the period October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2013, when 75 days may be carried forward or when entitled to Special Leave Accrual (SLA), as outlined in 350102.B.1, 350102.B.2, and 350102.B.3. The 75 days of accumulated leave may be carried over from September 30, 2013, to October 1, 2013. Members with 75 days of leave under this provision will need to use 45 days of leave during the period from October 1, 2013, to September 30, 2014; otherwise, leave in excess of 60 days on September 30, 2014, will be lost.

* 1. A member who serves on active duty while entitled to hostile fire/imminent danger pay for a continuous period of at least 120 days may carry forward up to 120 days of SLA into the new fiscal year. Under this exemption, unused leave may be carried forward until the end of the third fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the service in the qualifying hostile fire/imminent danger area is terminated. If the 120 days of SLA were earned during the period October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2013, then unused leave may be carried forward until the end of the fourth fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the service in the qualifying hostile fire/imminent danger area is terminated.

* 2. On or after September 30, 1979, a member not qualifying for SLA for service in a hostile fire/imminent danger area may qualify and carry forward up to 120 days of unused leave when assigned to a designated deployable ship, mobile unit, or other similar prescribed duty. On or after August 29, 2005, a member may also qualify and carry forward up to 120 days of unused leave if he or she is performing qualifying duties as designated by the Secretary concerned. The duty assignment must be under conditions where operational mission requirements prohibit normal leave utilization as determined by the military service concerned or designated commander. Under this exemption, unused SLA leave may be carried forward until the end of the third fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the qualifying service is terminated. If the 120 days of leave were accumulated during the period October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2013, then unused leave may be carried forward until the end of the fourth fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the service in the qualifying assignment or other similar prescribed duty is terminated.

* 3. The maximum amount of SLA leave that may be carried forward is the leave balance at the end of the fiscal year following the end of the SLA period not to exceed 120 days. The maximum amount will be reduced to a new level whenever the leave balance drops below the previously set level. If at any time the leave balance drops to or goes below 60 days, or 75 days during the period October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2013, then there is no longer any SLA protected leave. Therefore, the actual maximum leave that can be carried forward into succeeding fiscal years is the lowest leave balance achieved following the

completion of the SLA duty or the usual 60 days, or 75 days during the period October 1, 2008 to [September 30, 2013](#), whichever is greater. If the SLA qualifying period crosses a fiscal year, then the entire leave balance (not to exceed 120 days) will be carried forward and the leave accrued from the beginning of the new fiscal year through the end of the SLA qualifying period will be added to establish the maximum. Any portion of a leave balance in excess of 60 days which could have been taken before the end of the fiscal year had the member not been assigned to SLA qualifying duty will not be included in the carryover amount.

Example 1: On August 31, 2003, a member had a leave balance of 80 days. On September 15, 2003, he was assigned to duty qualifying for SLA as described in subparagraph 350102.B.1. Had the member not been assigned to SLA duty, he could have possibly taken 15 days leave from September 16 through September 30. If the member had taken leave during this period, then there would still have been a loss of 7.5 days (82.5 days accrued through September 30, less the 15 days potentially taken and the normal 60-day carryover restriction) at the end of the fiscal year. Therefore, since only the portion that potentially could have been taken is protected, the member may carry forward 75 days and will lose 7.5 days of leave.

Example 2: The member in example 1 continued on SLA duty until September 15, 2004. No leave was permitted during this period, and the member's accrued leave totaled 105 days at the end of September. If the leave balance does not drop at any time below 105 days, then it may be carried forward for 3 fiscal years, until September 30, 2007. If the member took 30 days of leave from April 1 through April 30, 2005, then this would result in a leave balance of 92.5 days (105 days accrued through September, plus 17.5 days accrued from October through April, less the 30 days of leave taken) and a new maximum amount of leave that may be carried forward. If no further SLA is earned and the leave balance is not further reduced to a new lower level, then the maximum leave the member may carry forward into succeeding fiscal years (until September 30, 2007) is 92.5 days.

4. Effective January 28, 2008, active duty members who serve in duty assignments in support of a contingency operation are authorized to accumulate annual leave in excess of 60 days, or 75 days for the period October 1, 2008 through [September 30, 2013](#), as shown on the end of month September [Leave and Earnings Statement \(LES\)](#). These members are authorized to retain up to 120 days until the end of the second fiscal year after the fiscal year in which such service on active duty is terminated.

* C. Leave will be accounted for by crediting it sequentially in the chronological order in which it is accrued. Generally, when used, leave will be charged with the [most recently](#) accrued leave charged first. This method is known as [Last In, First Out](#). As an exception, [CZTE](#) leave will be charged first regardless of when it was earned. Saved leave, described in subparagraph 350102.A.1, will be charged last.

Example 1: On August 31, 2001, a member had accrued 65 days of unused leave, 55 days of which had been accrued and remained unused from a period before September 1, 1976 (i.e., saved leave), [10 days of regular leave](#), and zero days of [CZTE](#) leave. The member took leave from September 5 through 24, 2001, a period of 20 days. The leave

taken is first applied to the 12 days accrued since September 1, 1976. This leaves 8 days to apply to the saved leave, reducing that balance to 47 days.

Example 2: On August 31, 2001, a member had accrued 75.5 days of unused leave, 55 days of which had been accrued and remained unused from a period before September 1, 1976 (i.e., saved leave), 13 days of regular leave, and 7.5 days of accrued unused CZTE leave. The CZTE leave had been earned for two separate periods, 5 days for active service from January 2 through February 6, 2001 in a combat zone, and 2.5 days for active service from August 7 through August 30, 2001 in a qualified hazardous duty area. The member took leave from September 5 through September 24, 2001, a period of 20 days. The leave taken is first applied to the 7.5 days of CZTE leave. This leaves 12.5 days to be applied to the non-CZTE leave earned since September 1, 1976, reducing that balance to 2.5 days as of September 24, 2001. The saved leave balance remains at 55 days.

350103. Leave Payments and Taxability

A. Payments for accrued leave are normally subject to taxation and income tax withholding. Payments for saved leave accrued before September 1, 1976, will also include non-taxable allowances. See Table 35-5 for determining the elements of pay to use in the computation of accrued leave payments.

B. Payments for CZTE leave are tax-exempt from Federal taxation and not subject to Federal or State income tax withholding up to the monthly limit specified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). That limit is different for enlisted members and officers. The limit is fully described in subparagraph 440102.A, summarized as follows:

1. Enlisted members (E-1 and above) and warrant officers (W-1 through W-5) have no limitation or ceiling on the value of payments exempt from Federal or State taxes and Federal tax withholding for any month in which they qualify for an exemption.

2. Officers (O-1 and above) are subject to a limit on the value of federal tax exempt payments and from exemption from federal and state tax withholding for each month in which they qualify for an exemption. Since November 21, 1995, the exemption amount for officers has been set at the value of the highest rate of enlisted basic pay plus the value of any hostile fire or imminent danger pay the officer may have been entitled to in that qualifying month. The applicable rate of enlisted basic pay would be that listed in Chapter 1, Table 1-10, Note 2, for the corresponding qualifying month. To determine whether the limitation will apply to a payment for accrued unused leave, the leave must be allocated to the months in which earned and for which the officer qualified for CZTE status. The value of the leave for each individual month must be added to any payments the officer has received for that tax exempt month and the total compared to the monthly limitation amount. Tax exemption may only be given for the value of that portion of the CZTE leave that does not exceed the limitation available. Any payments for CZTE leave value that exceed the limitation available will be treated as taxable income.

Example: A Reserve Component O-6 with over 12 years service began active duty on [March 25, 2012](#), and reported temporary additional duty to a designated combat zone on [March 26, 2012](#). He departed the zone on [May 2, 2012](#), and was separated from active duty and paid for unused accrued leave on [May 4, 2012](#). The officer was entitled to monthly basic pay of [\\$7,232.40](#) and to imminent danger pay of [\\$225](#). The monthly basic pay for the most senior enlisted member in each military service was [\\$7,489.80](#) per month during that period. The officer has been paid for his active duty service and is awaiting payment for his earned leave. He had previously sold back 58 days of leave at the end of other active duty periods. The officer earned .5 days of leave in [March](#) and in [May](#) and 2.5 days for [April](#). This is a total of 3.5 days leave, and when added to the 58 days previously sold, would exceed the maximum of 60 days that may be sold in a career. This leave, however, is exempt from payment limitation since the Reserve officer was on active duty for a period of more than 30 but less than 366 days. Payment of the .5 days of leave for both [March](#) and [May](#) is fully exempt from income tax and income tax withholding since the prior tax-free payments for his basic pay and hostile fire/imminent danger pay in those 2 months was well below the tax exemption limitation value of [\\$7,714.80](#) (senior enlisted basic pay of [\\$7,489.80](#) and hostile fire/imminent danger pay of [\\$225](#)). However; only a portion of the 2.5 days of unused accrued leave attributable to [April](#) is exempt from income tax and income tax withholding. The officer has already received tax-exempt treatment of his [April](#) salary and imminent danger pay using all but [\\$257.40](#) of his available exemption (exemption equals [\\$7,714.80](#) and the amount used was the officer's base pay of [\\$7,232.40](#) plus the hostile fire/imminent danger pay of [\\$225](#), equal to [\\$7,457.40](#)). The 2.5 days of leave is valued at [\\$602.70](#), leaving [\\$345.30](#) of the leave payment subject to tax and tax withholding.

350104. Leave Payments and Debts

Payments for accrued leave may be used to satisfy debts to the [United States \(U.S.\) Government](#) without restriction.

350105. Leave Payment to Beneficiaries

Payments for accrued leave owed at death will be paid to the eligible beneficiary or beneficiaries under the provisions of section [3602](#).

A. If a member dies while on active duty of 30 days or more, then the accrued leave is payable along with all other unpaid pay and allowances to the eligible beneficiary.

* B. If a member or former member dies after retirement or discharge, but before receiving any or all compensation for accrued leave, then the balance is payable to the eligible beneficiary and claims for payment must be submitted to the appropriate following address:

Army and Air Force Members

Director
DFAS-Indianapolis
DFAS-PMTEC/IN
8899 E. 56th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46249-0845

Navy Members

Director
DFAS-Cleveland
DFAS-JFLADA
1240 E. 9th Street
Cleveland, OH 44199-2055

Marine Corps Members

Director
DFAS-Cleveland
DFAS-JFLTC
1240 E. 9th Street
Cleveland, OH 44199-2055

3502 SEPARATION PAY (NONDISABILITY)

350201. Entitlement

A. Full Separation Pay. Beginning on June 20, 1991, full payment of non-disability separation pay has been authorized to Military Service members of the Regular and Reserve Components who have been involuntarily separated from active duty and have met each of the following four conditions:

1. The member has met one of the following criteria for active military service:

a. The member is on active duty or full-time National Guard duty and has completed at least 6 years, but less than 20 years, of active service. Reserve members not on the active duty list when separated must have 6 years of continuous active duty or full-time National Guard duty immediately preceding separation. A period of active duty is considered continuous if any break in active service does not exceed 30 days.

b. The member (other than a Regular enlisted member) was on active duty or full-time National Guard duty on November 5, 1990, and on that date had 5 or more, but less than 6, years of active service. Reserve members not on the active duty when separated must have 5 years of continuous active duty or full-time National Guard duty immediately preceding separation. A period of active duty is considered continuous if any break in active service does not exceed 30 days.

c. Effective December 1, 1993, a member who is a Regular officer and is separated under [10 U.S.C. chapter 36](#) (except under sections [630\(1\)\(A\)](#) or [643](#) of such chapter or under 10 U.S.C. [580](#) or [6383](#)) must have completed at least 6 years, but less than 20 years, of active service.

d. The member, who is a Regular officer and is separated under [10 U.S.C. chapter 36](#) (except under sections [630\(1\)\(A\)](#) or [643](#) of such chapter, or under 10 U.S.C. sections [580](#) or [6383](#)) must have completed 5 or more years, but less than 6 years, of active service on November 30, 1993.

2. The member's separation must be characterized as "honorable" and none of the conditions apply that are listed in paragraph 350202.

3. A member who is separated involuntarily through either the denial of reenlistment or the denial of continuation on active duty or full-time National Guard duty must meet one of the following four specific conditions:

a. The member must be fully qualified for retention but denied reenlistment or continuation. This includes a Military Service member who is eligible for promotion as established by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned, but is denied reenlistment or continuation on active duty under established promotion or high year of tenure policies.

b. The member must be fully qualified for retention but involuntarily separated under a Reduction in Force by authority designated by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned.

c. The member, if a Regular officer, commissioned or warrant, must be separated under [10 U.S.C. 580](#), [1165](#), or [6383](#), or [Chapter 36](#); if a Reserve commissioned officer other than a commissioned warrant officer must be separated or transferred to the retired Reserve under [10 U.S.C.](#) chapters [573](#) or [861](#), or, if a Reserve commissioned officer on the active duty list or a Reserve warrant officer must be separated for similar reasons under Military Service policies.

d. The member must be denied reenlistment or continuation on active duty or full-time National Guard duty under subparagraphs 350201.A.3.a through 350201.A.3.c, and have accepted an earlier separation from active duty.

