

SAILOR FOR LIFE

★ ⚓ ★ Veterans. Retirees. Families.

Volume 1
Issue #1
Fall/Winter

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SAILOR FOR LIFE

Sailor for Life, the magazine for Navy Veterans, Retirees, and Families (NAVPERS 15886), is published in accordance with Department of the Navy (DON) Publication and Printing Regulations. The Secretary of the Navy has determined this publication is necessary in the transaction of business required by law of the DON.

Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel Commander, Navy Personnel Command:

Rear Adm. Wayne "Mouse" Baze

NPC Public Affairs Officer:

Cmdr. Sean Brophy

Editor:

Gene H. Hughes

Layout & Design:

Doug Bedford

Send correspondence to:

Navy Personnel Command
Sailor for Life

5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055

E-mail:

MILL_S4L@us.navy.mil

SECNAV Retiree Council

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Dear Navy Retirees, Veterans, and Families,

Navy Personnel Command is excited to share some important news with you. Starting with this issue, our newsletter, previously known as Shift Colors, will now be called **Sailor for Life**. This name change reflects our expanded commitment to supporting every member of our Navy family, no matter where you are in your journey.

Why the New Name?

The Navy is a lifelong connection. **Sailor for Life** emphasizes our dedication to standing by you from your days in service through your retirement or separation and beyond. It embodies our commitment to being a reliable resource for you and your family, no matter where life takes you.

MyNavy HR provides enhanced support and resources.

With **Sailor for Life**, we aim to provide meaningful content that supports your post-service life. Whether it's information on benefits, updates on Navy initiatives, or resources for family support, we are here to offer you valuable insights and assistance.

We are committed to exceptional service.

Our focus is on delivering exceptional customer service and ensuring that your needs are met with the highest standard of care. **Sailor for Life** will keep you informed about how we are working to support you and address any concerns you might have.

We are a community.

By expanding our audience to include all Navy veterans and families, **Sailor for Life** is dedicated to fostering a sense of community and belonging. We want to keep you connected and engaged with the Navy family that has been a significant part of your life.

We invite you to share **Sailor for Life** with fellow retirees, veterans, and families. Your continued support and engagement are vital as we move forward with this new chapter. We are here for you, ready to provide the support and information you need to navigate your post-service life.

We invite our readers to participate in this publication.

Tell us what you would like to see within these pages in future, and feel free to share any life hacks and survival tips that your shipmates might benefit from.

We will continue to bring information that you might find useful. Navy history, as well as stories and photos from the fleet's best photographers and storytellers will still be here, as will our reunion notices. Hopefully our new readers will find new connections with old shipmates and make new ones as well.

Thank you for your service and for being a cherished part of our Navy community. Stay tuned for more updates, stories, and resources in **Sailor for Life**.

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On this Page:

Sailors conduct a vertical replenishment aboard Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) while underway in the Pacific Ocean, June 14, 2024. George Washington is deployed as part of Southern Seas 2024 which seeks to enhance capability, improve interoperability, and strengthen maritime partnerships with countries throughout the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility through joint, multinational, and interagency exchanges and cooperation.

(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class August Clawson)

On the Cover:

Lt. j.g. Jonathan Huang, from Irvine, California, stands watch in the pilot house aboard the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114) as the ship departs Commander, Fleet Activities Sasebo, July 29, 2024. Ralph Johnson is forward deployed and assigned to Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 15, the Navy's largest DESRON and the U.S. 7th Fleet's principal surface force.

(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jamaal Liddell)



H.R. 502: To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Jim Banks, IN (R)

Two cosponsors (1 R, 1 D)

Status: Introduced on Jan 25, 2023, this bill passed in the House on March 7, 2023 and goes to the Senate next for consideration. Other activity may have occurred on another bill with identical or similar provisions.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/hr502/text>

H.R. 3738: Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration Act

Sponsor: Brad Wenstrup, OH (R)

Three cosponsors (2 D, 1 R)

Status: Introduced on May 25, 2023, this bill passed in the House on April 30, 2024 and goes to the Senate next for consideration. Other activity may have occurred on another bill with identical or similar provisions.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/hr3738/text>

H.R. 2911: Fairness for Servicemembers and their Families Act of 2023

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to periodically review the automatic maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program and the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Marilyn Strickland, WA (D)

Eleven cosponsors (7 D, 4 R)

Status: Introduced on Apr 26, 2023, the committees assigned to this bill sent it to the House or Senate as a whole for consideration on May 1, 2024.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/hr2911/text>

S. 2825: Dustoff Crews of the Vietnam War Congressional Gold Medal Act. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam.

Sponsor: John Cornyn, TX (R)

70 cosponsors (35 R, 33 D, 2 Ind)

Status: Introduced on Sept. 14, 2023, this bill passed in the Senate on May 9, 2024 and goes to the House next for consideration.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/s2825/text>

S. 3970: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: John Cornyn, TX (R)

Three cosponsors (1 R, 1 D, 1 Ind)

Status: This bill is in the first stage of the legislative process. It was introduced into Congress on March 19, 2024. It will typically be considered by committee next before it is possibly sent on to the House or Senate as a whole.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/s3970/text>

S. 3126: Mark Our Place Act

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish or replace a headstone, marker, or medallion for the grave of an eligible Medal of Honor recipient regardless of the recipient's dates of service in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

Sponsor:

7 cosponsors (4 Ds, 3 Rs)

Status: Introduced on Oct. 25, 2023, this bill passed in the Senate on May 1, 2024 and goes to the House next for consideration.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/s3126/text>

S. 1792: CARE Act of 2023

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of veterans, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Jon Tester, MT (D)

Nine cosponsors (5 D, 4 R)

Status: This bill is in the first stage of the legislative process. It was introduced into Congress on June 1, 2023. It will typically be considered by committee next before it is possibly sent on to the House or Senate as a whole.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/s1792/text>

H.R. 3722: Daniel J. Harvey, Jr. and Adam Lambert Improving Servicemember Transition to Reduce Veteran Suicide Act

To require a pilot program on activities under the pre-separation transition process of members of the Armed Forces for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Zachary Nunn, IA (R)

