

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES TO  
DoD 7000.14-R, VOLUME 7A, CHAPTER 61  
“BONUS PROGRAM FOR THE INDIVIDUAL READY RESERVE  
AND INACTIVE NATIONAL GUARD”**

All changes are denoted by blue font

Substantive revisions are denoted by a ★ preceding the section, paragraph, table,  
or figure that includes the revision

Hyperlinks are denoted by *underlined, bold, italic, blue font*

<b>PARAGRAPH</b>	<b>EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
610604	Revised repayment guidance.	Update
6107	Bonus authority extended to December 31, 2010.	Update

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## CHAPTER 61

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

The Secretary concerned (or designee) may pay a bonus to an eligible member who reenlists, enlists, or voluntarily extends an enlistment in a Reserve Component of an Armed Force for assignment to an element (other than the Selected Reserve) of the Ready Reserve.

6102 ELIGIBILITY

610201. An individual must:

A. Remain an enlisted member during the period of enlistment, reenlistment, or extension.

B. Be qualified in and assigned a primary or secondary military occupational specialty (MOS) rate, specified Navy ratings, or Air Force Specialty Code in a critically short wartime skill or a critically short wartime specialty designated by the Secretary concerned (or designee).

C. Not have failed to satisfactorily complete any original term of enlistment in the Armed Forces.

D. Enlist, reenlist, or extend for 3 or 6 years beyond the military service obligation in accordance with Military Service regulations.

E. Not have completed more than 14 years of total military service.

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

610203. Army members who transfer from the Inactive National Guard (ING) to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) may continue to receive this bonus provided such members continue to serve satisfactorily.

610204. A person entitled to a bonus under this section who is called or ordered to active duty shall be paid, during that period of active duty, any amount of the bonus that becomes payable to the member during that period of active duty.

610205. For the purposes of this section, the Secretary concerned (or designee) may designate a skill or specialty as a critically short wartime skill or critically short wartime specialty if:

A. The skill or specialty is critical to meet wartime requirements of the Armed Force; and

B. There is a critical shortage of personnel in that Armed Force who are qualified in that skill or specialty.

610206. The Secretary concerned (or designee) may waive the eligibility requirement in subparagraph 610201.B in the case of a reenlistment or voluntary extension of enlistment by a member of the Armed Forces that is entered into as described in this subsection while the member is serving on active duty in Afghanistan, Iraq, or Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

### 6103 AMOUNTS PAYABLE

610301. An amount not to exceed \$3,000 may be paid to a person who enlists, reenlists, or extends for a period of 6 years, or \$1,500 to a person who enlists, reenlists, or extends for a period of 3 years.

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

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

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

### 6104 OBLIGATION

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

### 6105 TERMINATION OF BONUS ENTITLEMENT

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### 6106 RECOUPMENT OF PAYMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Example: An individual reenlists in the IRR for 3 years and receives the maximum bonus of \$1500. Five months later, the individual is disqualified from entitlement to the bonus:

Amount of bonus received	\$1500.00
Multiplied by:	
Number of whole months remaining divided by term of bonus: $31/36 = .8611$	$\times \underline{.8611}$
Amount to be recouped	\$1291.65

610603. Reduce the amount to be recouped by an amount equal to any reduction taken under [Chapter 35](#), subparagraphs 350702.F or 350802.D.

★ 610604. A person who does not complete the period of enlistment or extension of enlistment for which the bonus was paid under this section will be subject to the repayment provisions of [Chapter 2](#). In the event of a member's death the provisions of paragraph [020202](#) and [Table 2-1](#), rule 1, shall apply.

#### 6107 [TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY](#)

★ A bonus may not be paid to any person for a reenlistment, enlistment, or voluntary extension of an enlistment after December 31, 2010.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**CHAPTER 61 – BONUS PROGRAM FOR THE INDIVIDUAL READY RESERVE AND INACTIVE NATIONAL GUARD**

6101 – AUTHORITY

37 U.S.C. 308h(a)

6102 – ELIGIBILITY

610201.D                      37 U.S.C 308h(a)(2)  
DoDI 1205.21, September 20, 1999

6103 – AMOUNTS PAYABLE

37 U.S.C. 308h(b)

6106 – RECOUPMENT OF PAYMENTS

610604                      37 U.S.C. 308h(c)  
USD (P&R) Memo, May 21, 2008  
USD (P&R) Memo, February 6, 2009

★ 6107 – TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY

37 U.S.C. 308h(e)  
Public Law 111-84, section 611, October 28, 2009