4. The member must have entered into a written agreement with the Military Service concerned to serve in the Ready Reserve of a Reserve Component of the Armed Forces for a minimum period of 3 years following the separation from active duty.

a. A member who enters into this written agreement and who is qualified for service in the Ready Reserve will, upon separation from active duty, be enlisted or appointed, as appropriate, as a Reserve member by the Military Service concerned. If the person has a service obligation under [10 U.S.C. 651](#) or any other law that is not completed at the

time of separation from active duty, then the 3-year obligation begins on the day after the day on which the member completes the prior obligation.

b. A member who enters into this written agreement and who is not qualified for enlistment or appointment in the Ready Reserves need not be enlisted or appointed by the Military Service concerned to be considered to have met this condition of eligibility for separation pay.

B. Sole Survivorship Discharge

1. A sole survivorship discharge is the separation of a member from the Armed Forces at the member's request when the member is the only surviving child in a family in which:

a. The father, mother, or one or more siblings served in the Armed Forces; and who was killed, died as a result of wounds, accident, or disease; or is in a captured or missing in action status; or is permanently 100 percent disabled or hospitalized on a continuing basis (and is not employed gainfully because of the disability or hospitalization); and

b. The death, status, or disability did not result from the intentional misconduct or willful neglect of the parent or sibling and was not incurred during a period of unauthorized absence.

2. A member who receives a sole survivorship discharge shall be entitled to full separation pay even though the member completed less than 6 years of active service immediately before that discharge.

3. The amount of the full separation pay to be paid shall be based on the years of active service actually completed by the member before the member's discharge.

4. These sole survivorship discharge provisions shall apply to any sole survivorship discharge granted after September 11, 2001.

5. Effective October 28, 2009, members who receive a sole survivorship discharge shall not be required to repay any unearned bonus, incentive pay, or similar benefit previously paid to the member.

6. Effective October 28, 2009, the Secretary concerned may grant an exception to the requirement to terminate the payment of any unpaid amounts of a bonus, incentive pay, or similar benefit if he determines that termination of the payment of the unpaid amounts would be contrary to a personnel policy or management objective, would be against equity and good conscience, or would be contrary to the best interests of the United States.

* C. Half Separation Pay. Half payment of non-disability separation pay is authorized to members of the Regular and Reserve Components who are involuntarily separated from active duty and have met each of the following four conditions: (NOTE: In extraordinary

instances, the Secretary of the Military Service concerned may award full separation pay to a member otherwise eligible for half separation pay when the specific reasons for the separation and the overall quality of the member's service have been such that denial of full separation pay would be clearly unjust.)

1. The member must meet one of the criteria for active service specified in subparagraph 350201.A.1.

2. The member's separation must be characterized as "honorable" or "general," and none of the conditions apply that are listed in paragraph 350202.

3. The member must be separated involuntarily by the Military Service concerned through either the denial of reenlistment or the denial of continuation on active duty or full-time National Guard Duty under one of the following specific conditions:

a. The member is not fully qualified for retention and is denied reenlistment or continuation under any of the following conditions:

- (1) Expiration of service obligation; or
- (2) Selected changes in service obligation; or
- (3) Convenience of the government; or
- (4) Drug abuse rehabilitation failure; or
- (5) Alcohol abuse rehabilitation failure; or
- (6) Security; or
- (7) Weight control failure.

b. The member must be separated under a Military Service specific program established as a half-payment level by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned.

c. The member must be denied reenlistment or continuation on active duty or full-time National Guard duty under subparagraphs 350201.C.3.a and 350201.C.3.b, and accept an earlier separation from active duty.

4. The member must have entered into a written agreement with the Military Service concerned to serve in the Ready Reserve for a minimum period of 3 years following separation from active duty.

a. A member who enters into this written agreement and is qualified for the Ready Reserve will, upon separation from active duty, be enlisted or appointed,

as appropriate, as a Reserve member by the Military Service concerned. If the person has a service obligation under [10 U.S.C. 651](#) or any other law that is not completed at the time of separation from active duty, then the 3-year obligation begins on the day after the day on which the member completes the prior obligation.

b. A member who enters into this written agreement and is not qualified for enlistment or appointment in the Ready Reserve need not be enlisted or appointed by the Military Service concerned to be considered to have met this condition of eligibility for separation pay.

350202. Limitations of Eligibility

Military Service members separated under the following circumstances are not eligible for separation pay:

A. The member is separated from active duty at the member's own request. The following are considered to be separations at the member's own request:

1. A member declines training that the Military Service offers to qualify for a new skill or rating as a precondition to reenlistment or continuation on active duty;

2. A member requests separation under regulations established by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned as provided for in [Department of Defense \(DoD\) Directives 1332.14](#) and [1332.30](#); or

3. A Reserve officer declines a Regular appointment at the mandatory integration point when an all-regular career force program is implemented by the Secretary concerned;

B. The member is separated from active duty during an initial term of enlistment or an initial period of obligated service. The initial term of enlistment or initial period of obligated service is the active service obligation that the member incurred upon initial enlistment or upon enrollment in a commissioning program. This limitation also applies to a member who desires to reenlist or continue at the conclusion of the initial term of enlistment or an initial period of obligation and is denied by the Military Service concerned;

C. The member is released from active duty for training or from full-time National Guard duty for training;

D. The member is immediately eligible at separation for retired or retainer pay based upon his or her military service;

E. The member is a warrant officer whose appointment is terminated and who then elects to enlist;

- F. The member is separated as a result of the execution of a court-martial sentence;
- G. The member is being dropped from the rolls of the Military Service concerned;
- H. The member is being separated under other than honorable conditions;
- I. The member is an enlisted member who is separated for unsatisfactory performance or misconduct, as set forth in [DoD Directive 1332.14](#), except when half-pay is authorized in subparagraph 350201.C;
- J. The member is an officer who is separated for substandard performance or acts of misconduct or moral or professional dereliction, except when half pay is authorized in subparagraph 350201.C.
- K. The member is separated under a Military Service-specific program established as a no-payment level by the Secretary concerned.
- L. A determination is made by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned in an extraordinary case that the conditions under which the member is separated do not warrant a separation payment. This authority is not to be delegated. It is intended that only sparing use will be made of this discretionary authority to deny payment.
- M. A Regular officer having twice failed for selection for the promotion to the next higher grade is not entitled to separation pay if that officer, after such second failure of selection for promotion, is selected for, and declines, continuation on active duty for a period that is equal to or more than the amount of service required to qualify the officer for retirement; or
- N. A Reserve officer who, is not selected for promotion to the next higher grade for the second time and is to be discharged or released from active duty, and who after such failure of promotion, is selected for and declines continuation on active duty:
1. If the period of time for which the officer was selected for continuation on active duty is less than the amount of service that would be required to qualify the officer for retirement, then the officer's discharge or release from active duty shall be considered to be involuntary.
 2. If the period of time for which the officer was selected for continuation on active duty is equal to or more than the amount of service that would be required to qualify the officer for retirement, then the officer's discharge or release from active duty shall not be considered to be involuntary.

350203. Computation of Active Service

Compute active service time as follows:

A. Qualifying years, except as noted in subparagraph 350201.A.1, do not have to be continuous; however, the last phase of the qualifying term must end immediately before the separation from active duty occurs.

B. Compute fractions of years in the following manner:

1. Separation Pay. Beginning September 24, 1983, each full month of military service that is in addition to the number of full years of active service has been counted as 1/12 of a year. Disregard any remaining fractional part of a month.

2. Readjustment or Severance Pay. Six months or more is counted as a whole year, and disregard any part less than 6 months. (NOTE: In computing readjustment pay, the minimum eligibility of 5 full years of continuous active duty must be met first.)

C. Periods for which a Military Service member previously has received separation pay, severance pay, or readjustment pay may be counted for eligibility purposes (to ensure the member meets the minimum required years of active duty), but may not be used in the multiplier to determine the amount of separation pay for a subsequent separation.

D. Count periods of active military service in a Regular or Reserve Component. Include active duty for training performed on or after August 10, 1956.

E. Do not include periods of absence without leave, confinement time awaiting trial that results in a conviction, confinement time while serving a court-martial sentence, and time lost while not in the line of duty. Count time in service to make up for lost time.

F. Do not include service as a cadet or midshipman while in a Military Service academy or a Reserve Officer Training Program.

350204. Computation of Separation Pay

A. Compute full separation pay at 10 percent of 12 times the amount of monthly basic pay to which entitled at the time of separation from active duty, times the active service time as computed in paragraph 350203. [Table 35-6 also contains information related to computation of full separation pay.](#)

B. Compute “half separation pay” at 50 percent of what the full separation pay would have been. [Table 35-6 also contains information related to computation of half separation pay.](#)

350205. Recouplement of Separation Pay From Retired or Retainer Pay or From Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Disability Compensation

Except as provided under subparagraph 350205.C, military members who receive separation pay, severance pay, or readjustment pay under any provisions of law based on service in the Armed Forces, and, subsequently, either qualify for retired or retainer pay under [10 U.S.C.](#), [14 U.S.C.](#), or become eligible for disability compensation administered by the VA, are subject to the recoupment of the gross taxable separation, severance, or readjustment pay they received. [Recoupment](#) from retired [pay](#), retainer pay, or VA disability compensation [shall be completed](#) as follows:

A. [Retired Pay](#). Recoupment shall be accomplished through monthly deductions from each payment of retired or retainer pay payable to the retired member until the total amount of the deductions equals the gross taxable amount of separation, severance, or readjustment pay received by the member. (NOTE: See Volume 7B, Chapter 4 of the DoD FMR for guidance on the calculation of the recoupment.)

B. [VA Disability Compensation](#). Recoupment shall be accomplished through a deduction from the VA disability compensation payable to the retired member in an amount that is equal to the gross taxable amount of separation, severance, or readjustment pay made after September 30, 1996. The amount to be deducted from the VA disability compensation shall be equal to the gross taxable amount of such separation, severance, or readjustment pay, less the amount of Federal income tax withheld from such pay at the flat withholding rate for supplemental payments prescribed under [Publication 15, Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service](#). This reduction, however, shall not apply to disability compensation for which the entitlement to that disability compensation is based on a later period of active duty than the period of active duty for which the separation pay, severance, or readjustment was received.

C. [Repay Severance or Readjustment Pay](#). Notwithstanding subparagraphs 350205.A and 350205.B, members who received severance or readjustment pay before September 15, 1981, and who, on or after September 15, 1981, became entitled to retired or retainer pay under [10 U.S.C.](#) or [14 U.S.C.](#), are required to repay the severance or readjustment pay, in accordance with the laws in effect on September 14, 1981.

350206. Availability to Liquidate Debts

Separation pay under this section may be used to liquidate debts to the U.S. Government.

3503 SAVINGS PROVISIONS FOR READJUSTMENT AND SEVERANCE PAY (OTHER THAN DISABILITY)

350301. Basic Conditions of Entitlement

A. This section is applicable only to members who were on active duty (other than for training) on September 14, 1981, and after such date are involuntarily discharged or released from active duty. Members entitled to readjustment or severance pay under this section and separation pay under section 3502 may not receive both, but shall elect which they will receive. If no election is made, then members will receive the amount that is most favorable to them.

B. With respect to members discharged or released on or after October 19, 1984, members have not been entitled to readjustment or severance pay if the Secretary of the Military Department concerned determines that the conditions under which the discharge or separation occurs do not warrant such pay. It is intended that this discretionary authority to deny payment will be sparingly used. This provision does not apply to Regular officers who have completed 5 or more, but less than 20 years of service, who are involuntarily discharged, or released from active duty because of failure to be selected for promotion.

350302. Effect on Retired Pay or VA Compensation

A. Procedures when received after September 14, 1981. See paragraph 350205 for procedures when readjustment or severance pay is received after September 14, 1981.

B. Refund Upon Retirement. A Reserve member who received a readjustment payment on separation after June 28, 1962 and before September 15, 1981, and who later qualified for retired or retainer pay under 10 U.S.C. or 14 U.S.C. (upon completing 20 years of active service), must refund 75 percent of the gross readjustment pay, without interest, by immediate deduction from retired or retainer pay. This was not required if readjustment pay had been waived or refunded under subparagraph 350302.C.

