

FAQs for the Aviation Bonus Program (AvB)

Updated 17 APR 2025

Who is eligible for the ADHRB Program?

In general, any individual who has been selected for O-4 and will be eligible for a Aviation Department Head Screen Board (ADHSB) in a future year or an individual not yet selected for O-4 but is eligible for the ADHSB in the current year. Active Duty Service Obligations apply, more specifics can be found in the ADHRB program information.

Although O-4 selection is not a requirement to apply for a ADHRB contract, O-4 selection is required prior to contract activation and payment disbursement. This ensures that officers that have not been selected for O-4 (due to statutory screen group shifting or being in a FOS status) are eligible for early rate bonus contracts.

Additionally, the first payment of the ADHRB will cannot be made until within 1 year of undergraduate flight training MSR and contracts cannot be activated until that time. This may impact disbursement for those with late MSRs such as those who have made the transition from NFO to pilot. Specific payment plan information can be found in the program information. Please contact PERS-435 at avipandavb.fct@navy.mil with any eligibility questions.

When does my ADHRB contract need to be received by PERS-435 to be eligible for the early commitment (higher) rates?

For those interested in the early commitment rate, applications must be received prior to the publication of the ADHSB results. To ensure receipt prior to ADHSB results publication, please submit ADHRB contracts prior to ADHSB convening dates.

When does my ADHRB contract need to be received by PERS-435 to be eligible for the standard (3/5/7 year) commitment?

Applications for the standard commitment (3, 5, or 7 year) rates will be accepted until the closing date of the ADHRB program, which is specified in the NAVADMIN. Applications after the closing date will require an exception to policy (ETP) request.

If I've already entered a contract under a previous FY program, will I be eligible for the new ADHRB rates/terms?

Individuals who are currently under contract from previous FY ADHRB will not be eligible to apply for a contract under a later year. For example, those on ADHRB contracts from years prior to FY23 have a maximum contract length of 5 years and are unable to extend their contract to 7 years (which is a feature of the ADHRB in FY23 and later).

If I was eligible for a previous FY ADHRB, and did not take it, am I eligible for the ADHRB?

For most people, the ADHRB that was active at the time of the ADHSB (during which they were screened) is the ADHRB (rate and terms) that they are eligible for.

Some people will be eligible to take an ADHRB for multiple years (if they are not yet on a contract). These individuals are those that are selected for O-4 (early) and do not have DH screening until multiple years later. They are eligible for the ADHRB the first year that they are selected for O-4. If they do not take a contract that year, they will be eligible for the (new) ADHRB in the following year. However, the

release of a new ADHRB program cancels their eligibility for the ADHRB program from previous years. You cannot wait to see if you prefer the rate/terms of a new ADHRB program and opt for an older ADHRB.

Who is eligible for the ACRB Program?

Any individual who screened for command on a Aviation Command Screen Board (ACSB) that has not yet assumed command.

The application window for all participants ACRB program will close on date specified in the NAVADMIN. Applications must be received by this date.

How do you calculate the “completion of my 22nd year of commissioned service”?

Completion is calculated as the 22nd anniversary of your commissioning date. If you were commissioned on 23 May 2003, the completion of the 22nd year of commissioned service would be 23 May 2025.

If I’ve already entered a contract under a previous FY program, will I be eligible for the new ACRB?

Individuals who are currently under contract do not meet the eligibility criteria for a newer ACRB program.