

MILPERSMAN 1810-080

ENROLLMENT IN THE BLENDED RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Responsible Office	OPNAV (N13)	Phone:	DSN	664-4763
			COM	(703) 604-4763
			FAX	664-6957
MyNavy Career Center		Phone: Toll Free	1-833-330-MNCC (6622)	
		E-mail:	askmncc@navy.mil	
		MyNavy Portal:	https://my.navy.mil/	

References	<p>(a) P.L. 114-92, Section 631-635, National Defense Appropriation Act of Fiscal Year 2016</p> <p>(b) P.L. 114-328, Section 631-633, National Defense Appropriation Act of Fiscal Year 2017</p> <p>(c) DoD memo Guidance for Implementation of the Blended Retirement System for the Uniformed Services of 27 Jan 17</p> <p>(d) DON memo Implementation of the Blended Retirement System of 26 Apr 2017</p> <p>(e) NAVADMIN 217/16 Announcement of the Blended Retirement System for the Uniformed Services</p> <p>(f) NAVADMIN 020/17 Notification of Availability of the Blended Retirement System Opt-In Training</p> <p>(g) 37 U.S.C.</p> <p>(h) 10 U.S.C.</p>
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1. Policy

a. Per references (a) through (f), the Blended Retirement System (BRS) went into effect on 1 January 2018. All Navy Service members who have a date initially entered into military service (DIEMS) on or after 1 January 2018 will be automatically enrolled in the BRS.

b. All Navy members who initially entered into military or uniformed service on or before 31 December 2017 are grandfathered under their legacy retirement plan and will not be enrolled in the BRS without making the election to opt-in.

c. Any Navy member determined to be eligible for enrollment in the BRS by virtue of eligibility criteria, per paragraph 4 below, must complete mandatory training on the BRS.

d. **The decision by an opt-in eligible member to enroll in the BRS is irrevocable.**

2. **Purpose.** To assign responsibilities and provide procedures for enrolling Navy Service members in the BRS.

3. **Responsibilities**

a. The Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV), Military Personnel, Plans, and Policy Division (N13) is responsible for:

(1) Management and oversight of BRS MILPERSMAN articles;
and

(2) Disseminating all correspondence and policy/execution changes to the Office of the Chief of Navy Reserve and Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM).

b. NAVPERSCOM, Pay and Personnel Management Department (PERS-2) is responsible for:

(1) Identifying the Active Component (AC) BRS opt-in eligible Service members;

(2) In conjunction with NAVPERSCOM, Reserve Personnel Management Department (PERS-9), identifying Full Time Support (FTS) BRS opt-in eligible Service members;

(3) Ensuring the Navy Personnel System is capable of notifying BRS opt-in eligible AC, FTS, and Reserve Component (RC) Service members via automated e-mail through the Navy Personnel System for in-person notification by commands. All commands will have the ability to obtain a BRS opt-in eligibility list on demand via the Navy Personnel System; and

(4) Verifying the Navy Personnel System sends a compiled list of AC, FTS, and RC BRS opt-in eligible members to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). If the Navy Personnel System is inoperable, then NAVPERSCOM (PERS-2) will manually send the list to DFAS.

c. NAVPERSCOM (PERS-9) is responsible for:

(1) The identification of RC BRS opt-in eligible Service members and providing that list to Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command (CNRFC) (N1);

(2) Answering any questions concerning BRS eligibility for RC members; and

(3) Assisting NAVPERSCOM (PERS-2) in the computation of retirement points for FTS by obtaining the points earned as a member of the Ready Reserve or Active Standby Reserve.

d. CNRFC will coordinate with subordinate commands to notify BRS opt-in eligible RC Service members. As this is a dynamic list, members will be notified multiple times to ensure all eligible personnel are notified.

e. Navy new accessions are responsible for:

(1) Navy members who have a DIEMS date after 31 December 2017 must complete mandatory BRS new accession training within their first 365 days of service following entry into active duty service per procedures prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy;

(2) Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) and United States Naval Academy (USNA) midshipmen who are eligible to enroll in the BRS under provisions contained in reference (c) are required to complete the BRS opt-in training prior to commissioning;

(3) NROTC and USNA midshipmen who have a DIEMS date after 31 December 2017 are required to complete the BRS new accession training prior to commissioning;

(4) Delayed Entry Program (DEP) members who are eligible to enroll in the BRS under provisions contained in reference (c) are required to complete the BRS opt-in training during the initial Navy recruit training; and

(5) Members with a break in service who are eligible to enroll in the BRS are required to complete the BRS opt-in training within their first 30 days of returning to Navy service.