C. Waiver or Refund Before Retirement. A member may waive entitlement to readjustment pay. Also, the full amount of such pay may be refunded before retirement. Under either condition, the member shall receive retired or retainer pay immediately upon retirement or transfer to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve.

D. VA Disability Compensation. When a member who receives readjustment pay before September 15, 1981, becomes entitled to VA disability compensation, the VA has deducted 75 percent of the readjustment payment from future VA compensation. The VA does not make a deduction when VA disability compensation is based on a later period of service. A member who elected, on or before June 27, 1962, to receive readjustment pay in lieu of VA disability compensation may have been awarded disability compensation effective on and after June 28, 1962. The VA reduces the disability compensation by 75 percent of the readjustment payment, unless readjustment pay was waived or refunded.

350303. Entitlement to and Computation of Readjustment Pay

Conditions of entitlement are in Tables 35-7 and 35-8. Table 35-9 shows how readjustment pay is computed.

350304. Computation of a 5-Year Continuous Period

To compute the 5 years of continuous active duty needed to qualify for readjustment pay, follow these rules:

A. Breaks in Service. Breaks in service of 30 days or less do not destroy the continuity of active duty (even though two or more breaks total more than 30 days). The time covered by such breaks, however, must be excluded in computing the minimum 5 years of active duty.

NOTE: Do not consider absent without leave, confinement, time awaiting trial which results in conviction, time lost through intemperate use of drugs or alcohol, or time lost through disease or injury resulting from misconduct as “breaks in service.”

B. Active Duty for Training. Include active duty for training performed on and after August 10, 1956.

C. Service Component. Combine service in the Regular Component with service in a Reserve Component.

D. Officer or Enlisted Service. Combine duty as an enlisted member and as a commissioned or warrant officer.

E. Other Branch of Service. The 5-year period continuous active duty need not be performed in the same Military Service.

F. Home Awaiting Orders. Do not include time spent at home awaiting active duty orders.

350305. Computation of Active Service.

See paragraph 350203.

350306. Entitlement to and Computation of Severance Pay (Other Than Disability).
See Table 35-10.

350307. Availability to Liquidate Debts

Readjustment and severance pay under this section may be used to liquidate debts to the U.S. Government.

3504 DISABILITY SEVERANCE PAY

*350401. Entitlement

A member separated from the Military Service for physical disability is entitled to severance pay if qualified as prescribed in personnel regulations of the Military Service concerned. When a member is entitled to disability severance pay, separation orders specify this entitlement. Academy cadets and midshipmen may be entitled to severance pay if it is determined that they have a qualifying disability, and they have separated as a result of that disability.

350402. Disability Incurred During Non-pay Status

A member who incurs a disability while in a total pay forfeiture status is not entitled to disability severance pay. This is true even though the Secretary of the Military Service concerned remits the unexecuted portion of the sentence, including all uncollected forfeitures.

350403. Computation

A. Formula. To compute disability severance pay, multiply the sum of basic pay for 2 months by the number of combined years (but not over 19) of active service and inactive duty points. Do not include as basic pay the 25-percent increase prescribed under certain conditions for a Navy or Marine Corps member retained on active duty after enlistment expires.

B. Years of Service. There is no minimum amount of performed service time required to be eligible for disability severance pay. The member's separation orders will specify the total combined years of active service and inactive duty points to be counted in computing severance pay. Round this total to the nearest whole year, with 6 months or more rounded up. The maximum number of years of service for computing the disability severance pay will be 19 years. The minimum number of years for computation purposes shall be:

1. Six years in the case of a member separated from the Armed Forces for a disability incurred in the line of duty in a combat zone (as designated by the Secretary of Defense) or incurred during the performance of duty in combat-related operations as designated by the Secretary of Defense, or

2. Three years in the case of any other member.

C. Grade at Which Disability Severance Pay is Computed. Compute severance pay on basic pay of the following highest grade or rank described:

1. The grade or rank in which the member is serving at separation;

2. The permanent Reserve grade held at separation;

3. The highest temporary or permanent grade or rank in which member served satisfactorily as determined by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned; or

4. For those selected for promotion, if the disability is found during a physical examination, then the grade or rank to which the member would have been promoted if there were no disability.

Example An E-6 has 11 years, 4 months, and 9 days of active service and 76 inactive duty training periods ("points") on the date of separation for physical disability. Compute the entitlement as follows:

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \text{ years, 4 months, 9 days} = 11.3583 \text{ years} \\ 76 \text{ "points"} / 360 = .2111 \text{ years} \\ \hline \text{Total Service} = 11.5694 \text{ years} \end{array}$$

Since it is a decimal greater than .5, round the total upward to 12 years. 12 years times 2 months of basic pay of an E-6 over 10 equals amount of disability severance pay.

NOTE: For purposes of this calculation, the number of points that may be considered may not exceed 60 points for any 1 anniversary year that closed before September 23, 1996, 75 points for anniversary years that closed on or after September 23, 1996, but before October 30, 2000, and 90 points for anniversary years that close on or after October 30, 2000.

350404. Taxability and Withholding

A. General. Disability severance pay is normally taxable income. However, it is not subject to tax withholding or reporting if at least one of the following three conditions exists:

1. On September 24, 1975, the individual was either a member of a Uniformed Service or was under a binding written commitment to become a member.

2. The entitlement resulted from combat-related injury or illness, as determined by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned (or designee), which happens as a result of any of the following activities:

- a. As a direct result of armed conflict;
- b. While actually performing extra-hazardous service, even if the service does not directly involve combat;
- c. Under conditions simulating war, including maneuvers or training;
- d. By an instrumentality of war, such as weapons; or

3. The member has official notification from the VA approving entitlement to disability compensation for the same illness or injury that caused the entitlement to disability severance pay.

B. Withholding Taxes. Withhold income taxes from all payments of disability severance pay unless the member qualifies for an exemption under subparagraph 350404.A. Finance or personnel officers should advise members that their taxable payments of disability severance pay will become nontaxable if, later in the same tax year or in a subsequent tax year, the VA awards the member disability compensation for the same illness or injury for which the member was paid disability severance pay. See subparagraphs 350404.C and 350404.D for how to obtain a refund of the income taxes withheld from disability severance pay

that becomes non-taxable as a result of the VA's award, at a later date, of VA disability compensation.

NOTE: The VA may award disability compensation in either the same tax year or a subsequent tax year in which a member is paid disability severance pay. Once a member is awarded disability compensation, a refund of the income taxes withheld may be requested as discussed in subparagraphs 350404.C and 350404.D.

C. VA Disability Compensation Awarded in the Tax Year of the Disability Severance Pay Payment. Finance or personnel officers should advise members that a refund of taxes withheld from the gross taxable amount of their disability severance pay payment may be obtained from the supporting [Defense Finance and Accounting Service \(DFAS\)](#) site if disability compensation from the VA is awarded in the same tax year in which the member received disability severance pay. To obtain a refund from the servicing DFAS site, the member's tax refund request must be received and processed by December 31st of the year in which the disability severance pay payment was paid, along with documentation evidencing the VA's award of disability compensation in the same year for the same injury or illness that established the member's entitlement to disability severance pay. A corrected [IRS](#) Form W-2 ("Wage and Tax Statement") reducing the member's taxable wages by the gross amount of the disability severance payment amount may be issued when supporting documentary evidence of the same year VA award is received after the cutoff date.

D. VA Disability Compensation Awarded in a Tax Year Subsequent to the Year of the Disability Severance Pay Payment. Finance or personnel officers should advise members that a refund for income taxes withheld from their disability severance pay payment must be obtained from the IRS when the date of the VA's award of disability compensation is in a calendar year subsequent to the year in which the member received disability severance pay. No prior year corrected TD Form W-2 may be issued to the member, since the member's disability severance pay was taxable at the time of payment. The member should also be advised to submit the appropriate documentation from the VA along with related separation documents to claim a reduction in that year's taxable income.

350405. Availability to Liquidate Debts

Disability severance pay may be used to liquidate debts to the U.S. Government.

350406. Recoupment From VA Compensation

The VA deducts disability severance compensation from any VA compensation for the same disability to which the member or member's dependents become entitled under any law administered by the VA. There are two exceptions:

A. No deduction will be made in the case of disability severance pay received by a member for a disability incurred in the line of duty in a combat zone or incurred during performance of duty in combat-related operations as designated by the Secretary of Defense.

B. No deduction will be made from any death compensation to which a member's dependents become entitled after the member's death.

350407. Other Benefits and Claims

A member paid disability severance pay is not entitled to any payment from the Military Service for, or arising out of, service before separation. This does not prohibit payment if an amount is due the member on the date of separation or if a claim is allowed under law.

3505 CONTRACT CANCELLATION PAY AND ALLOWANCES

350501. Entitlement

Reserve members released from active duty (other than for training) without their consent before the end of their active duty agreement made under [10 U.S.C. 12311\(a\)](#) are entitled to a special payment under [10 U.S.C. 12312](#). This payment is in addition to any pay and allowances to which the member is otherwise entitled.

350502. Computation

To compute the amount payable, multiply the number of years and fraction of years of the unexpired period of service under the contract by the sum of basic pay, special pay, and allowances for 1 month to which the member is entitled on the day of release. Count a fraction of a month that is 15 days or more as a whole month and disregard a fraction of a month that is less than 15 days. Separation orders show the number of years and months of unexpired service for which contract cancellation pay and allowances are payable.

350503. Restrictions

A member is not entitled to the special payment authorized by this section if:

- A. Dismissed or discharged under the sentence of a court-martial;
- B. Released because of an unexplained absence without leave of at least 3 months;
- C. Released because of conviction and sentence to confinement in a federal or state penitentiary or correctional institution which sentence has become final;
- D. Released because of a physical disability resulting from intentional misconduct or willful neglect;
- E. Eligible for retired pay, separation pay, or severance pay under another provision of law (this restriction does not apply to readjustment pay);
- F. Placed on a temporary disability retired list; or

G. Released to accept an appointment, or to be enlisted, in a Regular Component of an Armed Force.

350504. Withholding Tax.

Contract cancellation pay is subject to withholding tax.

350505. Availability to Liquidate Debts.

Contract cancellation pay may be used to liquidate debts to the U.S. Government.

3506 MISCELLANEOUS SEPARATION PAYMENTS

350601. Discharge Gratuity.

See Table 35-11.

350602. Travel Allowance on Separation.

See [Joint Federal Travel Regulations \(JFTR\), paragraph U5125](#), and [Volume 9](#) of the DoD FMR.

3507 SPECIAL SEPARATION BENEFIT (SSB)

350701. Entitlement

A member who separates voluntarily from a Military Service before December 31, 2001 could, under conditions prescribed by the Secretary concerned, elect to receive a special separation benefit (SSB). Such a member must have met each of the following conditions:

A. Time-in-service requirements:

1. A member separating prior to November 30, 1993 must have served for more than 6 years on active duty, full-time National Guard duty, or any combination thereof before December 5, 1991, but have less than 20 years of service creditable for retirement.

2. A member separating on or after November 30, 1993 must have served for more than 6 years on active duty, full-time National Guard duty, or any combination thereof, but less than 20 years of service creditable for retirement;

B. The member must have completed an initial term of enlistment or initial period of obligated service prior to separation;

C. The member must have served at least 5 years of continuous active duty, full-time National Guard duty, or any combination thereof immediately prior to the date of separation;

D. The member must not be eligible immediately for retired or retainer pay because of Military Service;

E. The Secretary of the Military Service concerned must approve the member's application for voluntary separation before the member may receive payment;

F. The member must have entered into a written agreement to serve in the Ready Reserve for a period of not less than 3 years following separation. If the member had any other service obligation remaining unfulfilled at the time of separation, then the new 3 year period of obligated service began on the day after the day the member completed such period of prior obligated service;

G. The member's separation must not have resulted from release from a period of active duty for training; and

H. The member must not have been approved for payment of variable separation incentive (VSI). (See section 3508.)

350702. Computation

Upon approval and upon receipt of the member's election to receive SSB, pay the member a lump sum computed according to this formula: Multiply the rate of monthly basic pay on the date of separation times 12 times the years of active service times 0.15.

A. Compute years of active service according to the formula in subparagraphs 350203.B.1, D, E, and F. Do not count any period of prior military service for which the member has received separation pay, severance pay, or readjustment pay under any provision of law relating to members of the Uniformed Services. When computing partial years of service, round fractional parts of a year to the nearest 1/10 of 1 percent, or 3 decimal places. For example, if the member has 11 years and 5 months of service, then the year multiplier in the formula would be 11.417.