Ten cosponsors (6 R, 4 D)

Status: This bill passed in the House on April 29, 2024 and goes to the Senate next for consideration.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/hr3722/text>

S. 3873: Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2024

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to members of the National Guard who perform certain full-time duty, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Jerry Moran, KS (R)

One cosponsor (1 D)

Status: This bill is in the first stage of the legislative process. It was introduced into Congress on March 5, 2024. It will typically be considered by committee next before it is possibly sent on to the House or Senate as a whole.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/s3873/text>

H.R. 4278: Restore VA Accountability Act of 2023

To amend title 38, United States Code, to modify personnel action procedures with respect to employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Mike Bost, IL (R)

27 cosponsors (27 R)

Status: The committees assigned to this bill sent it to the House or Senate as a whole for consideration on July 26, 2023.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/118/hr4278/text>

VA TO SEND **GULF WAR-ERA** SURVEY

Stephanie Green

Health Science Specialist, Health Outcomes Military Exposures

VA researchers will be reaching out to Gulf War-era Veterans for the fourth time since the 1990-1991 Gulf War. This is a part of a long-term health study called the Gulf War Era Cohort Study. VA will send invitations to pre-selected Veterans for this study.

"Now, more than 30 years since the 1990-1991 Gulf War, we want to learn about how the about chronic conditions such as Gulf War Illness, neurological issues, cancers and long COVID," said Dr. Erin K. Dursa. "This current survey will help VA better understand the health of Veterans who did and did not deploy to the 1990-1991 Gulf War theatre of operations."

Dursa is director of Surveillance Military Environmental Exposures within VA's Health Outcomes Military Exposures and principal investigator on this study. More than two dozen scientific articles come from earlier surveys

Like survey efforts in 1995, 2005 and 2012, this latest survey measures the current health and well-being of Veterans who served in the military between 1990-1991. This study includes 15,000 pre-selected Veterans who went to the Gulf War and 15,000 who were in the military at that time but did not go to the Gulf region.

If you were invited to participate in a past survey, researchers encourage you to respond in 2024 even if you did not participate before. Participants can choose to complete the survey on paper, online or over the phone. This study does not take volunteers. Only pre-selected Veterans will be contacted.

More than two dozen scientific articles discussing research findings have come from the earlier surveys in the study. Researchers have studied multi-symptom illnesses, chronic diseases and environmental exposures linked to military service in this group of Veterans.

For example, a 2021 study showed that Gulf War Veterans' health declined earlier than the health of Gulf War-era Veterans who did not serve in the Gulf War. Veterans who served during the 1990-1991 Gulf War reported higher rates of chronic fatigue syndrome, PTSD, gastrointestinal illness and skin conditions at a younger age compared to Veterans who did not serve in the Gulf War.

These findings, along with ongoing and future research, will help VA understand the long-term health effects of deployment and improve VA health care.

A team from VA's Health Outcomes and Military Exposures Epidemiology Program is conducting this study. Get more information about this study, including information on research findings.

VA expands online notice availability for Veterans

Veterans can now access key VA letters and notices online, including documents outlining the evidence needed to support disability claims, through VA.gov. Expanded access to decision letters



VA has recently expanded the types of documents available online, adding more letters that help Veterans understand the evidence required for their claims. This update includes notices and follow-up development letters, which explain the type of evidence needed and how it can support a claim.

Why use the online tool?

Even though paper letters will still be mailed, accessing letters online offers several benefits:

- **Faster access to information without waiting for the mail.**
- **Convenience; it saves time by eliminating the need to contact VA for updates.**
- **Easy storage of letters in digital format, reducing the need for paper copies.**

Veteran with a VA.gov login can easily access their decision letters and notices by following these steps:

1. **Log in to VA.gov.**
2. **Click "VA Benefits and Health Care," then select "Disability" from the drop-down menu.**
3. **Choose "Check your claim or appeal status."**
4. **Find any closed claim on the "Check your VA claim or appeal status" page and click on it.**
5. **Click, "Get your claim letters."**

The letter will open in a new window, and you can print or save them as a PDF. For help accessing decision letters and notices online, you can save or print them as a PDF.

Beware: Claims predators want to prey on your benefits

Veterans Benefits Administration, Office of Communication

Claims predators take advantage of Veterans and their beneficiaries by using high-pressure tactics, sharing misleading information and making false promises to convince Veterans to sign up for their services. Here's how to spot them.



Have you noticed advertisements from companies offering to help with the VA claims and appeals process? Do their services seem too good to be true, leaving you wondering whether to trust them? If so, you are not alone.

More Veterans are getting VA health care and benefits than ever before, which also presents opportunities for scammers to commit fraud against Veterans and their families. These increased benefits have led to a rise in shady companies and individuals that are not accredited by VA, offering claims assistance services and charging hefty fees when they do. This expansion of benefits has also attracted individuals and companies who are misleading Veterans to think it is okay to exaggerate disability symptoms in order to get higher disability ratings.

VA refers to these companies and individuals as "claims predators"; these claims predators are not accredited by VA. They are known to aggressively prey on Veterans' benefits through various channels such as mail, telephone or online platforms. They try to take advantage of Veterans and their beneficiaries by using high-pressure tactics, sharing misleading information and making false promises to convince Veterans to sign up for their services. Unfortunately, these services usually come at a high cost to Veterans, with little to no actual benefit.



To avoid falling victim to claims predators, Veterans and their loved ones must be cautious when seeking assistance with their VA claims and appeals. It's crucial to always verify the legitimacy of the individual or company before providing any information.

VA strongly advises against working with unaccredited companies and individuals. Instead, VA recommends seeking help from VA accredited claims agents, attorneys and Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs). These individuals and organizations are recognized by VA, having established the good character and competence necessary to navigate the VA benefits system, ensuring Veterans and their beneficiaries receive the benefits they have rightfully earned.

