

§ 370. Discharge within three months before expiration of enlistment

Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, any enlisted member may be discharged at any time within three months before the expiration of his term of enlistment or extended enlistment without prejudice to any right, privilege, or benefit that he would have received, except pay and allowances for the unexpired period not served, or to which he would thereafter become entitled, had he served his full term of enlistment or extended enlistment.

(Added June 8, 1955, ch. 136, §2, 69 Stat. 88; amended Pub. L. 98-557, §15(a)(3)(A), Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 2865.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Pub. L. 98-557 substituted reference to enlisted member for reference to enlisted man.

§ 371. Aviation cadets; procurement; transfer

(a) The grade of aviation cadet is established as a special enlisted grade in the Coast Guard. Under such regulations as the Secretary prescribes, citizens in civil life may be enlisted as, and enlisted members of the Coast Guard with their consent may be designated as, aviation cadets.

(b) Except in time of war or national emergency declared by Congress, not less than 20 percent of the aviation cadets procured in each fiscal year shall be procured from qualified enlisted members of the Coast Guard.

(c) No persons may be enlisted or designated as an aviation cadet unless—

(1) the person agrees in writing that, upon successful completion of the course of training as an aviation cadet, the person will accept a commission as an ensign in the Coast Guard Reserve and will serve on active duty as such for at least three years, unless sooner released; and

(2) if under twenty-one years of age, the person has the consent of the person's parent or guardian to the agreement.

(d) Under such regulations as the Secretary prescribes, an aviation cadet may be transferred to another enlisted grade or rating in the Coast Guard, released from active duty, or discharged.

(Added Pub. L. 89-444, §1(20), June 9, 1966, 80 Stat. 196; amended Pub. L. 97-295, §2(11), Oct. 12, 1982, 96 Stat. 1302; Pub. L. 98-557, §15(a)(1), Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 2864.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 98-557, §15(a)(1)(A), struck out "male" before "citizens" and "enlisted members".

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 98-557, §15(a)(1)(B), substituted "the person" for "he" in two places and struck out "his" after "upon".

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 98-557, §15(a)(1)(C), substituted "the person" for "he", "the person's" for "his", and "the agreement" for "his agreement".

1982—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 97-295 substituted "percent" for "per centum".

§ 372. Aviation cadets; benefits

Except as provided in section 402(c) of title 37, aviation cadets or their beneficiaries are entitled to the same allowances, pensions, gratu-

ities, and other benefits as are provided for enlisted members in pay grade E-4. While on active duty, an aviation cadet is entitled to uniforms, clothing, and equipment at the expense of the United States.

(Added Pub. L. 89-444, §1(20), June 9, 1966, 80 Stat. 197.)

§ 373. Aviation cadets; appointment as Reserve officers

(a) An aviation cadet who fulfills the eligibility requirements of section 2003 of title 10 for designation as a naval aviator may be appointed an ensign in the Coast Guard Reserve and designated a Coast Guard aviator.

(b) Aviation cadets who complete their training at approximately the same time are considered for all purposes to have begun their commissioned service on the same date, and the decision of the Secretary in this regard is conclusive.

(Added Pub. L. 89-444, §1(20), June 9, 1966, 80 Stat. 197; amended Pub. L. 94-546, §1(28), Oct. 18, 1976, 90 Stat. 2521.)

AMENDMENTS

1976—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 94-546 substituted reference to section 2003 of title 10 for reference to section 6023(b) of title 10.

§ 374. Critical skill training bonus

(a) The Secretary may provide a bonus, not to exceed \$20,000, to an enlisted member who completes training in a skill designated as critical, if at least four years of obligated active service remain on the member's enlistment at the time the training is completed. A bonus under this section may be paid in a single lump sum or in periodic installments.

(b) If an enlisted member voluntarily or because of misconduct does not complete the member's term of obligated active service, the Secretary may require the member to repay the United States, on a pro rata basis, all sums paid under this section. The Secretary may charge interest on the amount repaid at a rate, to be determined quarterly, equal to 150 percent of the average of the yields on the 91-day Treasury bills auctioned during the calendar quarter preceding the date on which the amount to be repaid is determined.

(Added Pub. L. 108-293, title II, §204(a), Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1032.)

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 421. Retirement

(a) Every commissioned officer, warrant officer, or enlisted member who is retired under any provisions of this title shall be retired with the permanent grade or rate held at the time of retirement, unless entitled to retire with a higher grade or rate under any provision of this title or any other law.

(b) Where an officer is entitled, under any provision of law, to retire with one grade higher than the grade in which serving at the time of retirement, the next higher grade in the case of captain shall be rear admiral (lower half), and