B. Withhold Federal and state taxes at the rate appropriate for one-time payments.

C. Deduct from the remaining balance any debt owed the United States.

D. Do not collect Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes.

E. Payment will be made on, but in no cases prior to, date of separation.

F. For separations after November 11, 1993, reduce the gross amount of the SSB payment by the gross amount of any of the following bonuses that the member received during the calendar year in which the member is separating with entitlement to SSB:

1. Multiyear special pay, section 0502;

2. Enlistment/reenlistment bonus of any type, section 0901 and paragraphs 570402, 570403, and 570404;
3. Nuclear officer career accession bonus, [paragraph 030101](#);
4. Nuclear career annual incentive bonus, [paragraph 030103](#);
5. Nuclear officer accession bonus, [paragraph 030101](#);
6. Aviator retention bonus, Chapter 20;
7. Registered nurse accession bonus, section 2101; or
8. Bonus for critical acquisition positions ([37 U.S.C. 317](#)); but do not effect this reduction if the member separates within 1 year of the date of termination of the period for which the bonus has been paid. Do not reduce any payment to less than zero. The date the bonus is received means the date on which the bonus is payable. Reduction in SSB entitlement and collection of unearned bonuses because of failure to fulfill the contract under which the bonus was paid are two separate actions. If the reduction in SSB equals or exceeds the bonus recoupment required elsewhere in this volume, then no further action is necessary. If, however, the SSB reduction is less than the required bonus recoupment, then the difference remains as a debt [owed](#) by the member.

Example 1: On March 1, 1993, the member reenlisted for 4 years with entitlement to selective reenlistment bonus (SRB) in the amount of \$18,000. The member received one-half of the bonus at reenlistment, with the remainder paid in three annual installments: \$3,000 each on March 1, 1994, 1995, and 1996. The member separated under the SSB program on December 31, 1993, with a SSB entitlement in the gross amount of \$28,000. Since the member received the bonus in the same calendar year in which separating under the SSB, the member's gross SSB entitlement was reduced by \$9,000, the gross amount of the bonus paid. Since collection of the unearned SRB would have amounted to only \$5,250, (\$9,000 SRB paid minus the bonus earned for 10 months at \$375 per month), no further collection was required.

Example 2: The facts are the same except the member separated on September 30, 1996. Since the separation event occurred within 1 year of the date of termination of the bonus period, no reduction was made from the SSB payment. Since the member did not complete 5 months of the period for which he received the bonus, however, she was indebted to the U.S. in the amount of \$1,875 (unearned bonus for 5 months at \$375 per month). This amount was collectible from any funds otherwise due at separation, including the SSB payment.

Example 3: The facts are the same except the member separates under the SSB program on December 31, 1994. Since the member separated during a year in which she had received an SRB installment, the first action was to reduce her SSB entitlement by the amount of the March 1, 1994: \$3,000 installment. This reduced her SSB to \$25,000 (before taxes); however, the member only served 22 months of the reenlistment, so she earned only

\$8,250 of the total bonus of \$12,000 she had received (22 months at \$375 per month). Her gross debt for the unearned bonus was \$12,000 minus \$8,250, or \$3,750. That debt was reduced by the \$3,000 reduction in her SSB entitlement, leaving a debt of \$750 to be collected from final pay, including her net SSB entitlement.

350703. Forfeiture and Recoupment

A. A deduction shall be made from a member who has received SSB and later qualifies for retired or retainer pay. The deduction shall be a portion of such retired or retainer pay until an amount equal to the gross amount of such SSB has been deducted. See Volume 7B, Chapter 4, section 0407 of the DoD FMR for details of the recoupment formula.

B. A deduction shall be made from a member who has received SSB and qualifies for benefits under the law as administered by VA. The deduction from such benefits shall be the gross amount of SSB paid to the member. Effective for payments of SSB that are made after September 30, 1996, the amount subject to recoupment under this paragraph is the total gross amount of SSB paid, less the amount of Federal income tax withheld from such pay (such withholding being at the flat withholding rate for Federal income tax withholding, as in effect pursuant to regulations prescribed under Publication 15, Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service). There shall be no such deduction, however, if the disability for which the member receives compensation was incurred or aggravated during a period of later active duty.

C. Subsequent receipt of basic pay for active or Reserve service, of muster duty allowance, or of compensation for a period of inactive duty training does not require the forfeiture of an SSB.

D. If the member does not complete the required 3 years service in the Ready Reserve, for reasons other than through no fault of the member, then collect on a pro rata basis any unearned portion of the member's SSB from the date of his or her failure to maintain Reserve affiliation through the date of the 3-year commitment. The member's Reserve Personnel Activity will certify when he or she does not complete the Reserve commitment through personal fault.

Example: A member separated on June 30, 1995 with an SSB entitlement of \$64,000 and a commitment to serve in the Ready Reserve through June 29, 1998. Effective December 17, 1997, the member was separated from his Reserve unit, through fault of the member as certified by the servicing personnel activity. The member was credited with serving a total of 2 years and 6 months of Reserve service using the following computation method (if more than 14 days round up; if less than 15 disregard):

<u>YR</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>DAY</u>	
97	12	17	
<u>-95</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>30</u>	
02	05	17	
		+ <u>01</u>	(inclusive day)
02	05	18	

The unearned portion of the SSB was 6/36 of \$64,000, or \$10,667. A debt against the member was established in that amount.

E. A member whose application for separation with entitlement to an SSB was approved by competent authority after September 30, 1994 forfeits all entitlement to the SSB payment if that member is employed in a civilian position in the DoD at any time before the expiration of 180 days following the date the member is released from active duty with entitlement to the SSB. This includes appointment to a position while on terminal leave if that appointment is not terminated prior to the date of the member's separation. Upon receipt of notification of such employment, collection action must be instituted to recoup the gross amount of SSB paid to or on behalf of the member.

350704. Termination of Program

No member of the Armed Forces may be separated under this program after December 31, 2001.

3508 VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE (VSI)

350801. Entitlement

A member who separates voluntarily from Military Service before December 31, 2001 could, under conditions prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, elect to receive a VSI. The member must meet each of the following conditions:

A. Time-in-service requirements:

1. Members separating prior to November 30, 1993 must have served more than 6 years on active duty, full-time National Guard duty, or any combination thereof before December 5, 1991, but have less than 20 years of service creditable for retirement;

2. Members separating on or after November 30, 1993 must have served more than 6 years on active duty, full-time National Guard duty, or any combination thereof, but have less than 20 years of service creditable for retirement;

B. The member must have completed initial term of enlistment or initial period of obligated service prior to separation;

C. The member must have served at least 5 years of continuous active duty, full-time National Guard duty, or any combination thereof immediately prior to the date of separation;

D. The member must not be immediately eligible for retired or retainer pay because of military service;

E. The Secretary of the Military Service concerned must approve the member's application for voluntary separation before the member may receive payment;

F. The member must accept voluntary appointment or enlistment in, or transfer to the Ready Reserve, and must continue to serve in a Reserve Component during the entire period of eligibility for VSI. If the member does not continue to serve in the Ready Reserve, then the VSI installments terminate on the date of separation from the Reserve Component or transfer to the Retired Reserve. If the member becomes ineligible to serve for the following reasons, then VSI installments continue for the remaining period authorized if:

1. The separation or transfer is required by reason of the age or number of years of service of the member;

2. The separation or transfer is required by reason of failure of selection for promotion or medical disqualification of the member, except in a case in which the Secretary of Defense or Secretary of Transportation determines that the basis of the separation or transfer is a result of a deliberate action by the member with the intent to avoid retention in the Ready Reserve or Standby Reserve; or

3. In the case of separation, the member is separated from the Reserve Component for appointment or enlistment in or transfer to another Reserve Component of an Armed Force for service in the Ready Reserve or Standby Reserve of that Armed Force; and

G. The member has not been approved for payment of SSB. (See section 3507.)

350802. Computation

Upon approval, and upon receipt of the member's election to receive VSI, pay the member a lump sum at separation computed according to the following criteria.

A. Multiply the rate of monthly basic pay on date of separation times the years of service times 12, times 0.025. When computing partial years of service, round fractional parts of a year to the nearest 1/10 of 1 percent, or 3 decimal places. For example, if the member has 11 years and 5 months of service, then the year multiplier in the formula would be 11.417.

B. So long as the member continues to serve in a Reserve Component, make annual payments on the anniversary date of the member's separation from active service until the total number of payments made equals twice the number of years of active service used in computing the basic entitlement. See the following example in which the member's years of active service are not a whole number.

Example: The member separates on June 30, 1992 with a total of 11 years, 3 months, and 11 days of active service, at which time the member is a major with

more than 10 years service. The initial installment of VSI, paid on the date of separation, is the member's basic pay of \$3,156.30, times 12 times .025, times 11-3/12 (only full months of service count), which equals \$10,652.51. The member is due 22 of these payments (11-3/12 times 2). Make 21 more payments of \$10,652.51, the last such full payment being due on June 30, 2013. On June 30, 2014, pay the member a final installment of \$5,326.26, which is one-half the amount of the prior installments.

C. Compute years of service according to [10 U.S.C. 1405](#). Do not count any period of prior military service for which the member has received separation pay, severance pay, or readjustment pay under any provision of law relating to members of the Uniformed Services.

D. For separations after November 11, 1993, reduce the gross amount of the initial VSI payment (and any subsequent installments) until the total reduction equals the gross amount of any of the following bonuses which the member received during the calendar year in which the member is separating with entitlement to VSI:

1. Multiyear special pay (see section 0502);
2. Enlistment/reenlistment bonus of any type (see Chapter 9 and paragraphs 570402, 570403, and 570404);
3. Nuclear officer accession bonus (see [paragraph 030101](#));
4. Nuclear officer career accession bonus (see [paragraph 030101](#));
5. Aviator retention bonus (see Chapter 20);
6. Registered nurse accession bonus (see section 2101); or
7. Bonus for critical acquisition positions; see [37 U.S.C. 317](#). Do not, however, make a reduction if the member separates within 1 year of the date of termination of the period for which the bonus has been paid. Do not reduce any payment to less than zero. The date that the bonus is received means the date on which the bonus is payable. If the reduction in the initial VSI installment equals or exceeds the bonus recoupment required elsewhere in this volume, then no further action is necessary. If, however, the VSI installment reduction is less than the required recoupment, then the difference remains as a debt owed by the member.

Example 1: Member A reenlisted for 4 years on January 3, 1994 and received an SRB payment in the gross amount of \$12,000. She separated on December 31, 1994 with entitlement to an initial gross VSI payment of \$3,232. Since she received a VSI payment in the same calendar year in which a bonus was paid, reduce the initial VSI payment to zero; the member, however, still was liable for the unearned portion of the bonus, which must be collected from any payments that she otherwise is due, including any future VSI installment payments.

Example 2: The facts are the same as example 1, except member B separated under the VSI program on January 31, 1995. Since he did not receive a bonus during the calendar year 1995, there was no reduction in the amount of his VSI entitlement. However, the member still was liable for the unearned portion of the bonus, which must be collected from any payments otherwise due the member, including the initial and any future VSI installments.

Example 3: Member C reenlisted for 4 years on October 1, 1994 with entitlement to SRB in the total amount of \$12,000. She received \$6,000 at reenlistment, with the remainder to be paid in \$2,000 installments on October 1, 1995, 1996, and 1997. On December 31, 1995, she separated with entitlement to 15 VSI payments of \$3,453 each. Since the member separated during a calendar year in which she received an SRB installment, the gross VSI installment was reduced by the \$2,000 received October 1, 1995. Also, the member had earned only \$3,750 (15 months at \$250 per month) of the SRB paid to her, though she had been paid a total of \$8,000. The balance due for unearned SRB was \$8,000, less the \$3,750 earned and less the \$2,000 by which her VSI initial installment was reduced. This left a debt of \$2,250 to be collected from final pay. All final pay, including the remaining initial net VSI entitlement of \$1,453, shall be used to liquidate the debt.

Example 4: The facts are the same as in example 3, except member D separated on October 31, 1996. Since the separation event occurred within 1 year of the date of the termination of the bonus period, no reduction was made from the VSI payment. (This included the initial and all annual payments.) Since the member did not complete 11 months of the period for which he received the bonus, he was indebted to the United States for \$2,750. This amount must be collected from any funds otherwise due at separation, including the VSI payment.

E. A member who is in receipt of basic pay for active or Reserve service or inactive duty training compensation may elect to have his or her next VSI installment payment reduced by an amount no greater than the total amount of such pay or compensation received since the prior VSI installment payment. Do not reduce the installment payment unless the member provides a signed authorization which specifies the exact dollar amount by which to reduce the installment payment. If the member fails to qualify for retired/retainer pay for any reason, then the amounts that have been offset are not refundable. A member may not reduce installment payments on account of muster duty allowances.

