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SAMR (637-1)

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Blended Retirement System (BRS) Continuation Pay (CP) - Calendar Year 2023 (CY23)

1. References:

- a. Title 37, United States Code, Sections 356 and 373
- b. Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation (DoD FMR), Volume 5, Chapter 2
- c. DoD FMR, Volume 7A, Chapter 2
- d. Army Regulation 637-1 (Army Compensation and Entitlements Policy)
- e. Deputy Secretary of Defense, memorandum (Subject Implementation of the Blended Retirement System), 27 January 2017

2. Purpose. This memorandum establishes eligibility, amounts, and additional service obligation for CP in CY23 as authorized in reference 1.a.

3. Applicability. This guidance is effective 1 January 2023, and expires on 31 December 2023. It applies to regular Army (RA), Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and United States Army Reserve Soldiers who are covered under the BRS.

4. Eligibility.

a. RA and 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 base date (PEBD).

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

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.

5. CP Amount. For those eligible to apply for CP during CY23, the CP amount will be computed using their 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 RA, and Title 10 and Title 32 AGR Soldiers performing active service in a career status program, CP is 2.5 times their monthly basic pay.

b. For Army Reserve and Army National Guard Soldiers serving in the SELRES (minus AGR), CP is 4 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) 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.

(2) Request for Continuation Pay (Blended Retirement System)/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.

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

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. Each component will publish the CY23 CP information and procedures for the payment of CP no later than 30 days from the date of this memorandum.

11. The proponent for this guidance is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Military Personnel and Quality of Life) (DASA-MPQ).

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

13. In coordination with the DASA-MPQ, the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 will develop and promulgate any additional administrative procedures necessary to enhance the implementation and execution of the Army's CP policy.

14. Point of contact is Mr. James Landry at (803) 550-9169, james.l.landry22.civ@army.mil or Mr. Larry Anderson at (703) 697-1482, larry.l.anderson46.civ@army.mil.

Encl

AGNES GEREBEN SCHAEFER

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