

Continuation Pay (CP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: What is Continuation Pay (CP)?

A: Continuation Pay (CP) is a one-time, mid-career bonus payable to Soldiers between 8 to 12 years of service. CP is a retention tool used to manage the size of the force.

Q: What must I do to receive CP?

A: You must be enrolled in the Blended Retirement System (BRS), agree to perform additional obligated service, and elect to receive CP before you start your 12th year of service (according to your Pay Entry Base Date (PEBD)). Eligible Soldiers receive CP in return for additional obligated service. The Army Reserve commitment is a 4-year service obligation in the SELRES and Soldiers will repay any unearned portion of the CP if you do not complete your additional service obligation. Eligible Soldiers wanting to apply should consult with their unit admin personnel/S1/ARA/RPAC for additional guidance.

Q: How do I know if I am enrolled in the Blended Retirement System (BRS)?

A: LES reads "CM AGCY CONTR", you will see "AGCY-AUTO" with contributions this is how you know you have been enrolled in BRS.

Q: If a Soldier transitioned from TPU to AGR and would like to remain in the CP program but noticed their LES had shifted to the old retirement plan, how can the SOLDIER fix their retirement plan?

A: A Pay Inquiry to DFAS will get this resolved. They will verify the original enrollment date and make the fix.

Q: If the Soldier is no longer in the eligibility window can an Exception to Policy (ETP) be submitted for Continuation Pay?

A: No. The eligibility requirements for Continuation Pay are outlined in the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation (DoDFMR), Volume 7A, Chapter 66, Paragraph 6.2. These requirements are derived from 37 USC 356, and are published in Army Regulation 637-1, Chapter 18.

Each year a policy letter is published which can change the rate and additional service obligation (ADSO). Notwithstanding the above regulatory eligibility requirements, the only recourse a Soldier would have at their disposal is to submit a request through the Army Board of Corrections.

Q: A Soldier is trying to complete the request for Continuation Pay but the LES reads the wrong retirement plan, it reads, "CHOICE" instead of "BLENDED", how can this be corrected?

A: A Pay Inquiry to DFAS will get this resolved. DFAS will verify the original enrollment date and make the fix.

Q: How do I find out the status of my BRS Continuation Pay submission?

A: AGR /TPU Soldiers will submit their CP inquiry through their ARA/S1 (BN/BDE) or G1 (RD); IMA inquiries should go through their IMA coordinator/IMA Program Manager.

Q. How long does it take to receive payment of CP?

A: Upon receipt of completed application error-free, the USARC Pay Team will verify the Soldier is enrolled in BRS and will process CP application. Each application is different from the other; however, the average receipt of payment is 60 days.

Q. What agency should I send my CP payment Request for Information (RFI)?

A: AGR /TPU Soldiers will submit their CP inquiry through their ARA/S1 (BN/BDE) or G1 (RD); IMA inquiries should go through their IMA coordinator/IMA Program Manager.

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Q. When do I send an email to the CP BRS email box?

A: CP inquiry's/RFIs should be routed through their ARA/S1 (BN/BDE) or G1 (RD); IMA inquiries should go through their IMA coordinator/IMA Program Manager.

Q: As a TPU/AGR Soldier, how do I extend my contract in order to fulfill the CP requirement?

A: Please speak with your Career Counselor NCO, according to AR 637-1, paragraph 18-26(4) states that: RA, ARNG, USAR, and Career Counselor Noncommissioned Officers will ensure Soldiers who do not have sufficient service remaining to qualify for CP take retention action to meet the minimum service remaining requirement. In order to qualify for CP you would need to complete a retention action on/before the date the CP request could be approved.