F. Withhold Federal and state taxes at the rate appropriate for onetime payments.

G. Deduct from the payment any debt owed the United States.

H. Do not collect FICA taxes.

I. Payment shall be made on, but in no cases prior to, date of separation.

350803. Forfeiture and Recoupment

A. A member who has received VSI later may qualify for retired or retainer pay through additional military service. See Volume 7B, Chapter 4, section 0406 for the requirement to reduce the member's retired pay until total reductions equal the gross amount of VSI the member has received. The reductions in retired pay will include only the amounts of VSI the member has received. Do not include prior reductions the member may have elected under subparagraph 350802.E.

Example: A member separated on June 30, 1992 with entitlement to VSI of \$8,000 per year for 16 years (a total of \$128,000). During each of the next 8 years, the member drilled with a Reserve unit and authorized a reduction in VSI of \$5,000 per year because of the Reserve training compensation she received. Thereafter, she received 7 more VSI anniversary payments in the full amount of \$8,000 per year. When she became eligible for retired or retainer pay, the total reduction of such pay is \$88,000 (\$8,000 for the initial installment, plus \$3,000 for each of the next eight installments, plus \$8,000 for each of the next seven installments). The reductions in retired pay were equal to the gross amount that she received, including any taxes withheld from the VSI payment.

B. A member who receives VSI, and subsequently qualifies for disability compensation under laws administered by the VA, shall have the amount of disability compensation payable to the member offset from the next VSI payment.

1. The annual VSI payment shall be offset by the same amount of disability compensation received during the 12-month period immediately preceding the VSI payment. In no instance will the disability compensation offset exceed the annual VSI installment.

Example 1: The VSI recipient was separated from active service on September 30, 1992 and received an initial VSI payment in the amount of \$7,000. On the VSI anniversary date of September 30, 1993 an annual payment of \$7,000 was made. On April 15, 1994, the member was paid a \$1,800 retroactive disability compensation payment (for the period November 1992 through April 1994) and received \$100 per month thereafter. The September 30, 1994 annual gross VSI payment will be offset by \$2,300 (\$1,800 retroactive payment plus \$100 received per month from May 1994 through September 1994).

Example 2: Same as in example 1, except the member received a \$6,000 retroactive payment on April 15, 1994, and \$500 per month thereafter. The September 30, 1994 annual gross VSI installment of \$7,000 will be completely offset with no payment due the member. Although the member received \$8,500 in disability compensation during the immediate preceding 12-month period, the maximum deduction from the September 30, 1994 payment is \$7,000. No collection action is required on the remaining \$1,500, nor will it be carried forward to the September 30, 1995 payment.

Example 3: Same as in example 1, except through administrative oversight, \$2,300 was not offset from the September 30, 1994, VSI installment. The \$2,300 becomes a debt owed by the member and is subject to immediate collection action. If collection is not accomplished, then deduct \$3,500 (\$2,300 which should have been offset from the

previous payment plus the current offset of \$100 per month for 12 months) from the September 30, 1995, payment.

Example 4: Same as in example 2, except through administrative oversight \$7,000 was not offset from the September 30, 1994 VSI installment. As in example 3, the \$7,000 becomes a debt and requires immediate collection from the member. If collection action is not accomplished, then the \$7,000 debt can be collected from future VSI payments. Since the member received \$6,000 (\$500 for 12 months) disability compensation during the immediate 12-month period prior to the next September 30, 1995 installment, collect the remaining \$1,000 towards the \$7,000 debt. In this case, carry the remaining \$6,000 unpaid debt forward.

2. Do not deduct from the member's VSI payment if the member is receiving VA disability compensation related to a period of service earlier than the period of service for which the member is receiving VSI.

C. If a member elected to have deducted any amount of basic pay for active or Reserve service or compensation for inactive duty training, then deduct the gross amount of such pay or compensation from the next installment of VSI due before computing tax withholding.

D. Do not pay any further installments to a former member who fails to maintain Reserve affiliation for reasons other than specified in subparagraph 350801.F, or whose Reserve Personnel Activity certifies the member was transferred to the Standby or Retired Reserve through fault of the member. Collect on a pro rata basis any unearned portion of the member's VSI from the date of the member's failure to maintain Reserve affiliation through the date the next installment would have been due.

Example: A member separated on July 31, 1995, with annual VSI entitlement of \$7,500. Effective November 30, 1995, the member is separated from his Reserve unit because of usage of illegal drugs. The unearned portion of the VSI (see subparagraph 350703.D for computation method) is 8/12 of \$7,500, or \$5,000. Establish a debt against the member in that amount.

E. In the event a member becomes eligible for retired or retainer pay concurrently with annual VSI payments, both entitlements may continue to be paid (see Volume 7B, Chapter 4, subparagraph 040602.B). Retired/retainer pay is offset according to subparagraph 350803.A.

F. A member whose application for separation with entitlement to VSI was approved by competent authority after September 30, 1994 forfeits all entitlement to VSI payments, including the initial payment, if the member is employed in a civilian position in the DoD at any time before the expiration of 180 days following the date the member is released from active duty with entitlement to VSI. This includes appointment to a position while on terminal leave if that appointment is not terminated prior to the date of the member's separation. Upon receipt of notification of such employment, institute collection action to recoup the gross

amount of the first VSI installment. Do not pay any further VSI installments, even if the former member separates from such civilian employment during the period the member would otherwise be entitled to VSI installments.

350804. Death

Upon death of the member, VSI annual payments continue for the remaining period of the entitlement. Make payment to the beneficiary as designated by the member or as otherwise provided by law (see section 3602). See Volume 7B, Chapter 23, subparagraph 230403, for beneficiary payment procedures.

350805. Transfer or Assignment

The member may not transfer or assign the right to VSI payments to any person or entity, except as indicated in paragraph 350804.

350806. Termination of Program

The Secretary may not approve a request for voluntary appointment, enlistment or transfer to a Reserve Component under this program after December 31, 2001.

3509 VOLUNTARY SEPARATION PAY (VSP)

*350901. Entitlement

A member who separates voluntarily may, under conditions prescribed by the Secretaries of the Military Departments concerned, be paid a VSP. The authority to separate a member in conjunction with VSP applies for the period October 17, 2006 through December 31, 2018.

350902. Eligibility

The Secretaries of the Military Departments may offer a member the opportunity to apply for VSP if the member:

A. Has served on active duty or full-time National Guard for more than 6 years but less than 20 years;

B. Has served at least 5 years of continuous active duty or full-time National Guard duty immediately preceding the date of separation from active duty;

C. Has not been approved for payment of voluntary separation incentive under section 3508 ([10 U.S.C. 1175](#));

D. Upon separation is not immediately eligible for retired or retainer pay based upon his/her military service;

E. Meets such other requirements as the Secretaries of the Military Departments may prescribe, which may include requirements relating to years of service; skill; rating; military specialty; or competitive category, grade, or rank; remaining period of obligated service; or any combination of these factors; or

F. Requests separation from active duty or full-time National Guard duty.

350903. Initial Term of Obligated Service

Effective January 1, 2009, the member is required to complete the initial term of obligated service in addition to meeting requirements in paragraph 350902 prior to separation. Prior to January 1, 2009, a member's obligation to complete an initial term of obligated service before separation shall be subject to the discretion of the Secretaries of the Military Departments. For the purpose of this section, "initial term of obligated service" means the initial period of required active-duty service incurred upon commissioning or enlistment, together with any additional period of required active-duty service incurred during the initial period of required active-duty service.

350904. Ineligible for VSP

The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall not offer a member the opportunity to apply for VSP if a member:

- A. Does not meet the eligibility requirement of paragraph 350902;
- B. Is discharged with disability severance pay under section 3504 ([10 U.S.C. 1212](#));
- C. Is transferred to the temporary disability retired list under 10 U.S.C. [1202](#) or [1205](#);
- D. Is being evaluated for disability retirement under [10 U.S.C. chapter 61](#);
- E. Had previously been discharged with VSP; or
- F. Is subject to pending disciplinary action or is subject to administrative separation or mandatory discharge under any other provision of law or regulation.

350905. Application for VSP

A member may request and subsequently enter into a written agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned to separate from active duty or full-time National Guard duty and accept an appointment or enlistment in, or transfer to, the Ready Reserve of a Reserve Component for a period of not less than 3 years, as a condition of receipt of VSP and benefits.

350906. Approval for VSP

The Secretary of the Military Department shall determine each year the number of military members to be separated, and provided separation pay and benefits during the fiscal year beginning in such year. Eligible members shall not be automatically entitled to receive VSP based solely upon request. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall review all applications for voluntary separation and approve only those that meet the needs of the Military Departments. A member whose request is approved shall be separated from active duty.

350907. Computation of VSP

A. The Secretary concerned shall specify the amount of VSP to be paid to an individual, but the amount may not be greater than four times the full amount of separation pay that a member of the same pay grade and years of service would receive for an involuntary separation under [10 U.S.C. 1174](#).

B. Compute years of active service according to the formula in subparagraphs 350203.B.1, D, E, and F. Do not count any period of prior military service for which the member has received separation pay, severance pay, or readjustment pay under any provision of law relating to members of the Uniformed Services. When computing partial years of service, round the fractional parts of a year to the nearest 1/10 of 1 percent, or 3 decimal points. For example, if the officer has 10 years and 7 months of service, then the multiplier would be 10.583.

350908. Payment

VSP will be paid in a lump sum payment. The VSP gross amount cannot be greater than the amount computed in paragraph 350907.

350909. Repayment of VSP When a Member Qualifies for and Receives Retired Pay

A. A member who is paid VSP and later qualifies to receive retired pay shall have deducted from each payment of such retired pay a monthly installment as specified by the Secretaries of the Military Departments. The total amount of retired pay deductions shall equal the gross VSP amount paid to the member. [More information can be found within](#) Volume 7B, Chapter 4, section 0408.

B. The requirement to repay VSP following retirement from the Armed Forces does not apply to a member who is eligible to retire at the time the member applied for and was accepted for VSP benefits.

C. The Secretaries of the Military Departments may waive the requirement to repay VSP if it is determined that recovery would be against equity and good conscience and would be contrary to the best interests of the United States.

D. For exception, see paragraph 350911.

350910. Veterans Affairs Disability Compensation

A member who received the VSP and subsequently qualifies for disability compensation from the VA is subject to recoupment of the gross amount of VSP paid, less Federal income taxes withheld from such pay. The VA administers the recoupment program for affected members. If the disability for which the member receives VA compensation was incurred or aggravated during a period of later active duty, then no recoupment of VSP is required, regardless of when paid. The Secretaries of the Military Departments may waive the requirement to repay the VSP if it is determined that recovery would be against equity and good conscience and would be contrary to the best interests of the United States.

350911. Members Returned to Active Duty

A. Except for the provisions in subparagraphs 350911.B and 350911.C, members who return to active duty in a Regular or Reserve Component for 180 days or more shall have deducted from each payment of basic pay a monthly installment amount specified by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. The total amount of basic pay deduction shall equal the gross amount of VSP paid to the member.

B. Recoupment shall not be required for a member who is involuntarily recalled to active duty or full-time National Guard in accordance with sections 10 U.S.C. [12301\(a\), \(b\), \(g\)](#); [12302](#); [12303](#); [12304](#), or [32 U.S.C. 502\(f\)\(1\)](#).

C. Recoupment shall not be required for a member who is recalled or performs active duty or full-time National Guard duty, so long as the period of active duty is less than 180 consecutive days with consent of the member in accordance with 10 U.S.C. [101\(d\)\(1\), \(2\), \(5\)](#); [12301\(d\)](#); [12319](#); [12503](#), or section 32 U.S.C. [114](#); [115](#) or [502\(f\)\(2\)](#).

D. The Secretary of Defense may waive, in whole or in part, repayment required under subparagraph 350911.A if the Secretary determines that recovery would be against equity and good conscience or would be contrary to the best interests of the United States. Requests for waiver under this authority should be forwarded to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

3510 STOP LOSS SPECIAL PAY

351001. Authority

The Secretaries concerned may provide Stop Loss Special Pay to members of the Armed Forces (including members of the Reserve Components) who perform duty while subject to [10 U.S.C. 123](#) or [12305](#) or any other provision of law authorizing the President to extend an enlistment or period of obligated service, or suspend an eligibility for retirement, of a member of the uniformed services in time of war or of national emergency declared by Congress or the President (referred to as a “stop loss authority”). The Stop Loss Special Pay is payable to members:

A. Who serve on active duty while the members' enlistment or period of obligated service is extended under a stop loss authority, or

B. Whose eligibility for retirement is suspended under a stop loss authority.

351002. Amount

The amount to be paid to or on behalf of an eligible member may not exceed \$500 per month for each month or portion of a month during the period that the member was retained on active duty as a result of the stop loss authority. Effective October 1, 2009, an eligible member will be paid \$500 per month for each month or portion of a month during the period that the member was retained on active duty as a result of the stop loss authority.