It's important that Veterans and their families know they should never pay a fee to file an initial claim for benefits. In fact, it's unlawful for anyone to charge a fee for preparing an initial claim. Only VA accredited attorneys, claims agents and VSO representatives can lawfully assist Veterans with their initial benefits claims. Only accredited attorneys and claims agents may charge a fee to:

- **Consult or advise VA claimants seeking review of or to appeal their claims.**
- **Collect evidence for a supplemental claim or an appeal.**
- **Prepare and file a supplemental claim.**
- **Submit requests for higher level review.**
- **Submit an appeal to the Board of Veterans Appeals.**

VA remains committed to educating Veterans about these fraudulent schemes by claims predators while providing the necessary resources and tools to help Veterans pursue their VA benefits claims safely. To learn more about fraud scams and how to safeguard your benefits, visit the Protecting Veterans from fraud website.

If you suspect a representative acted unlawfully or unethically while assisting you in filing a VA benefits claim, file a report and learn more at [VSAFE.gov](https://www.vsafe.gov) or call 1-833-38V-SAFE (1-833-388-7233), a new government-wide website and call center designed to protect Veterans, service members, and their families from fraud and scams. These tools will inform Veterans and their families about common fraud schemes and help protect themselves, and provide an outlet for reporting and further assistance.

Remember, you earned your benefits, don't let claims predators prey on you. Work with a VA recognized representative to receive the support you deserve.

TSA Pre✓

Now that you're retired, you're hoping to have more time to travel with your family for some real R&R. You booked your flight and packed your bags but when you go to check-in prior to departure, you notice you don't have a TSA PreCheck indicator on your boarding pass. You're sure you entered your CAC ID in the Known Traveler Number (KTN) field for all your airline profiles so this very thing wouldn't happen. What gives? When you call the airline, they can't seem to get your DoD ID to take. You note that you have recently retired from duty and discover your DoD ID is no longer valid for TSA PreCheck.

What happened?

TSA PreCheck is a risk based system that allows for expedited screening for trusted travelers. When a civilian enrolls and is approved for the program they receive a Known Traveler Number (KTN).

The whole process of application involves a security threat assessment based upon a background check. So for years as a uniformed service member you received TSA PreCheck by virtue of your continued military service and the background checks conducted by the DoD.

Upon separation/retirement from service the DoD background check is no longer valid; therefore, your DoD ID can no longer be used as your KTN regardless if you have one on your retirement ID.

What should I do?

To avoid any break in your TSA PreCheck benefits, Military Members should apply for TSA PreCheck (or another DHS Trusted Traveler Program) prior to retiring or transitioning out of service. The process starts with a brief online application with one of our enrollment providers.

Next, you visit one of over 650 convenient enrollment locations (found here searchable by zip code) to complete your enrollment by scanning your fingerprints, showing proof of citizenship and photo capture. Most applicants are approved within 3-5 business days and once enrolled, you will receive

a Known Traveler Number (KTN) that is good for 5 years. Plus, the TSA PreCheck program partners with many credit cards and loyalty programs, to offer application fee reimbursement. Win-win!

What about my family?

Just as when you were in service, your spouse, travel companions, and family members over 18 will need to individually enroll.

Children 12 and under can always accompany you in the TSA PreCheck line for free as well as children 13-17, when on the same reservation and the TSA PreCheck indicator appears on their boarding pass.

I have more questions, who can I contact?

TSA is here to ensure secure travel for all. TSA Care helps travelers who require assistance at the airport and the TSA Customer Contact Center is available to address traveler questions at your convenience.

Additionally, if you or someone you know is currently serving and has questions about their TSA PreCheck benefit please check out Military and Uniformed Service Members.



NAVIGATION



From Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Lisa Franchetti released her Navigation Plan (NAVPLAN) for America's Warfighting Navy at the Naval War College, Sept. 18.

NAVPLAN 2024 follows the CNO's release of America's Warfighting Navy in January, and serves as an update to the 2022 NAVPLAN.

"The Navigation Plan for America's Warfighting Navy is my overarching strategic guidance to make our Navy more ready, prioritizing raising our level of readiness for potential conflict with the People's Republic of China by 2027 while also enhancing the Navy's long-term warfighting advantage," said Franchetti.

"The NAVPLAN continues where my predecessor's Navigation Plan left off and sets our course to raise our Fleet's baseline level of readiness and put more ready Players on the Field - platforms that are ready with the requisite capabilities, weapons, and sustainment and people that are ready with the right mindset, skills, tools, and training."

This strategic guidance focuses on two strategic ends: readiness for conflict with the PRC by 2027 and enhancing long-term advantage. It aims to achieve these ends through two central ways: implementing seven "Project 33" targets and expanding the Navy's contribution to the Joint warfighting ecosystem. These efforts are reinforced by an ongoing call to action to think, act, and operate differently.

[DOWNLOAD THE NAVIGATION PLAN HERE](#)

FLEET IN PHOTO



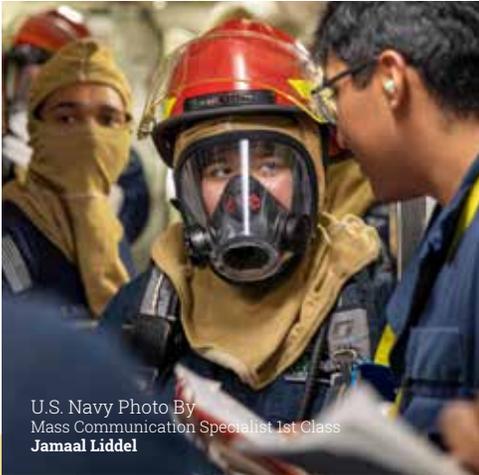
U.S. Navy Photo By
Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class
Jamaal Liddel



U.S. Navy Photo By
Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class
John Miller



U.S. Navy Photo By
Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class
August Clawson



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Merissa Daley



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Mitchell Meppelink



U.S. Navy Photo By
Mass Communication Specialist Seaman
Thomas Furnish

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION VETERANS SERVICE

Military One Source

If you are retiring from the military and thinking about the next chapter in your life, opening a small business can be an attractive option. The Small Business Administration can help you turn your entrepreneurial dream into a reality, offering programs and information specific to military veterans. SBA resources and assistance for veterans

Before you add the title “entrepreneur” to your resume, you will want to learn more about the resources and assistance available to help veterans get their businesses up and running. Check out the following:

The SBA’s Office of Veterans Business Development coordinates outreach to veterans and policy recommendations for SBA assistance.

