

§ 211. Participation in Thrift Savings Plan

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “member” means—

(1) a member of the uniformed services serving on active duty; and

(2) a member of the Ready Reserve in any pay status.

(b) AUTHORITY.—Any member may participate in the Thrift Savings Plan in accordance with section 8440e of title 5.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING SEPARATION.—For purposes of subchapters III and VII of chapter 84 of title 5, each of the following actions shall, in the case of a member participating in the Thrift Savings Plan in accordance with section 8440e of such title, be considered a separation from Government employment:

(1) Release of the member from active duty, not followed, before the end of the 31-day period beginning on the day following the effective date of the release, by—

(A) a resumption of active duty; or

(B) an appointment to a position covered by chapter 83 or 84 of title 5 or an equivalent retirement system, as identified by the Executive Director (appointed by the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board) in regulations.

(2) Transfer of the member to inactive status, or to a retired list pursuant to any provision of title 10.

(d) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR RETENTION IN CRITICAL SPECIALTIES AND FIRST-TIME ENLISTEES.—(1) The Secretary concerned may enter into an agreement with a member to make contributions to the Thrift Savings Fund for the benefit of the member if the member—

(A)(i) is in a specialty designated by the Secretary as critical to meet requirements (whether such specialty is designated as critical to meet wartime or peacetime requirements); and

(ii) commits in such agreement to continue to serve on active duty in that specialty for a period of 6 years; or

(B) is enlisting in the armed forces for the first time and the period of the member’s enlistment is not less than two years.

(2) Under any agreement entered into with a member under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall make contributions to the Fund for the benefit of the member for each pay period of the 6-year period of the agreement for which the member makes a contribution to the Fund under section 8440e of title 5 (other than under subsection (d)(2) thereof).

(3) In the case of a member described by paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary shall make contributions to the Fund for the benefit of the member for each pay period of the enlistment of the member described in that paragraph for which the member makes a contribution to the Fund under section 8440e of title 5 (other than under subsection (d)(2) thereof).

(4) Paragraph (2) of section 8432(c) of title 5 applies to the Secretary’s obligation to make contributions under this subsection, except that the reference in such paragraph (2) to contributions

under paragraph (1) of such section 8432(c) does not apply.

(e) REPAYMENT OF AMOUNTS BORROWED FROM MEMBER ACCOUNT.—If a loan is issued to a member under section 8433(g) of title 5 from funds in the member’s account in the Thrift Savings Plan, repayment of the loan may be required on the same semi-monthly basis as authorized for contributions to the Thrift Savings Fund on behalf of the member under section 1014(c) of this title.

(Added and amended Pub. L. 106–65, div. A, title VI, §§ 661(a)(1)(A), 662, Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 670, 672; Pub. L. 109–163, div. A, title VI, § 605, Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3287; Pub. L. 110–181, div. A, title VI, § 605(b), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 146; Pub. L. 114–92, div. A, title VI, § 632(e)(1), Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 847.)

AMENDMENT OF SECTION

Pub. L. 114–92, div. A, title VI, §§ 632(e)(1), 635, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 847, 851, provided that, effective Jan. 1, 2018, with certain implementation requirements, this section is amended by striking subsection (d) and redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d). See 2015 Amendment note below.

AMENDMENTS

2015—Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 114–92 redesignated subsec. (e) as (d) and struck out former subsec. (d) which related to agency contributions for retention in critical specialties and first-time enlistees.

2008—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 110–181 added subsec. (e).

2006—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 109–163, § 605(b), inserted “and First-Time Enlistees” after “Specialties” in heading.

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 109–163, § 605(a)(1), designated existing provisions of subpar. (A) as cl. (i), redesignated former subpar. (B) as cl. (ii) of subpar. (A) and substituted “; or” for period at end, and added a new subpar. (B).

Subsec. (d)(2) to (4). Pub. L. 109–163, § 605(a)(2)–(4), substituted “member under paragraph (1)(A)” for “member under paragraph (1)” in first sentence of par. (2), added par. (3), designated second sentence of par. (2) as (4), and in par. (4) substituted “this subsection” for “this paragraph”.

1999—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 106–65, § 662, added subsec. (d).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2015 AMENDMENT; IMPLEMENTATION

Amendment by Pub. L. 114–92 effective Jan. 1, 2018, with certain implementation requirements, see section 635 of Pub. L. 114–92, set out as a note under section 8432 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section and amendment by Pub. L. 106–65 effective 180 days after Oct. 30, 2000, unless postponed, see section 663 of Pub. L. 106–65, as amended, set out as a note under section 8440e of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

PILOT PROGRAM ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN FOR INITIAL ENLISTEES IN THE ARMY

Pub. L. 109–163, div. A, title VI, § 606, Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3287, as amended by Pub. L. 109–364, div. A, title VI, § 608, title X, § 1071(e)(3), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2247, 2401, provided that:

“(a) PILOT PROGRAM REQUIRED.—During the period beginning on January 6, 2006, and ending on December 31, 2008, the Secretary of the Army shall use the authority provided by section 211(d)(1)(B) of title 37,

United States Code, as amended by section 605, to carry out within the Army a pilot program in order to assess the extent to which contributions by the Secretary to the Thrift Savings Fund on behalf of members of the Army described in subsection (b) would—

- “(1) assist the Army in recruiting efforts; and
- “(2) assist such members in establishing habits of financial responsibility during their initial enlistment in the Armed Forces.

