

§ 8296. Navy and Marine Corps Medal

(a) The President may award a medal called the “Navy and Marine Corps Medal” of appropriate design with accompanying ribbon, together with a rosette or other device to be worn in place thereof—

(1) to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Navy or the Marine Corps, distinguishes himself by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy; or

(2) to any person to whom the Secretary of the Navy, before August 7, 1942, awarded a letter of commendation for heroism, and who applies for that medal, regardless of the date of the act of heroism.

(b) The authority in subsection (a) includes authority to award the medal to a member of the Ready Reserve who was not in a duty status defined in section 101(d) of this title when the member distinguished himself by heroism.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 390, §6246; Pub. L. 105–85, div. A, title V, §574(b), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1758; renumbered §8296, Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title VIII, §807(b)(13), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
6246	34 U.S.C. 356b.	Feb. 4, 1919, ch. 14, §5; added Aug. 7, 1942, ch. 551, §1, 56 Stat. 744.

The word “award” is substituted for the word “present” to cover the determination of the recipient as well as the actual presenting of the award. The words “but not in the name of Congress” are omitted since a decoration is presented in the name of Congress only if the law so directs. The words “including the Naval Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve” are omitted as covered by the definitions of the Navy and the Marine Corps. The last sentence, relating to additional pay, is omitted for the reason that, under the Career Compensation Act of 1949 (37 U.S.C. 231 et seq.), there is no additional pay authorized for any medal. The words “since December 6, 1941” are omitted as executed. The words “or herself” are omitted as covered by the rules of construction in 1 U.S.C. 1.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8296, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 510; Aug. 6, 1958, Pub. L. 85–600, §1(16), 72 Stat. 523; Sept. 2, 1958, Pub. L. 85–861, §1(156), (175), 72 Stat. 1513, 1519, provided for promotion lists in Regular Air Force for all commissioned officers in grades below brigadier general on active list, with exceptions, which officers are known as “promotion-list officers”, a separate list for chaplains, judge advocates, medical officers, dental officers, veterinary officers, medical service officers, Air Force nurses, Air Force medical specialists, and any category established by Secretary of Air Force under section 8067(i) of this title, and determination of place on list upon transfer or promotion, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 96–513, title II, §204, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2880, effective Sept. 15, 1981. See section 624 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–232 renumbered section 6246 of this title as this section.

1997—Pub. L. 105–85 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115–232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and

special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115–232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 8297. Additional awards

Not more than one Navy cross, distinguished-service medal, silver star medal, distinguished flying cross, or Navy and Marine Corps Medal may be awarded to a person. However, for each succeeding act or service that would otherwise justify the award of such a medal or cross, the President may award a suitable bar, emblem, or insignia to be worn with the decoration and corresponding rosette or other device.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 390, §6247; Pub. L. 113–66, div. A, title V, §561(b), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 766; renumbered §8297, Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title VIII, §807(b)(13), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
6247	34 U.S.C. 358. 34 U.S.C. 364a (2d sentence).	Feb. 4, 1919, ch. 14, §5, 40 Stat. 1056; renumbered §7 and amended Aug. 7, 1942, ch. 551, §1, 56 Stat. 744. July 2, 1926, ch. 721, §12 (2d sentence), 44 Stat. 789; July 30, 1937, ch. 545, §4, 50 Stat. 549.

The word “awarded” is substituted for the word “issued” for uniformity. The words “that would otherwise justify” are substituted for the words “sufficient to justify” for clarity. The word “service” is substituted for the word “achievement” for uniformity. The words “as he shall direct” are omitted as surplusage.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8297, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 510; Aug. 21, 1957, Pub. L. 85–155, title III, §301(8), 71 Stat. 387; July 12, 1960, Pub. L. 86–616, §6(1), 74 Stat. 391, provided for selection boards to recommend promotion-list officers and brigadier generals of Regular Air Force for promotion in Regular Air Force, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 96–513, title II, §204, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2880, effective Sept. 15, 1981. See section 611 et seq. of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–232 renumbered section 6247 of this title as this section.

2013—Pub. L. 113–66 struck out “medal of honor,” before “Navy cross”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115–232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115–232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 8298. Limitations of time

(a) Except as provided in section 8296 of this title or subsection (b), no medal of honor, Navy cross, distinguished-service medal, silver star medal, Navy and Marine Corps Medal, or bar, emblem, or insignia in place thereof may be awarded to a person unless—

(1) the award is made within five years after the date of the act or service justifying the award; and

(2) a statement setting forth the act or distinguished service and recommending official