SCORE offers one-on-one or team mentoring from volunteer counselors who work in or are retired from business. SCORE also offers free how-to articles, business tools and electronic newsletters to help you in your venture.

The Office of Small Business Development Centers offers free face-to-face business consulting and at-cost training on subjects such as writing business plans, accessing capital, marketing, regulatory compliance and international trade. There are nearly 1,000 service centers and many additional outreach offices in the SBDC network throughout the United States.

Veterans’ Business Development Officers are available in each district office in every state to help you understand and use the SBA’s programs and services.

Veterans’ Business Outreach Program provides business training, counseling and mentoring, referrals and technical assistance to eligible veterans.

Women’s Business Centers are partially funded by the SBA to help women become full partners in economic development through small business ownership.

Online training is available on the SBA website, offering courses, workshops, information resources, learning tools and direct access to electronic counseling and other forms of technical assistance.

Financing options

Small businesses may need financing because the owner or key employees have been called to active duty. Returning veterans may need financing to expand an existing business or start a new one. The SBA’s loan programs can help provide financing for veterans with small businesses that may not be available through other channels. Contact the SBA to learn about programs such as these:

Military reservist loans help eligible small businesses facing financial needs because an owner or an essential employee was called to active duty. Small businesses may apply for the loan after the key employee receives orders to report for active duty.

Debt relief such as repayment deferrals, interest-rate reduction and other assistance from an SBA direct or guaranteed loan may be available. Find more information and resources from the Office of Veterans Business Development.

Firms participating in government contracting 8(a)/Small and Disadvantaged Business

If a call to duty requires that the day-to-day management of a company be transferred to a person other than the one to whom the original certification was granted, the transfer will not disqualify the firm from program participation. Visit the SBA’s 8(a) Business Development Program to find out more.

HUBZone

Individuals who are employed by HUBZone and called to military service will continue to be counted as employees when calculating the 35% HUBZone residency requirement or determining the firm’s principal office – assuming they continue to be employed by the firm. Opening a small business may be a big step, but by tapping into the resources above, you can become a veteran entrepreneur.



CNIC Installations Offer TAP, VTAP Classes for Service Members

From Tim McGough, Fleet and Family Support Program

Just as those who join the Navy must attend boot camp to become a Sailor, the same holds true for those who leave active duty and transition back to civilian life. That is why Commander, Navy Installations Command's (CNIC) Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSC) offer Transition Assistance Program (TAP) classes to help service members make a smooth transition back to civilian life.

Just as those who join the Navy must attend boot camp to become a Sailor, the same holds true for those who leave active duty and transition back to civilian life. That is why Commander, Navy Installations Command's (CNIC) Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSC) offer Transition Assistance Program (TAP) classes to help service members make a smooth transition back to civilian life.

In compliance with the Department of Defense Instruction 1332.35, brick-and-mortar TAP workshops are the DoD preferred method of service delivery; however, the transition assistance curriculum is provided in physical classrooms and virtual platforms. Virtual TAP (VTAP) is geared towards, but not limited to Sailors whose duty locations are in remote or isolated geographic areas, undergoing short-notice separation, or in accordance with Chapter 58 of Title 10, U.S.C., and cannot access physical classroom curriculum in a timely manner.

According to CNIC's TAP Program Analyst, Dr. S. L. Walker, TAP has become more critical than ever for service members transitioning out of the military.

"Civilian employment opportunities are constantly evolving and can be daunting for many service members returning to civilian life," she explains. "TAP equips transitioning service members with the adaptability needed for civilian life. It offers resources for employment, financial stability, veteran benefits, and an emotional support network, all of which contribute to a seamless transition process."

Walker, the TAP Program Analyst for six years at CNIC headquarters, stresses the increasing importance of TAP. Knowing service members' schedules are hectic and busy, FFSCs offer virtual TAP classes as well as in-house classes.

"Our VTAP classes were primarily developed to meet the need during the COVID-19 pandemic, but they also cater to service members who are down range or work odd hours and can't get to in-person TAP classes," said Walker. "Service members attending VTAP webinar classes can expect a very informative and interactive discussion. This interactive nature is designed to keep you engaged and ensure you get the most out of the class. Service members can ask questions and receive real-time feedback, making the learning experience more dynamic and effective."



TAP webinars are recorded and can be viewed at a later date for service members who sometimes can't make the time to attend live. The webinars can be attended and viewed on the CNIC's Learning Management System platform, at www.mynavyfamily.com/login/index.php.

Sailors and their families do not have to wait to plan. TAP is available to all eligible service members and their families throughout their military careers. Service members, within two years of retiring and no later than 365 days of separating or being released, are highly encouraged to contact their Command Career Counselors (CCC) prior to transitioning back into civilian life. VTAP counts the same as an in-person TAP class when service members follow the steps for a stress-free transition to civilian life.

"Service members should start their transition process sooner than later," said Walker. "There are limited virtual classes (scheduled each quarter throughout the fiscal year), and service members will greatly benefit more from attending in-person TAP classes versus VTAP classes."

STEP 1: Initial Counseling (IC) - If you are considering separating or retiring, contact a CCC to receive information about your career path self-assessment, starting at least two years out but not less than 365 days from your official separation date.

STEP 2: Contact - Throughout your military career, it is always good to visit a FFSC to receive information about the installation, local area, community involvement, workshops, and available support services.

STEP 3: TAP Classes - Learn about your congressionally mandated pre-separation briefings. Become a job seeker expert. Become financially alert to current decisions and learn about existing veterans' benefits and service options.

STEP 4: Capstone Event - Attend your Capstone brief no later than 90 days before your official separation from the military.



BENEFEDS.com moved to BENEFEDS.gov

Wendy Schlechte, CLTC, LTCP FEDPOINT

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) transitioned BENEFEDS.com to BENEFEDS.gov as part of the federal government's requirement that all federal agencies (and the programs and services they oversee) use government domains (e.g., .gov or .mil).