4. **Eligibility.** A member with a DIEMS on or after 1 January 2018 will be automatically enrolled in BRS. The following members of the Navy are eligible to opt-in under the provisions of BRS:

a. Any member of the AC of the Navy who is serving on 31 December 2017 who:

(1) Has a DIEMS date that is on or before 31 December 2017;

(2) Has served in a uniformed service for fewer than 12 years as calculated from their pay entry base date (PEBD); and

(3) Elects to enroll in the BRS under the provisions per paragraphs 6 and 7 below.

b. Any member of the RC who is a member of the Ready Reserve on 31 December 2017, including FTS personnel or the Active Standby Reserve, who:

(1) Has a DIEMS on or before 31 December 2017;

(2) Is in receipt of basic pay or inactive duty pay per reference (g), sections 204 or 206;

(3) Has accumulated fewer than 4,320 retirement points, per reference (h), section 12733, as of that date; and

(4) Elects to enroll in the BRS under the provisions per paragraph 6 and 7.

c. Any member who has signed an agreement to enlist in the Navy in DEP, per reference (h), section 513 who:

(1) Has a DIEMS on or before 31 December 2017;

(2) Is in receipt of basic pay or inactive duty pay per reference (g), sections 204 or 206; and

(3) Elects to enroll in the BRS under the provisions outlined in paragraphs 6 and 7.

d. Any midshipman attending the USNA or enrolled in ROTC as of 31 December 2017 who has signed an agreement to serve as a commissioned officer in the Navy upon graduation who:

(1) Has a DIEMS on or before 31 December 2017;

(2) Is in receipt of basic pay or inactive duty pay per reference (g), sections 204 or 206; and

(3) Elects to enroll in the BRS under the provisions per paragraphs 6 and 7.

e. Any member who, but for a break in service, would otherwise be eligible to elect to enroll in the BRS under any of the provisions above, and who returns to service with the Navy on or after 1 January 2019, following a break in service that commenced prior to 31 December 2017, may make an election to enroll in the BRS under the provision outlined in paragraphs 6 and 7 below.

5. Training on BRS

a. Navy members who are eligible to enroll in the BRS must complete mandatory opt-in training available on Navy e-Learning and Joint Knowledge Online prior to opting into the BRS.

b. Navy members who are enrolled in the BRS automatically by virtue of their DIEMS date must complete mandatory new accessions training during their respective accession pipeline training via classroom-delivery by a facilitator who is familiar with the course content.

6. Procedures for Enrollment

a. The enrollment period will be open from 1 January 2018 thru 31 December 2018.

b. **The decision to elect to enroll in the BRS is irrevocable.**

c. Enrollment in the BRS must be completed on the "myPay" Web site at: <https://mypay.dfas.mil/> according to procedures separately promulgated by the DFAS.

d. Prior to making the election to enroll in the BRS, members of the Navy who are eligible to opt-in and choose to enroll in the BRS must affirm on the myPay Web site that they have completed the mandatory opt-in training and that they

acknowledge and understand that the decision to enroll in the BRS is irrevocable.

7. **Extensions of the Enrollment Period.** In certain cases, the Secretary of the Navy has the authority to extend the election time period for enrollment in the BRS for a member of the Navy who is eligible to opt-in to the BRS and was unable to enroll in BRS during the election period.

a. Automatic Extensions. An automatic extension of 30 days may be granted and executed by any command upon determination by the local commander (O-6 or above or civilian equivalent) that the member of the Navy was:

(1) A Navy member returning to AC, Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), or the Standby Reserve-Active who:

(a) Was performing RC service as of 31 December 2017;

(b) Is eligible to opt-in to the BRS, but did not perform duty in a paid status during the enrollment period; and

(c) Has not previously been afforded the opportunity to elect to enroll in the BRS upon the first instance the member is:

1 Activated under any provision of Federal law; and

2 Affiliated in a paid status with the Selected Reserve.

(2) A member of the Navy who signed an agreement to enlist under provisions of the DEP and:

(a) Is eligible to opt-in to the BRS under provisions in paragraph 6; and

(b) Has a PEBD on or after 1 September 2018.

