



## Eastern Regional Military Affairs Sentinel January Edition



### **Biden Signs Law Backing Military Pay Increase for 2024. Here's How Much More You'll Get**

President Joe Biden signed the annual defense authorization bill into law Friday afternoon, confirming the largest raise in military basic pay in

decades.

The 2024 National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, was approved by Congress this month. It backed the increase for active-duty service members and reservists.

Current troops get a big bump in basic pay for the second year in a row starting in January, while veterans will receive an above-average increase as well. Common allowances are also going up.

### **2024 Basic Pay Raise**

Active-duty troops and drilling Guard and reserve members will receive a 5.2% pay raise in January, the largest increase since getting a 6.9% raise in 2002.

Set according to an established formula, the 5.2% raise was part of Biden's fiscal 2024 budget request to Congress and was included in the House, Senate and conference versions of the National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, before receiving the president's signature.

The 5.2% raise increases the monthly basic pay for an enlisted E-1 with less than two years of service by nearly \$100 to \$2,017. For an officer with the paygrade of O-4 with more than six years of service, the raise amounts to about \$380 a month for a total of about \$7,681. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will release exact amounts within a dollar of these estimates in January.

Related: [Get the Military.com Pay App](#)

### **2024 BAS and BAH Rates**

While the raises in basic pay are accelerating in 2024, the year's relative increases in the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) and the Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) are comparatively modest.

**The Basic Allowance for Subsistence**, an allotment received by active-duty troops who live outside the barracks, is going up only 1.7% for both officers and enlisted members. In 2023, by comparison, BAS went up 11.2%. In 2024, the monthly BAS payment will be \$316.98 for officers, up from \$311.68, while enlisted members' BAS will increase from \$452.56 to \$460.25.

The 5.4% increase in the BAH coming in 2024 is similar to the increase in basic pay but can't match 2023's 12.1% rise. BAH is set at 95% of housing costs in a given area. The nearly one million troops who receive BAH will absorb \$84 to \$194 of their calculated housing costs monthly in 2024.

Related: [Here Are Your 2024 BAH Rates](#)

### **2024 Military Veteran Pay Raise**

The 5.2% raise in basic pay for active-duty, Guard and reserve members in 2024 joins a 3.2% cost of living adjustment (COLA) given to military retirees and to veterans who receive disability checks from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

While 3.2% may look low compared to the 2022 (5.9%) and 2023 (8.7%) adjustments, it's still above the average of 2.6% for the prior 20 years.

That increase means that, for 2024, retired military members and veterans who receive disability payments will receive a \$32 increase for each \$1,000 of military retirement pay they receive each month. Survivor Benefit Plan payments will increase by the same amount.

Related: [Here's the 2024 Pay Raise for Vets and Retirees](#)

Military retirees who entered military service on or after Aug. 1, 1986, and opted for the Career Status Bonus (CSB/Redux retirement plan) have any COLA

increases reduced by 1%. That means they will see a smaller increase of \$22 per \$1,000 in 2024.



## 18 Benefits & Discounts ALL Veteran, Retired and Active Duty Members Have Earned

Military veterans and active duty personnel have bravely dedicated their life to our country. As a thank you, many private companies offer their goods and services at a discount to show appreciation for their service. Most of the time though, you have to know about them in order to claim them. That is why we have put together a list of the best veterans & military benefits, discounts and freebies out there. Make you sure you read till the end, as there are many you probably have never heard about. As always, if you know anyone that could benefit from these savings. Learn More about them

Kappa Upsilon Sigma Chapter will be hosting with their Sigma Beta Club a **Scholarship Cruise Fundraiser**. This event will take place on August 19-24, 2024 on the Royal Caribbean Independence of the Seas. This event is open to the general public and we have secured fifty (50) cabins for purchase. For those who have high school seniors, this would be an excellent graduation gift. Be sure to share our booking link:  
<https://traveljoy.com/bookings/LRigoA7rKmVcmG7gyshxc4tF>



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