



Continuation Pay Rates – 2020

As of January 17, 2020

Service	Multiplier	Timing	Add'l Obligation	Reference
Army	2.5x AC 4.0x RC	At 12 YOS (AC) At 11 YOS (RC)	4 years	MEMO 18DEC19
Marine Corps	2.5x AC 0.5x RC	At 12 YOS	4 years	MARADMIN 663/19
Navy	2.5x AC 0.5x RC	At 12 YOS	4 years	MEMO 19JUN19
Air Force	2.5x AC 0.5x RC	At 12 YOS	4 years	SECAF MEMO 17NOV2017
Coast Guard	2.5x AC 0.5x RC	At 12 YOS	4 years	
NOAA	2.5x AC	At 12 YOS	4 years	
USPHS	2.5x AC	At 10 YOS	4 years	

Learn more about BRS: <http://militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement>

Q. What is continuation pay?

A. BRS includes a Continuation Pay provision as a way to encourage Service members to continue serving in the Uniformed Services. Continuation Pay is a direct cash payout, like a bonus. It is payable between the completion of eight years of service, but before completion of 12 years of service, as determined and announced by your Service. Members receive Continuation Pay in return for additional obligated service. Active component service members (including Active Guard Reserve (AGR) and Full Time Support (FTS)) enrolled in the BRS will be eligible for a cash incentive of 2.5 to 13 times their regular monthly basic pay. Reserve Component members will be eligible for 0.5 to 6 times their monthly basic pay (as if serving on active duty). Each service will publish guidance related to Continuation Pay rates. The rates for each calendar year will be determined by the retention needs of the Military Services and published.

Q. How is the 8 to 12 years of service calculated for continuation pay?

A. Active duty service members and National Guard and Reserve service members in a pay status are eligible for Continuation Pay when they complete between their 8th to 12th year of service, which is calculated from that service member's Pay Entry Base Date (PEBD). Continuation Pay may be paid at any time during this time period, as determined by the Service.

Q. How is continuation pay determined?

A. Each service will determine when and at what rate service members will receive Continuation Pay. The Continuation Pay multiplier may be based on factors such as hard-to-fill positions, retention rates and specialty skill, among others. The services continue to work on guidance related to this provision.

Q. What if a service member is eligible to opt into BRS, but hits 12 years of service during the BRS opt-in window--is he or she still eligible for continuation pay?

A. A service member's eligibility to opt into the BRS is based on that member's status as of December 31, 2017. If they met eligibility criteria on this date, they have all of 2018 to opt into BRS even if they eventually go over 12 years of service (active component) or exceed 4,320 retirement points (National Guard and Reserve), during calendar year 2018. However, eligibility for Continuation Pay is based on a member's years of service on the day they sign the agreement to continue serving. If a Service member was eligible to opt into the BRS as of December 31, 2017, but will soon after go over 12 years of service, they must make their opt-in decision before reaching the completion of 12 years of service if they wish to receive continuation pay. For example, if a Service member has 11 years and 10 months of service on or before December 31, 2017, that member would be eligible to opt into BRS anytime during 2018. However, if that same member wanted to receive Continuation Pay, he or she would only have two months (e.g.: February 2018) to opt into BRS and agree to the additional obligated service in order to receive Continuation Pay. Otherwise he or she will be ineligible for Continuation Pay.

[More Frequently Asked Questions About Continuation Pay](#)