What the transition to BENEFEDS.gov means for you

BENEFEDS.gov allows you to easily identify the BENEFEDS website as a legitimate and authorized government website.

Only verified U.S. government organizations can register and operate a .gov domain. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), manages the .gov top-level domain and verifies the identity of every organization requesting a .gov domain.



Strengthened security

BENEFEDS.gov helps reduce the risk of cybercriminals creating fraudulent websites to impersonate OPM, BENEFEDS, and other official government sources.

Anyone can register a .com, .org, or .us domain making it hard for users to know if a website is what it claims to be. .Gov domains are not first come, first served, and organizations do not need to register variations of a domain name to secure them. CISA only assigns a domain to the organization whose real name or services correspond to it.

Browsers are required to enforce a secure HTTPS connection when connecting with .gov domains.

This helps protect your privacy and ensure that the content we publish on BENEFEDS.gov is exactly what you receive.

A seamless BENEFEDS experience

The transition to BENEFEDS.gov should be seamless for you. While some existing references to BENEFEDS.com remain in correspondence, on web pages, and in materials, these will transition to .gov over the next few months. A few things you may notice:

- All BENEFEDS.com website pages have corresponding BENEFEDS.gov pages.
- If you visit a page from the previous BENEFEDS.com website, we'll redirect you to the new BENEFEDS.gov website.
- All BENEFEDS.com-related emails will now be sent from the BENEFEDS.gov domain.

LTCFEDS.com, the website for the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program, and FSAFEDS.com, the website for the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program, have also transitioned to .gov domains.

2025 Federal Benefits Open Season begins Nov. 11

The 2025 Federal Benefits Open Season for the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB) and the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) will run from Nov. 11 through Dec. 9, 2024.

The FEHB Program can help federal employees, and their families meet health care needs. Federal employees, retirees and their survivors enjoy the widest selection of health plans in the country. There is a wide range of choices from among consumer-driven and high deductible plans that offer catastrophic risk protection with higher deductibles, health savings/reimbursable accounts and lower premiums, or fee-for-service plans, and their Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO), or Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) if members live (or sometimes work) within the plan's service area.

The Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) is a voluntary, enrollee-pay-all dental and vision program that offers a variety of carrier choices.

Go to [OPM.gov/insurance](https://www.opm.gov/insurance) to find information about FEHB, FEDVIP, the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program (FSAFEDS), the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) Program, and the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP).

The Navy is improving how we take care of transitioning, separating, and retiring Reservists by implementing the DD Form 214-1, an official summary record of Reserve Component points and service. Previously, Reservists only received DD-214s to document periods of active service. Beginning this year, they will receive the DD-214-1 when separating from the Reserve Component to better document total service.

Who will get a DD-214-1?

Following implementation, the DD-214-1 will be issued to Reservists who are:

- Separating, retiring, or being discharged from the Navy Reserve Component
- Transitioning to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), Standby Reserve, or Retired Reserve
- Recalled Reserve Component retirees reverting to retired status

When will Reservists receive the DD-214-1?

The Navy expects to implement the DD-214-1 by the end of the calendar year, issuing the document earlier than the February 2025 deadline directed by the DOD, to better take care of our people.

Does the DD-214-1 help determine reduced-age retirement eligibility?

Yes, the DD-214-1 will document operations with statutory authority to identify activations creditable toward non-regular retirement (NRR), also known as reduced-age retirement, which allows Reservists to retire with pay sooner than age 60.

What must Reservists approaching separation do to help ensure a timely and accurate DD-214-1?

There is no change for those preparing to separate from the Navy Reserve. Reservists should:

- Continually review Reserve points in NSIPS well in advance of separation or discharge
- Submit timely separation or retirement requests
- Review, sign, and return the DD-214 and DD-214-1 in a timely manner

Will Reservists still receive DD-214s during their Reserve Component career?

Yes, as necessary. DODI 1336.011 still requires a DD-214 for several types of Reserve orders, such as:

- Active service greater than 90 days
- When required by SECNAV for shorter periods, such as ADT or ADOS
- Contingency operations greater than 30 days

Members will only receive a DD-214-1 with their final DD-214 when they separate from the Reserve Component.

Is the DD-214-1 basically a Statement of Service?

No, it's better. The DD-214-1 provides an official record of service, while a Statement of Service does not.

Will the new form affect prior Reservists already receiving benefits?

No. The new form will only be issued to Reservists separating after it is implemented.

Can a Reservist who separated before the DD-214-1 implementation request one after?

No. There is no need, as the new form does not affect Reservists who separated prior to its implementation.

Will the process for DD-214 corrections change?

No, the process to correct errors via DD-215 (Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Uniformed Service) remains unchanged.

NAVY RETIREE SEMINAR/APPRECIATION DAY EVENTS FY 25

1. SUBBASE New London, CT

Retiree Appreciation Day
0800, Saturday, 19 Oct 24
Dealy Center (Base Auditorium) POC:
derosepa@yahoo.com

2. NAS Pensacola, FL

Retiree Appreciation Day
0900, Saturday, TBD
Mustin Beach Club
POC: 850-452-5618

3. NOSC Phoenix, AZ

Retiree Appreciation Day
0800, Saturday, TBD
NOSC, Bldg 300
stellareyes@cox.net

4. JEB Little Creek, VA

Retiree Appreciation Day
0900, 1 Nov 24
Rockwell Hall
POC: 757-462-8663

5. NRNW Naval Base Kitsap, WA

Retiree Appreciation Day
1000, Thursday, TBD
Bangor Plaza
2720 Ohio St., Silverdale WA 98315
POC Terry Wimmer 360-315-3052
Terry.f.wimmer.civ@us.navy.mil

6. NAVBASE San Diego, CA

Retiree Appreciation Day
1000, 6 Nov 24 (Virtual)
Anchors Catering Conference Center
POC: 619-556-7412

7. NAVSTA Rota, Spain

Retiree Appreciation Day
0900, Thursday, 6 Nov 24
Naval Station Rota Chapel complex
patricia.b.rios.vol@us.navy.mil

8. Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI

Retiree Appreciation Day
0730, Saturday, 2 Nov 24
Ale House/Conf Center Schofield Barracks
POC: (808) 474-0032

9. NAS Jacksonville, FL

Retiree Appreciation Day
0800, Saturday, 5 Apr 25
NAS Jacksonville/River Cove Center
(Former O'Club)
POC: 904.542.7590

10. NSA Mid-South, TN

Retiree Appreciation Day
Virtual Facebook Event
alexander.d.young3.naf@us.navy.mil

11. NAS Whidbey Island, WA

Retiree Appreciation Day
0900, Saturday, TBD
1080 W Ault Field Road #138, Oak Harbor
rick.helwick@navy.mil
william.d.conley@navy.mil

12. NOSC, Minneapolis, MN

Retiree Appreciation Day
0730, Saturday, Sep 25
Treasure Island Resort and Casino, Welch
metrograd@gmail.com



COMMAND REUNIONS

Command	Dates	POC Phone	POC Email Address
USS SARATOGA (CV/CVA-60) USS-Saratoga.com/reunion	Oct. 2-6	202.262.1294	mdkikta@msn.com
USS ROBERT H MCCARD (DD-822)	Oct. 2-6	904.228.1028	mhanna58@gmail.com
USS THREADFIN (SS-410)	Oct. 3-6	901.646.3814	snrkolb@comcast.net
VR 53 - VR 60	Oct. 3-6	901.482.8552 618.612.3466	marvin.bowling@att.net sdchrempgary@gmail.com
USS WILLARD KEITH (DD-775)	Oct. 6-9	N/A	mikemchenryhamptonva@gmail.com
USS ROCHESTER (CA-124)	Oct. 7-11	703.509.5721	peterussell@cox.net
USS BELKNAP (DLG/CG-26)	Oct. 9-13	901.446.7897	tlewis4504@gmail.com reevescm@comcast.net
USS CARR (FFG-52)	Oct. 11-13	434.944.1363	carrffg52@yahoo.com
USS COGSWELL (DD-651) www.usscogswell.com	Oct. 15-17	502.381.5215	Secretary@usscogswell.com
PATROL SQUADRON (VP) 4	Oct. 16-19	760.889.2216	larry.hames@VP4association.com
USS YORKTOWN (CG-48) www.ussyorktowncg48association.org	Oct. 17-20	503.688.9804	N/A
USS McMORRIS (DE-1036)	Oct. 20-23	219.789.4326 972.219.9674	greywarrior@hotmail.com julorgal@yahoo.com
USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7) www.lpd7.org/2024-reunion	Oct. 21-24	952.567.3271	info@lpd7.org
USS JOSEPHUS DANIELS (DLG/CG-27) www.acomplete reunion.com	Oct. 30- Nov.2	757.819.4432	hazegray1092@gmail.com
USS SAM RAYBURN (SSBN-635) SSBN635.org	May 4-9, 2025	612.819.2345	jbdallman50@gmail.com

NAVY RETIRED ACTIVITIES OFFICE LOCATOR

« - Office needs volunteers
Navy and Joint RAOs

CONUS

Arizona

Retired Activities Office
Navy Reserve Center
14160 W. Marauder St.
Luke AFB, Glendale, AZ 85309
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Mon.-Fri.)
(602) 337-5766
stella.l.reyes_ctr@us.navy.mil

California

Retired Activities Office
Naval Air Weapons Station
Code 75H000D
1 Administration Circle
China Lake, CA 93555-6100
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(760) 939-0978
retiredactivities@mchsi.com

Retired Activities Office («)
Fleet and Family Support Center
966 Franklin Ave., Bldg. 930
Naval Air Station
Lemoore, CA 93246
8 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Thu)
(559) 998-4038
curtis.m.miller3.naf@us.navy.mil

Retired Activities Office
Fleet and Family Support Center
1000 23rd Ave, Bldg. 1169, Code N93V
Port Hueneme, CA 93043
8 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(805) 982-1023
pternahan@gmail.com

Retired Activities Office (Closed)
Naval Amphibious Base
Coronado, CA 92155

Retired Activities Office
Housing Office, Bldg. 587
Moffet Field, CA 94035-0162
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (Tues/Wed/Fri)
(650) 603-8047
bfrench2905@gmail.com

Retired Activities Office
Fleet and Family Support Center
Naval Station San Diego
3005 Corbina Alley, Suite 1
San Diego, CA 92136
8:30 - 11:30 a.m. (Mon/Tue/Thurs/Fri)
(619) 556-9752
annanias.rosel@navy.mil

Retired Activities Office
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach
Bldg. 22, Room 2
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5000
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Mon-Thu)
9 a.m. - noon (Fri)
(562) 626-7152
RAO-NWSSB@navy.mil
tomckerr@aol.com

Retired Activities Office
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center
1526 7th Street
Career Resource Office
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278-8150
8 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(760) 830-6344
plmsppd@usmc.mil

Connecticut (& Rhode Island)

Retired Activities Office
Naval Sub Base, New London
Building 83, P.O. Box 93
Groton, CT 06349-5000
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(860) 694-3284
derosepa@yahoo.com

Florida

Retired Activities Office
Naval Air Station, Jacksonville
Box 136
Building 13
Yorktown Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32212-0136
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Tue-Thu)
(904) 542-5790, Fax: 542-5716
thomas.j.brennan@navy.mil

Retired Activities Office
Fleet and Family Support Center
Naval Air Station Pensacola
151 Ellyson Ave., Bldg. 625
NAS Pensacola, FL 32508-5217
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(850) 452-5622
marsha.f.williamson1@navy.mil

Retired Activities Office
VA Lakemont Campus, Rm. 125
2500 Lakemont Ave.
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 646-4110/4111/4114
rao.orlando@gmail.com

Hawaii

Retired Activities Office
Military and Family Support Center
4827 Bougainville Drive
Honolulu, HI 96818-3174
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(808) 474-0032
mfschawaii@navy.mil