(3) An NROTC or USNA midshipman who:

(a) Is eligible to opt-in to the BRS under provisions in paragraph 6; and

(b) Has a commissioning or enlistment date on or after 1 December 2018.

(4) A member of the Navy, who otherwise would have been eligible to enroll in the BRS during calendar year 2018, and who was participating in the Career Intermission Pilot Program, but does not return to duty until 1 December 2018 or later upon that member's return to active service.

b. Discretionary Hardship Extensions. A discretionary hardship extension of the enrollment period may be granted by the Commander, Navy Personnel Command if the member experiences a hardship due to:

(1) Deployment for 30 days or more that is inclusive of 31 December 2018, which in the determination of Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) (ASN (M&RA)), prevented the member from having access to all resources available to make financial or retirement decisions;

(2) Court proceedings or court orders that prevent a member from making financial or retirement decisions during the enrollment period;

(3) Illness or injury that substantially impacts, in the determination of ASN (M&RA), a member's ability to make financial or retirement decisions during the enrollment period;

(4) Failure of the Navy to notify a member of that member's eligibility to elect to opt-in to the BRS at least 60 days prior to the conclusion of the enrollment period;

(5) Inability to complete the mandatory opt-in training, per paragraph 6, due to circumstances beyond the control of the member;

(6) Inability to access the Web site or follow the designated procedures for making the election described in paragraph 6 during the election period due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the member; or

(7) Other extraordinary or exceptional circumstances as determined by ASN (M&RA).

8. **Eligibility Discrepancy**. To ensure all opt-in eligible Service members are able to enroll in the BRS when the opt-in

window opens, all AC Service members must ensure their DIEMS, the earliest date of enlistment, induction, or appointment in a Regular or RC of a Uniformed Service is accurately reflected on their leave and earning statement (LES) and in their Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS) electronic service record (ESR). The DIEMS is **critical** in determining an AC or RC Service member's BRS opt-in eligibility status. Additionally, AC Service members must ensure the PEBD (the date they entered a paid status in a uniformed service) is correct, and RC Service members must ensure their retirement point total is correctly reflected in their ESR.

a. If the PEBD or DIEMS date is not correct on the member's LES or NSIPS ESR, or a member believes their BRS opt-in eligibility status is incorrect, the member should contact the command career counselor (CCC) or command pay and personnel administrator (CPPA).

b. CCCs or CPPAs should report the BRS eligibility discrepancy via an encrypted e-mail to mill_brs@navy.mil. The subject line should read "FOUO - BRS Eligibility Discrepancy - DIEMS," "FOUO - BRS Eligibility Discrepancy - PEBD," or "FOUO - BRS Eligibility Discrepancy - Unknown."

c. Each BRS eligibility discrepancy submission should include substantiating documents to include one of the following documents:

(1) The member's DD 214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty

(2) DD 215 Correction to DD 214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty

(3) NGB 22 Report of Separation and Record of Service

(4) DD 4 Enlistment/Reenlistment Document Armed Forces of the United States

(5) DD 1966 Record of Military Processing - Armed Forces of the United States or

(6) Cadet/midshipman contracts or contracts with the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic, and Atmosphere Administration or Public Health Service.

Note: DD 214, DD 215, DD 4, and DD 1966 may be accessed at:
http://www.esd.whs.mil/Directives/forms/dd0001_0499/ and NGB 22
at: <http://www.ngbpdc.ngb.army.mil/forms.htm>.

d. If the discrepancy is not caused by one of the above issues; or if the member, CCC, or CPPA would like additional information regarding the member's eligibility, please contact the NAVPERSCOM help desk via one of the methods listed on the following NPC Web site - <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/organization/npc/csc/Pages/ContactUs.aspx>.

9. **Erroneous Enrollment.** If it is later discovered by the Secretary of the Navy that an ineligible member was mistakenly enrolled or elected to enroll in the BRS, the member's enrollment will be voided. Such members will be placed under the correct retirement system upon discovery of the error. Any Thrift Savings Plan contributions to that member's account will be handled per Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board regulations.