351003. Eligibility

October 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011 is the period of eligibility.

3511 RETROACTIVE STOP LOSS SPECIAL PAY COMPENSATION

351101. Authority

The Secretaries concerned shall provide Stop Loss Special Pay Compensation to members of the Armed Forces, including members of the Reserve Components, and former and retired members under the jurisdiction of the Secretary who at any time during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on September 30, 2009, served on active duty while subject to [10 U.S.C. 123](#) or [12305](#), or any other provision of law (commonly referred to as a "stop loss authority") authorizing the President to extend an enlistment or period of obligated service, or suspend an eligibility for retirement, of a member of the uniformed services in time of war or of national emergency declared by Congress or the President. This compensation is payable to members:

A. Who served on active duty while the members' enlistment or period of obligated service was extended under a stop loss authority, or

B. Whose eligibility for retirement was suspended under a stop loss authority.

351102. Amount

The amount to be paid to or on behalf of an eligible member, retired member, or former member described in this section shall be \$500 per month for each month or portion of a month during the period specified that the member was retained on active duty as a result of application of the stop loss authority.

*351103. Limitation

Claims for retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay Compensation under this section shall be submitted to the Secretaries concerned no later than [October 21, 2012, which is 3 years](#) after the date the implementing rules issued by the Secretary of Defense took effect. The Secretaries concerned may not pay claims that are submitted more than [3 years](#) after the date the implementing rules [took](#) effect.

351104. Treatment of Deceased Members

If an eligible member, retired member, or former member, described in paragraph 351101, dies before the payment required by this section is made, the Secretaries concerned shall make the payment in accordance with [10 U.S.C. 2771](#).

351105. Exclusion of Certain Former Members

A former member of the Armed Forces is not eligible for a payment under this section if the former member was discharged or released from the Armed Forces under other than honorable conditions.

351106. Relation to Other Stop Loss Special Pay

A member, retired member, or former member, may not receive a payment under this section and section 3510 for the same month or portion of a month during which the member was retained on active duty as a result of application of the stop loss authority.

351107. Effect of Subsequent Reenlistment or Voluntary Extension of Service

Effective December 19, 2009, service members who voluntarily reenlisted or extended their service after their enlistment or period of obligated service was extended, or after their eligibility for retirement was suspended; and who received a bonus for such reenlistment or extension of service are not eligible to receive the Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay.

*Table 35-1. PAYMENT OF ACCRUED LEAVE – OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEMBERS – SEPARATION WITHOUT IMMEDIATE REENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY (note 1)			
R U L E	A	B	C
		If a member has been on active duty for 30 or more consecutive days and	and
1	is discharged (including as a result of resignation)	separation is under honorable conditions (note 2)	payable (notes 3 and 9).
2	is released from active duty (note 4)		payable (notes 3, 5, 9, and 10).
3	retires		payable (notes 3, 6 and 9).
4	is transferred to Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve		
5	is discharged for fraudulent enlistment after completing 6 months of active duty	discharge characterization is under other than honorable conditions	not payable (note 7).
6	is released from duty because of void enlistment or void induction due to erroneous enlistment or defective enlistment after completing 6 months of active duty	discharge characterization is under other than honorable conditions	
7	is discharged from service as a cadet or midshipman at a Military Service academy, or as a midshipman elsewhere		
8	dies on or after August 28, 1965, while on active duty	member is not put to death as lawful punishment for a crime or a military offense	payable to beneficiary with other unpaid pay and allowances as prescribed in section 3602 of this volume (notes 8 and 9).
9	receives a discharge that is not characterized before completing six months of active duty	separation is for failure to serve satisfactorily for any reason set forth in subparagraph 350101.E	not payable.
		separation is not for unsatisfactory performance or misconduct for any reason set forth in subparagraph 350101.E	payable.

NOTES:

- *1. Any member who is discharged under other than honorable conditions forfeits all accrued leave.
2. If member is discharged or relieved from active duty because of expiration of term of service (ETS), and is under investigation as an alleged security risk, then do not pay accrued leave until investigation is completed and the character of the discharge determined. If discharge is under honorable conditions, then accrued leave may then be paid.
3. The period when a member is home awaiting further orders in connection with physical evaluation board proceedings is charged as leave, to the extent that leave is available, beginning with the day after member arrives home or the day after constructive travel time ends, whichever is earlier. Limit payment to accrued leave remaining at time of retirement or discharge. (See note 4 for exception.) Authorized absence under these circumstances in excess of accrued leave is not chargeable as leave.
4. A period of active duty as a Reserve or National Guard member meets the 30-day requirement if it covers 30 or more consecutive days, even though it may be directed by more than one order covering unrelated duties.

***Table 35-1. Payment of Accrued Leave – Officers and Enlisted Members – Separation Without Immediate Reentry on Active Duty**

5. If a Reserve member is entitled to pay and allowances during a disability period after a specified tour of active duty has expired, then the period after that expiration date is not included in the period for which accrued leave is paid.
6. Member may not take accrued leave in lieu of payment beyond the effective date of retirement.
7. This rule does not apply when an individual inducted or enlisted into the Military Service is discovered by Military Service medical authorities to have been medically unfit for induction at the time of entrance into the Military Service and such individual is released from military control for such reason.
8. Accrued leave is payable retroactive to February 28, 1961 for a member in a missing status whose death is prescribed under section [3406](#). Payment is made according to section 3410.
9. On and after February 10, 1976, a member may be paid for a maximum of 60 days accrued leave during a military career. See subparagraph 350101.A.3 for exceptions.
- *10. Reserve members may elect to carry forward unused accrued leave to their next period of active duty.

*Table 35-2. PAYMENT OF ACCRUED LEAVE – OFFICERS – SEPARATION WITH IMMEDIATE REENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY				
R U L E	A	B	C	D
	If	has been on active duty for 30 or more consecutive days and is	and	then accrued leave is
1	an officer of any Military Service	retired	immediately reenters on active duty	not payable.
2		separated, on a day other than the end of the specified period of active duty, for the purpose of reentering on active duty in any status within any Uniformed Service (note 4)		
3		transferred to a different Uniformed Service by separation and immediate reappointment	immediately enters on active duty with the other Military Service	
4		separated for having failed selection to a higher grade	immediately reenters on active duty in an enlisted status	
5	a Reserve officer of any Military Service	released from active duty under honorable conditions under 10 U.S.C. 12313 or similar laws authorizing release of Reserve officers at convenience of government, not for the purpose of reentering active service	immediately reenters on active duty (including active duty in enlisted or warrant officer status) for the purpose of retirement	payable (note 3).
6		released from active duty under honorable conditions at end of a specified period of time member agreed to serve or was obligated to serve (notes 2 and 4)	immediately reenters on active duty (note 4)	payable (note 3 and 5).
7	a commissioned officer of any Military Service, who simultaneously holds a warrant officer appointment	released from active duty as a commissioned officer	reverts to warrant officer status and continues on active duty	not payable.
8	a temporary officer of the Navy or Marine Corps whose enlistment has expired	reverted to enlisted status and simultaneously discharged	immediately reenlists	payable at rate of pay of rank held at time of reversion (note 3).

NOTES:

- Officers who, after notification of an impending discharge, resign for the purpose of continuing a military career are not entitled to payment of accrued leave.
- A Reserve officer who remains on active duty beyond expiration date of initial obligation while awaiting Regular officer appointment is not entitled to payment of unused accrued leave as the separation to accept the appointment is not considered to be at the end of a specified period. The officer must be separated on the expiration date of the initial obligation for entitlement to exist.
- On or after February 10, 1976, a member may be paid for a maximum for 60 days of accrued leave during a military career. See subparagraph 350101.A.3 for exceptions.
- A National Guard member serving on active duty under [Title 10](#) or [Title 32](#), U.S. Code, who is ordered to active duty under the other title ([Title 10](#) or [Title 32](#)) is considered to have met the obligated service period for which the member agreed to serve (for the purposes of accrued, unused leave payment only), regardless of the unexpired time remaining on that [Title 10](#) or [Title 32](#) obligation. The member is not considered separated for the specific purpose of reenlisting or reentering active duty. Accrued unused leave is payable.
- [Reserve members may elect to carry forward unused accrued leave to their next period of active duty.](#)

***Table 35-2. Payment of Accrued Leave – Officers – Separation With Immediate Reentry on Active Duty**

Table 35-3. PAYMENT OF ACCRUED LEAVE – ENLISTED MEMBERS – SEPARATION WITH IMMEDIATE REENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY				
R U L E	A	B	C	D
	If an enlisted member	has been on active duty for 30 or more consecutive days and	and	then accrued leave is (note 1)
1	of any Military Service	on or after October 5, 1999, is discharged for the specific purpose of enlisting or reenlisting (note 5)	immediately reenlists or immediately reenters on active duty	payable.
2		prior to October 5, 1999, is separated under honorable conditions upon expiration of enlistment or is released from active duty under honorable conditions at the end of a specified period of time or was obligated to serve (notes 2, 4 and 6)		
3		prior to October 5, 1999, is separated before expiration of normal term of service or obligated period of duty for the specific purpose of enlisting or reenlisting (notes 3 and 6)		not payable.
4		is discharged for the purpose of accepting a commission or appointment as a warrant officer in any Uniformed Service		go to Table 35-4.
5		enlistment is extended		
6		extension of enlistment is canceled before or during service under the extension		
7		is retired	continues on or is recalled to active duty	not payable.
8		accepts an appointment as a cadet or midshipman without being discharged from enlisted status	enters on duty as a cadet or midshipman	payable as though member was discharged on day before date appointment was accepted.
9	inducted under the Universal Military Training and Service Act, or enlisted in the Regular Army under that Act	is separated under honorable conditions at the end of the period member is required to serve	immediately enlists or reenlists	payable.
10	of the Army or Air Force who has more than 20 but less than 30 years' service	is retired and transferred to the Reserve Component of member's Military Service	is immediately ordered into active service	not payable.
11	of the Navy or Marine Corps	is transferred to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve	continues on active service without a break in active service	

Table 35-3. Payment of Accrued Leave – Enlisted Members – Separation With Immediate Reentry on Active Duty

NOTES:

1. On or after February 10, 1976, a member may be paid for a maximum of 60 days of accrued leave during a military career. See subparagraph 350101.A.3 for exceptions.
2. A member is considered as discharged upon expiration of enlistment if discharged not more than 3 months before the normal expiration date of the enlistment (effective January 2, 1968). The date of normal expiration of enlistment is excluded in computing the 3-month period.
3. A member is not considered as having been discharged for the purpose of enlisting or reenlisting if discharge occurs not more than 3 months before the normal expiration of the extension period (effective January 2, 1968). The date of normal expiration of the extension period is excluded in computing the 3-month period.
4. An extension of the active-duty obligation does not create an entitlement under this rule.
5. For these purposes, the term "discharge" means separation or release from active duty under honorable conditions, or termination of an enlistment in conjunction with the commencement of a successive enlistment (without regard to the date of the expiration of the term of the enlistment being terminated).
6. A National Guard member serving on active duty under [Title 10](#) or [Title 32](#), U.S.C., who is ordered to active duty under [Title 10](#) or [Title 32](#) is considered to have met the obligated service period for which the member agreed to serve (for the purposes of accrued unused leave payment only), regardless of the unexpired time remaining on that [Title 10](#) or [Title 32](#) obligation. The member is not considered separated for the specific purpose of reenlisting or reentering active duty. Accrued unused leave is payable.

**Table 35-3. Payment of Accrued Leave - Enlisted Members - Separation
With Immediate Reentry on Active Duty (Continued)**

Table 35-4. PAYMENT OF ACCRUED LEAVE—ENLISTED MEMBERS—EXTENSION OF ENLISTMENT: DISCHARGE AND REENLISTMENT BEFORE EXTENSION IS COMPLETED				
R U L E	A	B	C	D
	If an enlisted member of	has been on active duty for 30 or more consecutive days and	and member	then accrued leave is (note 1)
1	any Military Service	enlistment is involuntarily extended	continues on active duty in extension period	not payable until discharge.
2		voluntarily first extends enlistment, regardless of duration of extension		payable on day before effective date of extension (leave accrued during extension is paid on discharge after extension is completed) (note 2).
3	any Military Service, whose enlistment has been involuntarily extended	is separated under honorable conditions upon expiration of the involuntary extension of enlistment	immediately reenlists	payable.
4		is separated under honorable conditions, before extension period expires, for purpose of reenlisting		
5	any Military Service, who has voluntarily extended enlistment	prior to October 5, 1999, extension is canceled before service under it begins and member is discharged under honorable conditions at normal expiration of enlistment (note 3)		not payable.
6		prior to October 5, 1999, extension is canceled after service under it begins and member is discharged under honorable conditions, for purpose of reenlisting (note 4)		
7		on or after October 5, 1999, extension is canceled after service under it begins and member is discharged under honorable conditions, for purpose of reenlisting		

NOTES:

1. On and after February 10, 1976, a member may be paid for a maximum of 60 days of accrued leave during a military career. See subparagraph 350101.A.3 for exception.
2. No payment can be made on second or subsequent extensions.