“(b) COVERED MEMBERS.—To be eligible to participate in the pilot program under subsection (a), a member of the Army must be serving under an initial enlistment for a period of not less than two years.

“(c) CONTRIBUTIONS TO THRIFT SAVINGS FUND.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Army may make contributions to the Thrift Savings Fund on behalf of any participant in the pilot program under subsection (a) for any pay period during the period of the pilot program.

“(2) LIMITATIONS.—The amount of any contributions made with respect to a member under paragraph (1) shall be subject to the provisions of section 8432(c) of title 5, United States Code.

“(d) REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than February 1, 2008, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] a report on the pilot program under subsection (a).

“(2) ELEMENTS.—The report shall include the following:

“(A) A description of the pilot program, including the number of members of the Army who participated in the pilot program and the contributions made by the Army to the Thrift Savings Fund on behalf of such members during the period of the pilot program.

“(B) An assessment, based on the pilot program and taking into account the views of officers and senior enlisted personnel of the Army, and of field recruiters, of the extent to which contributions by the military departments to the Thrift Savings Fund on behalf of members of the Armed Forces similar to the participants in the pilot program—

- “(i) would enhance the recruiting efforts of the Armed Forces; and
- “(ii) would assist such members in establishing habits of financial responsibility during their initial enlistment in the Armed Forces.”

§ 212. Advancement of basic pay: members deployed in combat zone for more than one year

(a) ELIGIBILITY; AMOUNT ADVANCED.—If a member of the armed forces is assigned to duty in an area for which special pay under section 310 of this title is available and the assignment is pursuant to orders specifying an assignment of one year or more (or the assignment is extended beyond one year), the member may request, during the period of the assignment, the advanced payment of not more than three months of the basic pay of the member.

(b) CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST.—A request by a member described in subsection (a) for the advanced payment of a single month of basic pay shall be granted. The Secretary concerned may grant a member's request for a second or third month of advanced basic pay during the assignment upon a showing of financial hardship.

(c) RECOUPMENT OF ADVANCED PAY.—The Secretary concerned shall recoup an advance made on the basic pay of a member under this section in equal installments over a one-year period be-

ginning as provided in subsection (d). If the member is serving on active duty for any month during the recoupment period, the amount of the installment for the month shall be deducted from the basic pay of the member for that month. The estate of a deceased member shall not be required to repay any portion of the advanced pay paid to the member and not repaid before the death of the member.

(d) COMMENCEMENT OF RECOUPMENT.—The recoupment period for an advancement of basic pay to a member under this section shall commence on the first day of the first month beginning on or after the date on which the member receives the advanced pay.

(Added Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title VI, §606(a), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 1945.)

CHAPTER 5—SPECIAL AND INCENTIVE PAYS

SUBCHAPTER I—EXISTING SPECIAL PAY, INCENTIVE PAY, AND BONUS AUTHORITIES

- Sec. Incentive pay: hazardous duty.
- 301. Incentive pay: aviation career.
- 301a. Special pay: aviation career officers extending period of active duty.
- 301b. Incentive pay: submarine duty.
- 301c. Multiyear retention bonus: medical officers of the armed forces.
- 301d. Multiyear retention bonus: dental officers of the armed forces.
- 301e. Special pay: medical officers of the armed forces.
- 302. Special pay: optometrists.
- 302a. Special pay: dental officers of the armed forces.
- 302b. Special pay: psychologists and nonphysician health care providers.
- 302c. Special pay: accession and retention bonuses for psychologists.
- 302c-1. Special pay: accession bonus for registered nurses.
- 302d. Special pay: nurse anesthetists.
- 302e. Special pay: reserve, recalled, or retained health care officers.
- 302f. Special pay: Selected Reserve health care professionals in critically short wartime specialties.
- 302g. Special pay: accession bonus for dental officers.
- 302h. Special pay: pharmacy officers.
- 302i. Special pay: accession bonus for pharmacy officers.
- 302j. Special pay: accession bonus for medical officers in critically short wartime specialties.
- 302k. Special pay: accession bonus for dental specialist officers in critically short wartime specialties.
- 303. Special pay: veterinarians.
- 303a. Special pay: general provisions.
- 303b. Waiver of board certification requirements.
- 304. Special pay: diving duty.
- 305. Special pay: hardship duty pay.
- 305a. Special pay: career sea pay.
- 305b. Special pay: service as member of Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team.
- 306. Special pay: officers holding positions of unusual responsibility and of critical nature.
- 306a. Special pay: members assigned to international military headquarters.
- 307. Special pay: special duty assignment pay for enlisted members.
- 307a. Special pay: assignment incentive pay.
- 308. Special pay: reenlistment bonus.
- [308a. Repealed.]