



NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
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ARNG-HRZ (RN 135-7a)

25 March 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR All 54 States, Territories, and the District of Columbia, Army National Guard

SUBJECT: Blended Retirement System Continuation Pay - Calendar Year 2024 Implementation Guidance

1. References:

- a. Title 37 United States Code §§ 356 and 373
- b. Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation, Volumes 5 and 7A, Chapter 2
- c. Army Regulation 637-1 (Army Compensation and Entitlements Policy)
- d. Assistant Secretary of the Army, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, memorandum (Blended Retirement System (BRS) Continuation Pay (CP)), 11 March 2024

2. Purpose: This memorandum establishes eligibility, amounts, and additional service obligation for Continuation Pay (CP) in Calendar Year 2024 (CY24) as authorized in Reference 1a.

3. Applicability: This guidance is effective immediately and expires on 31 December 2024. It applies to Soldiers in the Army National Guard (ARNG) who are covered under the Blended Retirement System (BRS).

4. Eligibility:

a. Active Guard Reserve (AGR). Any member who meets the following criteria is eligible to enter into an agreement to serve the obligation period specified in paragraph 6 below:

- (1) Is covered under the BRS; and
- (2) Has completed no less than eight and not more than 12 years of service, as computed from the Soldier's pay entry basic date (PEBD).

b. ARNG, not in an AGR status, must meet the eligibility criteria listed in paragraph 4a and be a member of the Selected Reserve (SELRES) or otherwise a member of the Ready Reserve is a status in which the member is eligible to receive basic pay.

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c. Inter-service transfers joining one of the Army's BRS eligible groups must complete the transfer before starting their 12th year of service based upon the PEBD. Army leaders will ensure these Soldiers were not paid CP by another service or component before executing a CP payment.

d. Soldiers in the Inactive National Guard are not eligible to apply for BRS-CP.

5. CP Amount: The CP CY24 amount will be computed using eligible Soldiers' current pay grade and years of service as listed on the monthly basic pay table provided by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in effect on the date of the Soldier's request and as follows:

a. For ARNG Soldiers serving on active duty in a career status program (Title 10/Title 32 AGR), CP is 2.5 times their monthly basic pay.

b. ARNG Soldiers serving in the SELRES (minus AGR), CP is four times their active duty monthly basic pay.

6. Service Obligation: In exchange for the CP described in paragraph 5, Soldiers must agree to serve four years of additional service in the component in which they are serving at the time CP is requested. The service obligation commences on the date of the Soldier's CP request.

7. Application Process:

a. The Army will use the enclosed "Request for Continuation Pay (Blended Retirement System)" form as the CP contract to document the Soldier's CP election and obligated service. The CP contract will be placed in the Interactive Personnel Electronic Records Management System under the service and finance subfolders.

b. At a minimum, the BRS CP election packet will include the following:

(1) Proof of BRS enrollment status; and

(2) Request for CP (BRS/CP contract)

c. All Soldiers may submit their CP request when eligible as established by the eligibility criteria listed in paragraph 4; however, Soldiers are encouraged to apply for CP as soon as they enter their period of eligibility.

d. Payments are not payable until BRS opt-in can be verified, and the CP is approved.

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e. Commanders may appoint appropriate personnel to serve as CP certifying officials. When no appointment has been made, the certifying official will be the Soldier's servicing military personnel office and/or servicing human resources specialist.

8. Payment Options:

a. Soldiers may elect to receive CP in a single lump sum or in a series of equal installments, not to exceed four annual payments over four consecutive years.

b. Soldiers who want to have their CP payment(s) directed to their Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) must update their allotment allocations in myPay and their TSP settings to ensure the CP funds are distributed in accordance with their personal financial plan prior to submitting the CP request.

9. Approval authority will be the requesting Soldier's immediate Commander.

10. The proponent for this guidance is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Military Personnel and Quality of Life) (DASA(MP&QL)).

11. Commanders will inform Soldiers of their eligibility status, the CP application process, and available resources supporting their election decision.

12. In coordination with the DASA-MP&QL, the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 (DCS, G-1) will develop and promulgate any additional administrative procedures necessary to enhance the implementation and execution of the Army's CP policy. The DCS, G-1 will update the policy memorandum each year based on changes to the policy.

13. Point of contact for this memorandum is Lieutenant Colonel Stephan Toussaint, Chief, Incentives Oversight Branch, ARNG-HRM-I, at 703-601-7651 or stephan.toussaint.mil@army.mil.

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