**Table 35-4. Payment of Accrued Leave – Enlisted Members – Extension of Enlistment:
Discharge and Reenlistment Before Extension is Completed**

Table 35-5. COMPUTATION OF ACCRUED LEAVE PAYMENT (NOTE 6)						
R U L E	A	B	C			
	If member is entitled to accrued leave payment under Table 35-1, 35-2, 35-3, or 35-4, and is an	and member has	the complete payment for the number of days accrued leave, but not more than 60 in a military career, to include: (note 1)			
			Basic Pay (note 2)	Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) (note 6)	Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) (note 6)	Personal Money Allowances (note 6)
1	enlisted member in pay grades E-5 to E-9	dependents (note 3)	at rate applicable on date of separation (note 4)	70 cents per pay	\$1.25 per day	none.
2		no dependents			none	
3	enlisted member in pay grades E-1 to E-4					
4	officer	dependents (note 3)	at rate applicable on date of separation (prorate for number of days of accrued leave)	at rate contained in paragraph U10002.B, JFTR for member with dependents on date of separation (notes 4 and 5)	if officer was receiving this allowance on date of separation (limited to allowances listed in chapter 31). Compute at rate payable on that date (note 4).	
5		no dependents				at rate contained in paragraph U10002.B, JFTR for member without dependents on date of separation (notes 4 and 5)

NOTES:

- When the final leave balance includes a one-half day total, compute the amount to be paid by crediting the member with one-half of a day entitlement. Round the total to the nearest penny.
- Do not include in basic pay the 25-percent increase authorized certain Navy and Marine Corps members retained beyond normal ETS.
- A dependent on active duty is not considered a dependent in determining right to BAH.
- Date of separation is date of discharge, release from active duty, transfer to Reserve, or death; day before effective date of retirement; day before date of appointment as cadet or midshipman; or day before effective date of extension of enlistment.
- Pay BAH even though the member is not receiving BAH on date of separation because public quarters are occupied or available.
- Cash settlement of leave accrued as of August 31, 1976 will be on the basis of basic pay, BAS, BAH, and Personal Money Allowance, as appropriate. Cash settlement of leave accrued on and after September 1, 1976 will be on the basis of basic pay only for all grades, officer and enlisted. See subparagraph 350102 for examples.

Table 35-5. Computation of Accrued Leave Payment

Table 35-6. SEPARATION PAY ENTITLEMENT AND COMPUTATION			
R U L E	A	B	C
	If a member is	and is involuntarily discharged or released from active duty because of (note 1)	then compute separation pay at
1	an officer (notes 2 and 3)	failure to be selected for promotion (note 4)	10 percent of 12 months of basic pay multiplied by years and fractions of a year based on additional full months of active service.
2	a warrant officer separated during the 3-year probationary period	failure to be selected for promotion	
3	a warrant officer	second failure to be selected for promotion and does not enlist or the request to enlist is denied and is not retained on active duty in grade above W-4	
4	a Reserve member	non-selection for an additional tour of active duty for which member volunteered unconditionally	
5	a chaplain	failure to maintain professional qualifications	
6	a Reserve member	separation at any time prior to the completion of a specified period of active duty or indefinite period of active duty except separations for reasons shown in rules 8 and 9	
7	a warrant officer or Reserve officer	age (notes 6 and 7)	
8	an officer or Reserve enlisted member (note 5)	substandard performance of duty, moral or professional dereliction, unfitness or unsatisfactory performance, misconduct, unsuitability, drug abuse, to include drug rehabilitation failure, inability to perform prescribed duties, repetitive absenteeism, non-availability for worldwide assignment as a result of parenthood, or retention is not consistent with the interest of national security	one half of 10 percent of 12 months of basic pay multiplied by years and fractions of a year based on additional full months of active service.
9	an officer	written notification that member must show cause for retention and who subsequently requests discharge or release from active duty	

NOTES:

1. Includes member's acceptance of an earlier release before the scheduled involuntary separation date, as directed by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned.
2. Includes a Regular commissioned officer with less than 5 years of commissioned service.
3. Includes a Regular officer continued on active duty pursuant to [10 U.S.C. 637\(a\)](#) or a Reserve officer continued on active duty after failure to be selected for promotion, upon expiration of the period of continuation on active duty, or upon separation if continuation is declined.
4. Includes officer not found qualified for promotion to grade of First Lieutenant or Lieutenant **Junior Grade**.
5. A warrant officer who is eliminated for unfitness or unsatisfactory performance of duty and elects to enlist is not entitled to separation pay.
6. Includes members separated after expiration of Secretarial retention period.
7. If the member is eligible for voluntary retirement, then the member is not entitled to separation pay even though the member does not apply for retirement concurrently with release from active duty.

Table 35-6. Separation Pay Entitlement and Computation

Table 35-7. ENTITLEMENT TO READJUSTMENT PAY (NOTE 1)				
R U L E	A	B	C	D
		If a Reserve member or a member of the USA or USAF without component (temporary), who has completed immediately before separation at least 5 years of continuous active duty, is (notes 2 and 8)	and	and
1	involuntarily released from active duty for reason other than moral or professional dereliction (see Table 35-8	is immediately eligible for separation pay based on military service under some other law except 10 U.S.C. 12312 (note 3)	elects to receive readjustment pay (note 4)	payable.
2	rulings on whether separation is “involuntary release”)		elects to receive other separation pay	not payable.
3		is immediately eligible for retired or retainer pay based solely on military service (including retired pay under title 10 U.S.C. chapter 1223 for non-regular service) (note 6)		
4		is eligible for VA disability compensation		payable but VA will deduct from future VA compensation (subparagraphs 350205.B and 350302.D).
5	released from active duty because of moral or professional dereliction (note 5)			not payable.
6	released from active duty at own request (note 7)			
7	released from active duty upon completion of a specific tour of active duty	volunteers for an additional tour of active duty in keeping with current directives	is not accepted for the additional tour	payable.
8	released from active duty upon completion of a specific tour of active duty	volunteers for a shorter period of active duty than permitted in current directives	is not accepted for the additional tour	not payable.
9		volunteers for a period of active duty contingent on assignment to certain type of duty or location, or being tendered specific type of contract		

NOTES:

- Members entitled to readjustment pay under section 3503 and separation pay under section 3502 may not receive both, but shall elect which one they will receive.
- A period of active duty is continuous if it is not interrupted by a break in service of more than 30 days. Paragraph 350304 specifies how to compute the 5-year active duty period.
- “Separation pay” means an amount paid in connection with separation from the Military Service when the person’s military status is terminated. This includes payments under sections 3502, 3503, 3504, and 3506.

Table 35-7. Entitlement to Readjustment Pay

4. A member may elect to receive either readjustment pay or other separation pay (as defined in note 3), but not both. A member who elects to receive readjustment pay may not later change the election to receive other separation pay.
5. A member dismissed or discharged as a result of trial by court-martial, dropped from the rolls of the Military Service concerned, or administratively discharged under other than honorable conditions is presumed to be separated because of moral or professional dereliction. An honorable discharge or a discharge under honorable conditions is presumed to be not due to moral or professional dereliction unless the Secretary of the Military Service concerned determines it to be such. Do not pay readjustment pay until character of discharge is determined.
6. If eligible for voluntary retirement under [10 U.S.C. 8911](#) or [3911](#), then a member is not entitled to readjustment pay even though such an election is made not to retire concurrently with involuntary release from active duty.
7. Disapproval of a Reserve officer's request to withdraw an application for separation will not change the release from "voluntary" for consideration of entitlement to readjustment pay.
8. Readjustment pay is not payable upon release from active duty for training or full-time training duty.
9. With respect to members discharged or released on or after October 19, 1984, the member is not entitled to readjustment pay if the Secretary of the Military Department concerned determines that the conditions under which the member is discharged or separated do not warrant such pay.

Table 35-7. Entitlement to Readjustment Pay (Continued)

Table 35-8. RULES FOR DETERMINING WHETHER SEPARATION IS INVOLUNTARY RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY (NOTE 1)				
R U L E	A	B	C	D
	If a Reserve member is	and	then separation is	and
1	involuntarily released from active duty as a Reserve officer	immediately enlists in the Regular Component of any Military Service, or enters on active duty as a regular or Reserve officer in the same or a different Military Service	an actual involuntary release from active duty, regardless of reentry on active duty	entitlement to readjustment pay is determined under Table 35-7.
2	a commissioned officer serving in dual status and is released from active duty as a Reserve commissioned officer	reverts to a Regular warrant officer status	not an actual release from active duty	readjustment pay is not authorized.
3	serving under a temporary appointment as a Reserve commissioned or warrant officer and the appointment is terminated	reverts to a permanent Reserve enlisted or warrant officer status without a break in service		
4	granted release from active duty at member's request, before completion of tour of duty	requests release after offer to serve another tour of active duty was denied	at member's own request	
5	released from active duty upon reaching the mandatory age limit of 60	does not offer to serve another tour of active duty	an involuntary release from active duty	entitlement to readjustment pay is determined under Table 35-7.
6		offer to serve another tour of active duty is denied		
7	a female officer and is involuntarily released from active duty for reasons of pregnancy or minor children	separation is under approved recommendation of board of officers (note 2)		

NOTES:

1. This table reflects the Comptroller General's decision regarding what constitutes "involuntary release from active duty." Do not consider the table all-inclusive.
2. A female officer may waive a hearing before the board without affecting her right to readjustment pay. The separation is still considered involuntary.

Table 35-8. Rules for Determining Whether Separation is Involuntary Release From Active Duty

Table 35-9. COMPUTATION OF READJUSTMENT PAY					
R U L E	A	B	C	D	E
	If readjustment pay is authorized under Table 35-7 and separation is	compute readjustment pay on basis of	multiplied by years of active service	but do not pay more than	and reduce by
1	for any reason other than stated in rules 2 and 3 below	2 months of basic pay of grade in which member is serving when separated	but not over 12 computed under paragraph 350203	2 years of basic pay or \$15,000, whichever is less	prior readjustment payments, unless they are refunded (note 1).
2	because performance of duty falls below standards prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Service concerned (note 2)	one-half month's basic pay of grade in which member is serving when separated	but not over 18, computed under paragraph 350203	9 months of basic pay or \$15,000, whichever is less	
3	because retention is not clearly consistent with interests of national security (note 2)				

NOTES:

1. When prior readjustment payment is refunded, consider the period covered by the previous payment as a period for which no payment has been made.
2. See administrative regulations of the Military Service concerned to determine whether separation is in this category.

Table 35-9. Computation of Readjustment Pay

Table 35-10. SEVERANCE PAY ENTITLEMENT (OTHER THAN DISABILITY) AND ITS COMPUTATION (NOTE 1)					
R U L E	A	B	C	D	E
	If a member is	and is discharged because	then compute severance pay at (note 6)	multiply by (note 2)	but do not pay more than
1	a Regular commissioned officer of any Military Service	of failure of selection for promotion to grade O-3 or above	2 months of basic pay of grade held at time of discharge	years of service, but not more than 12 (note 3)	2 years of basic pay or \$15,000 whichever is less.
2	a woman officer of the Regular Navy or Regular Marine Corps in grade O-2	she is not on a promotion list and has completed 7 years of active commissioned service in the Navy or Marine Corps (note 5)		years of active commissioned service in the Navy or Marine Corps (note 3)	
3	a woman officer of the Regular Navy or Regular Marine Corps in grade O-3	she is not on a promotion list and has completed 13 years of active commissioned service in the Navy or Marine Corps		12 (note 3)	2 years of basic pay or \$15,000, whichever is less.
4	an ensign in the Navy or a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps	found not professionally qualified upon reexamination for promotion		years of active commissioned service in the Naval service, but not more than 6 (note 4)	1 year of basic pay.
5	a Regular commissioned officer of the Army or Air Force	of substandard performance of duty	1 month of basic pay of the grade held at time of discharge	years of active commissioned service but not more than 12 (note 3)	
6	an officer of the Navy or Marine Corps with less than 20 years of service	of unsatisfactory performance of duty, as determined by selection board	2 months of basic pay of grade held at time of discharge	years of service, but not more than 12 (note 3)	2 years of basic pay or \$15,000, whichever is less.
7		of unsatisfactory performance of duty, as determined by board in connection with temporary promotion in time of war or national emergency		years of service, but not more than 6 (note 3)	1 year of basic pay.