Maine

(& Portsmouth Shipyard)
Retired Activities Office («)
62 Pegasus St.
Brunswick, ME 04011
9 a.m. - noon (Mon-Fri)
(207) 841-0582
navyraomevt@gmail.com

Maryland («)

Retired Activities Office
Fleet and Family Support Center
NSA Annapolis
168 Bennion Rd.
Annapolis, MD 21402
9 - 11 a.m. (Wed.)
(410) 293-2641
marilyn.a.lewis@navy.mil

Michigan (Joint RAO)

Retiree Affairs Office
43156 Wagner Bldg. 164
(Dining Facility)
Selfridge ANG Base, MI 40045
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Tues. - Fri.)
(586) 239-5580
selfrao@yahoo.com

Minnesota («)

Retired Activities Office
Navy Operational Support Center
5905 34th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Thu)
(612) 713-4664
corypaulsen@outlook.com

New Hampshire («)

Retired Activities Office
Portsmouth Naval Shipyard
Code 866, Bldg. 22
Portsmouth, NH 03804-5000
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(207) 438-1868
pnsyrao@gmail.com

South Carolina (Joint RAO)

(currently no Navy volunteers «)
Retired Activities Office
103 Hill Blvd., Bldg. 503, Room 122
Joint Base RAO
Charleston, SC 29404
9 a.m. - noon (Mon-Fri)
(843) 963-2228

Tennessee («)

Retired Activities Office
Fleet and Family Support Center
Bldg. 456, 1st Floor
NSA Memphis, Code N 763
Millington, TN 38054-5000
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Tue & Thu)
(901) 874-5195
brenda.sherman@navy.mil

Virginia

Retired Activities Regional Office
Fleet and Family Support Center
7928 14th St, Suite 102
Norfolk, VA 23505-1219
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Mon-Thu, appt only)
(757) 445-4380 Fax: 445-5326
navretactnorva@gmail.com

Retired Activities Office
JEB Little Creek-Fort Story
Fleet and Family Support Center 1450 D Street
Virginia Beach, VA 23521
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(757) 462-8663
lutherwilliams@cox.net

Washington

Retired Activities Office («)
Fleet and Family Support Center
Naval Air Station Whidbey Island
Oak Harbor, WA 98278
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(360) 257-6432
raowhidbeyisland@gmail.com

CONT'D

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

Retired Activities Office (☞)
Fleet and Family Support Center
Naval Station Everett
13910 45th Ave. NE, Rm. 818
Marysville, WA 98271
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
(425) 304-3775/3721
noe.torres.vol@us.navy.mil

Wisconsin

Retired Activities Office (☞)
Navy & Marine Corps Reserve Center
2401 South Lincoln Memorial Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 532017-1999
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Mon)
(414) 744-9766
riorich64@yahoo.com

Overseas**Rota, Spain (☞)**

Retired Activities Office
NS Rota Community Support
Bldg. 3293
PSC 819, Box 57
FPO AE 09645-5500
1 - 4:30 p.m. (Tue/Thu)
(011-34-956-82-3232)
patricia.b.rios.vol@us.navy.mil

Independent Retired Coordination Offices (IRCOCs)

IRCOCs are independent retired activities efforts of interested retirees, not sponsored by the Navy, in areas which are geographically isolated from Navy and Marine Corps commands/installations, but which have a sizeable retired population and share a similar RAO mission and operate in a similar manner.

Italy

Retired Activities Office
Via De Amicis No. 16
07024 La Maddalena
O. T. Italy
100-Percent email contact
Civilian working from home
panzanic@hotmail.com
Retiree Resource
Fleet and Family Support Center
3 - 5 p.m. (Wed only)
(081-811-6372)
RSONaples@gmail.com

Subic Bay (Philippine Region)

Retired Activities Office
Subic Bay-Olongapo
No. 34 National Highway
Barrio Barretto 2200
Olongapo City
PSC 517, Box RS
FPO/AP 96517-1000
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Mon. - Fri.)
(Office) 011-63-47-222-2314
(24/7 Cell) 639065705335
Fax: 011-63-47-222-2899
Dir@Raosubic.Com

**Looking for a VA?**

You can find any VA facility online by going to [VA.gov/Find-Locations](https://www.va.gov/Find-Locations) and enter in your desired location.

Disabled American Veterans
<https://www.dav.org/find-your-local-office/>

Navy Wounded Warrior Project
<https://www.navywoundedwarrior.com/enrollment/locations>

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society
<https://www.nmcrs.org/find-a-location-index>

Navy Safe Harbor Foundation
<https://safeharborfoundation.org/contact/>

Fleet and Family Support
<https://ffr.cnic.navy.mil/Family-Readiness/Fleet-And-Family-Support-Program/>

Navy Gold Star Program
<https://www.navygoldstar.com/locations>

Navy League
<https://www.navyleague.org/become-a-member/council-locator/>

Navy Ombudsmen
<https://ffr.cnic.navy.mil/Family-Readiness/Fleet-And-Family-Support-Program/Work-and-Family-Life/Ombudsman-Program/>

Check out these additional resources
<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/archives/resources-for-veterans.html>

Veterans of Foreign Wars
<https://www.vfw.org/find-a-post>

American Legion
<https://www.legion.org/>

Disabled American Veterans
<https://www.dav.org/>

Association for Service Disabled Veterans
<http://www.asdv.org/>

AMVETS (American Veterans)
<https://www.amvets.org/>

Reserve Organization of America:
<https://www.roa.org/>

Blinded Veterans Association
<https://bva.org/>

National Association for Black Veterans, Inc.
<https://nabvets.com/>

Paralyzed Veterans of America
<https://pva.org/>

Swords to Plowshares: Veterans Rights Organization
<https://www.swords-to-plowshares.org/>

Korean War Veterans Association
<https://kwva.us/>

Vietnam Veterans of America
<https://vva.org/>

Veterans of the Vietnam War, Inc.
<https://vvnw.org/>

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America
<https://iava.org/>

Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.
<https://www.bluestarmothers.org/>

Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.
<https://www.goldstarwives.org/>

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
<https://www.americangoldstarmothers.org/>

National Veterans Legal Services Program, Inc.
<https://www.nvlsp.org/>

Catholic War Veterans
<https://thecwv.org/>

Jewish War Veterans
<https://www.jwv.org/>

Non-Commissioned Officers Association of America
<https://www.ncoausa.org/>

The Retired Enlisted Association
<https://www.trea.org/>

Military Officers Association of America
<https://www.moaa.org/>

National Organization of Veterans' Advocates
<https://www.vetadvocates.org/cpages/home>

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
<https://www.taps.org/>

Wounded Warrior Project
<https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>

Check out these additional resources:
<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/archives/resources-for-veterans.html>

*Inclusion does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or the U.S. Navy.