Table 35-10. Severance Pay Entitlement (Other Than Disability) and Its Computation

SEVERANCE PAY ENTITLEMENT (OTHER THAN DISABILITY) AND ITS COMPUTATION (NOTE 1)					
R U L E	A	B	C	D	E
	If a member is	and is discharged because	then compute severance pay at (note 6)	multiply by (note 2)	but do not pay more than
8	a Regular commissioned officer of the Army or Air Force	of moral or professional dereliction or in the interests of national security	1 month of basic pay of the grade held at time of discharge	years of active commissioned service, but not more than 12 (note 3)	1 year of basic pay.
9	an officer of the Navy or Marine Corps	found not qualified, from cause arising from own misconduct, upon reexamination for promotion		number of months stated in separation orders	
10	a Regular warrant officer of any Military Service	of failure of selection for promotion, and member does not enlist or is not retained on active duty in the commissioned grade in which serving	2 months of basic pay of grade held at time of discharge	years of active service, but not more than 12 (note 3)	2 years of basic pay or \$15,000 whichever is less.
11	a Regular warrant officer of any Military Service, who has more than 3 years of active service since original permanent appointment as a Regular warrant officer	of unfitness or unsatisfactory performance of duty, and member does not enlist	1 month of basic pay in the grade held at time of discharge	years of active service, but not more than 12 (note 3)	1 year of basic pay.

NOTES:

- Members entitled to severance pay under sections 3503 and 3504 and separation pay under section 3502 may not receive both, but shall elect which they will receive.
- Military Service administrative regulations govern computations of years of service for purposes of severance pay.
- Count a fraction of a year that is 6 months or more as a full year. Disregard a fraction of a year that is less than 6 months. For Navy or Marine Corps officers, only years of commissioned service apply.
- Count whole years only. Disregard any fraction of a year.
- An officer retains entitlement to severance pay if discharged at the member's request at any time during the fiscal year in which the member fails to appear on a promotion list and will have completed [seven](#) years of active commissioned service.
- With respect to members discharged or released on or after October 19, 1984, the member is not entitled to severance pay if the Secretary concerned determines that the conditions under which the member is discharged or separated do not warrant such pay.

**Table 35-10. Severance Pay Entitlement (Other Than Disability) and Its Computation
(Continued)**

Table 35-11. ENTITLEMENT TO DISCHARGE GRATUITY						
R U L E	A	B	C	D	E	F
	If	is	and	and	and	then
1	an enlisted member of any Military Service	a prisoner released from confinement in a military or contract prison to parole, appellate review leave, or expiration of sentence			has less than \$25 in possession	pay the member the difference between funds in possession and \$25 (note).
2		discharged for fraudulent enlistment	discharge is not for returning member to another branch of the Armed Forces on account of absence without authority from that branch	the member is present to receive the discharge		
3		discharged under other than honorable conditions				
4		discharged from active duty because of void enlistment	enlistment is void because contracted when member was under age			
5	an enlisted member of any Military Service	discharged from active duty because of void enlistment	enlistment is void because contracted when member was mentally incompetent			do not pay a discharge gratuity.
6		discharged for minority with pay and allowances payable through date of discharge				

NOTE:

Funds in the member's possession include personal funds and any item paid at the time of discharge or release, excluding mileage and cash advanced incident to furnishing transportation in kind.

Table 35-11. Entitlement to Discharge Gratuity

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	350202.N	Public Law 106-398, section 508, October 30, 2000
		10 U.S.C. 1174(c)
		39 Comp Gen 223, 226
*	350204 and 350205	DoD Instruction 1332.29, September 20, 2011
	350205.B and C	Public Law 104-201, section 653, September 23, 1996
3503	SAVINGS PROVISIONS FOR READJUSTMENT AND SEVERANCE PAY (OTHER THAN DISABILITY)	
	350301	Public Law 96-513, December 12, 1980
	350301.B	Public Law 96-513, December 12, 1980
		Public Law 98-525, October 19, 1984
	350304.A	36 Comp Gen 390
	350304.B	39 Comp Gen 223
	350304.C	43 Comp Gen 240
	350304.D	36 Comp Gen 129

	350304.E	37 Comp Gen 357
3504	DISABILITY SEVERANCE PAY	
*	350401	10 U.S.C. 1203, 1206, 1217
	350402	34 Comp Gen 65
	350403.A	10 U.S.C. 1212 Public Law 110-181, section 1646 January 28, 2008
	350403.B	10 U.S.C. 1208, 1212 39 Comp Gen 291 Public Law 110-181, section 1646 January 28, 2008
	350403.C	10 U.S.C. 1212
	350403.C.2	38 Comp Gen 268
	350403.C.3	46 Comp Gen 17
	350403.C.4	Public Law 107-107, section 593, December 28, 2001
	350403.D	10 U.S.C. 12733
	350404	26 U.S.C. 104 St. Clair v. U.S. 778 F. Supp 894
	350406	10 U.S.C. 1212(c) Public Law 104-201, Section 653, September 23, 1996 Public Law 110-181, section 1646 January 28, 2008
	350406.B	10 U.S.C. 1212(d)(3)
	350407	10 U.S.C. 1213
3505	CONTRACT CANCELLATION PAY AND ALLOWANCES	
	350501	10 U.S.C. 12312
3507	SPECIAL SEPARATION BENEFIT (SSB)	
	350701.A	10 U.S.C. 1174a(c)(2), as amended by Public Law 102-484, Section 4422(a), October 23, 1992 Public Law 103-160, section 502, November 30, 1993
	350701.B	10 U.S.C. 1174(e) 10 U.S.C. 1174a(g)
	350701.C	10 U.S.C. 1174a(c)(3) and (4), as amended by Public Law 102-484, section 4422(a), October 23, 1992
	350701.D	10 U.S.C. 1174(e)(2)(D)

350701.E	10 U.S.C. 1174a(g) 10 U.S.C. 1174a(e)(5) Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 2, 1992, para C1d
350701.F	10 U.S.C. 1174a(e)
350701.G	10 U.S.C. 1174(e)(1)(A)
350701.H	10 U.S.C. 1174a(g) 10 U.S.C. 1174(e)(2)(c)
350702	10 U.S.C. 1174a(g) 10 U.S.C. 1174a(b)(2)(A) Public Law 103-139, section 8127, November 11, 1993
350702.A	10 U.S.C. 1174a(g) 10 U.S.C. 1174(f) Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992, para C4b(1)
350702.B	DoDPM Para 70104a
350702.C	DoDPM para 70702b
350702.D	DoDPM para 70202
350703.A	10 U.S.C. 1174(h)(1) 10 U.S.C. 1174a(g)
350703.B	10 U.S.C. 1174(h)(2) 10 U.S.C. 1174a(g) Public Law 104-201, Section 653, September 23, 1996
350703.C	Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992, para C5c
350703.E	Public Law 103-335, section 8106a, September 30, 1994, amended by Public Law 104-6, section 105, April 10, 1995 ASD(FMP) Memo, February 6, 1995
350704	Public Law 106-398, section 571(b), October 30, 2000
3508	VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE (VSI)
350801.A	10 U.S.C. 1175(b)(1), as amended by Public Law 102-484, section 4422(b), October 23, 1992 Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992, Para C1a
350801.A.2	Public Law 103-160, section 502, November 30, 1993
350801.B	Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992, Para C1a
350801.C	10 U.S.C. 1175(b)(2), as amended by Public

350801.D	Law 102-484, section 4422(b), October 23, 1992 Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992, Para C1c
350801.E	10 U.S.C. 1175(b)(3)
350801.F	10 U.S.C. 1175(a)(2) Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992 Para C2
350801.G	Public Law 105-261, section 563, October 17, 1998 10 U.S.C. 1175(a)
350802.A	10 U.S.C. 1175(e)(1) Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992, Para C4a(1)
350802.B	OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992, Para C4a(3)
350802.C	10 U.S.C. 1175(e)(5) Atch to OASD(FM&P) Memo, January 3, 1992, Para C5b
350802.D	Public Law 103-139, section 8127, November 11, 1993
350802.E	26 U.S.C. 3402(i)
350802.F	Public Law 100-180, section 633, December 4, 1987
350802.G	42 U.S.C. 409(d)
350803.A	10 U.S.C. 1175(e)(3)
350803.B	10 U.S.C. 1175(e)(4)
350803.C	10 U.S.C. 1175(e)(2), as amended by Public Law 102-484, section 4406, October 23, 1992
350803.D	10 U.S.C. 1175(f)
350803.E	10 U.S.C. 1175(e)(3)(B)
350803.F	Public Law 103-335, section 8106a, September 30, 1994, amended by
Public Law 104-6,	
	section 105, April 10, 1995
	ASD(FMP) Memo, February 6, 1995
350806	Public Law 106-398, section 571(b), October 30, 2000
3509	VOLUNTARY SEPARATION PAY (VSP)
	Public Law 109-163, section 643, January 6, 2006
	Public Law 109-364, section 623, October 17, 2006
	USD (P&R) Memo, January 8, 2007

*		Public Law 112-81, section 526, December 31, 2011
3510	STOP LOSS SPECIAL PAY	
		Public Law 110-329, section 8116, September 30, 2008
	351002	Public Law 111-118, section 8108(b), December 19, 2009
	351003	Public Law 111-84, section 620, October 28, 2009
3511	RETROACTIVE STOP LOSS SPECIAL PAY COMPENSATION	
		Public Law 111-32, section 310 June 24, 2009
*		OUSD (P&R) Memo, September 23, 2009 Public Law 111-32, section 310, June 24, 2009, amended by Public Law 112-10, section 8111, April 15, 2011 and Public Law 112-74, section 8105, December 23, 2011
	351107	Public Law 111-118, section 8108(d), December 19, 2009 OUSD (P&R) Memo, January 5, 2010.
	Table 35-1	
*	Rule 2	
	Note 9	DoDI 1327.06, June 16, 2009, Incorporating Change 1, September 30, 2011
	Rule 7	37 U.S.C. 504
	Rule 8	37 U.S.C. 501(a)(1)(c)
	Note 2	32 Comp Gen 348
	Note 3	43 Comp Gen 802
	Note 7	Public Law 92-596, October 27, 1972
	Note 8	Public Law 94-361, July 14, 1976
*	Rule 9	DoDI 1332.14, August 28, 2008
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	Rule 1	30 Comp Gen 328
	Rule 2	31 Comp Gen 387 Public Law 94-361, July 14, 1976
	Rule 3	10 U.S.C. 716 DoD Directive 1300.4, April 2, 1984

	Rule 4	31 Comp Gen 668
	Rule 6	35 Comp Gen 25
	Note 2	MS Comp Gen B-176858, December 12, 1973
	Note 3	Public Law 94-361, July 14, 1976
	Note 4	OASD(FM&P) Memo, December 10, 1991
*	Note 5	DoDI 1327.06, June 16, 2009, Incorporating Change 1, September 30, 2011
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	Rule 1	Public Law 106-65, section 671, October 5, 1999
	Rule 2	30 Comp Gen 103
		Public Law 94-361, July 14, 1976
	Rule 8	36 Comp Gen 334
	Note 1	Public Law 94-419, September 22, 1976
		Public Law 101-510, section 1115, November 5, 1990
		OASD(FM&P) Memo, February 15, 1991
	Note 2	10 U.S.C. 1171
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	Note 3	10 U.S.C. 1171
		30 Comp Gen 280
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	Rule 2	37 U.S.C. 906
		48 Comp Gen 127
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		MS Comp Gen B-150737, March 27, 1963
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		MS Comp Gen B-150737, March 27, 1963
	Rule 7	Public Law 106-65, section 671, October 5, 1999
	Note 1	Public Law 101-510, section 1115, November 5, 1990
		OASD(FM&P) Memo, February 15, 1991
		Public Law 94-419, September 22, 1976
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	Rule 7	10 U.S.C. 1164, 3843, 3844, 3845, 6383(i), 6391, 8843, 8844, and 8845

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Rule 1	Public Law 96-513, section 631, December 12, 1980
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Note 9	Public Law 96-513, section 633, December 12, 1980, as amended by Public Law 98-525, section 531, October 12, 1984 10 U.S.C. 1174a 10 U.S.C. 6383
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Note 6	Public Law 96-513, section 631, December 12, 1980, as amended by Public Law 98-525, section 531, October 19, 1984 10 U.S.C. 1174a 10 U.S.C. 6383
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