Naval History & Heritage Resources for Veterans
<https://www.history.navy.mil>

RESOURCES

Air Force Retiree Services:

(800) 531-7502
www.retirees.af.mil

Arlington National Cemetery:

(703) 607-8000
www.arlingtoncemetery.org

Armed Forces Retirement Home:

(800) 422-9988
www.afrh.gov

Army & Air Force Exchange Service:

(214) 312-2011
www.aafes.com

Army Retired Services:

(703) 571-7232
<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>

Burial at Sea Information:

(866) 787-0081

Combat Related Special Compensation:

www.va.gov/resources/combated-related-special-compensation-crsc/

DEERS:

(800)-538-9552, Fax: (831) 655-8317
www.tricare.osd.mil/deers

Defense Commissary Agency:

www.commissaries.com

DFAS Casualty Assistance Branch:

(800) 321-1080 or (216) 522-5955
(For Reporting a Retiree's death, option #1)

Fleet Reserve Association:

(703) 683-1400
www.fra.org

Gulf War homepage:

www.gulfink.osd.mil

I.D. Cards Benefits and Eligibility:

(866) 827-5672

Internal Revenue Service:

(800) 829-1040
www.irs.gov

Marine Corps Retired Affairs:

(800) 336-4649
www.usmc.mil
(Hover over "Marine Services" then click on "Retired Services")

Medicare:

(800) 633-4227. TTY: (877) 486-2048
www.medicare.gov

Military Officers Assoc. of America:

(800) 234-6622
www.moaa.org

National Burial Services:

(800) 697-6940

Navy Reserve Personnel Management (PERS 9):

(866) 827-5672

Navy Casualty Assistance:

(800) 368-3202
After duty hours call (901) 634-9279 for Casualty Watch Officer

Navy Retired Activities:

(833) 330-6622
Email: MILL_RetiredActivities@navy.mil

Navy Uniform Shop:

(800) 368-4088
www.navy-nex.com/uniform

Report the Death of a Retiree:

(800) 321-1080

Reserve Component SBP:

(866) 827-5672 ask for PERS-912

Retiree Dental – Delta Dental:

(888) 838-8737
www.trdp.org

Servicemembers Group Insurance (SGLI):

(800) 419-1473
www.insurance.va.gov

Naval Historical Center:

(202) 433-2210
www.history.navy.mil

Social Security Administration:

(800) 772-1213
www.ssa.gov

Pay/SBP Questions:www.dfas.mil

Pay inquiries and update of pay or SBP records in case of death, divorce or remarriage: Retiree
 Defense Finance and Accounting Service
 U.S. Military Retirement Pay
 8899 E 56th Street
 Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200
 (800) 321-1080 / Fax: (800) 469-6559.

SBP/RSFPP annuitant:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
 U.S. Military Annuitant Pay
 8899 E 56th Street
 Indianapolis IN 46249-1300
 (800) 321-1080 / (800) 469-6559

TRICARE:www.mytricare.com/mtc**TRICARE East:**www.humanamilitary.com/beneficiary

AL, AR, CT, DC, DE, IL, IN, KY, FL, GA, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS,
 NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN (except 35 Western zips),
 TX (except the extreme Western area) VT, VA, WI, and WV

TRICARE West:www.tricare-west.com

AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, IA (except 82 zips near Rock Island), KS,
 MO (except St. Louis area), MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OR, DE, SW
 TX, UT, WA, WY some zips in IA, MO, TN

TRICARE Overseas:

(888) 777-8343

www.tricare-overseas.com**TRICARE For Life:**

(866) 773-0404

www.tricare.mil/tfl**TRICARE mail order pharmacy:**

(877) 363-1303

www.tricare.mil/pharmacy, www.express-scripts.com**VA:**www.va.gov

Regional offices: (800) 827-1000 (overseas retirees should
 contact the American Embassy/consulate), TDD (800) 829-
 4833

Insurance:

VA Regional Office and Insurance Center
 PO Box 7208 (claims inquiries) -ORPO
 Box 7327 (loans) -ORPO
 Box 7787 (payments)
 Philadelphia PA 19101
 (800) 669-8477

www.insurance.va.gov**Burial information:**

(800) 827-1000

www.cem.va.gov**GI Bill:**

(888) 442-4551

www.gibill.va.gov**Records:**

For replacement DD 214s, service records, medical records,
 award information:

Retired prior to 1995:www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records**Retired after 1995:**

Navy Personnel Command
 PERS-312E
 5720 Integrity Drive
 Millington, TN 38055-3120
 Fax requests to: (901) 874-2664
 Gray-area reservists: (866) 827-5672

Navy Recreation:www.mwr.navy.mil**Navy Gateway Inns & Suites:**<http://dodlodging.net>**ITT:**<http://navynwr.org/mwrprgrms/itt.html>**Sister service retiree publications:****Air Force Afterburner:**<https://www.retirees.af.mil/library/afterburner/>**Army Echoes:**<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/echoes>**Coast Guard Evening Colors:**www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/psc/ras**Marine Corps' Semper Fidelis: Semper Fidelis**<https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/Agencies/Manpower-Reserve-Affairs-MMSR-6/>



Performance division recruits carrying state flags march on the drill deck during U.S. Navy Recruit Training Command's pass in review at Naval Station Great Lakes, Ill., Sept. 19, 2024. More than 40,000 recruits train annually at the Navy's only boot camp. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Christopher M. O'Grady)