



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

APR - 1 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

SUBJECT: Updated Guidance on Correction of Military Records for Service Members Involuntarily Separated for Refusal to Comply with Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Requirements

This memorandum provides updated guidance and procedures (Attachment 1) to implement Executive Order (EO) 14184, "Reinstating Service Members Discharged Under the Military's COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate," January 27, 2025 and Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Providing Remedies for Service Members and Veterans Negatively Impacted by the Department's Defunct Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Mandate Based Executive Order," February 6, 2025. This updated guidance replaces Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Correction of Military Records for Service Members Involuntarily Separated for Refusal to Comply With COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements," February 7, 2025 (hereby rescinded).

As directed by the Secretary of Defense, the Department of Defense shall take all actions necessary to make reinstatement available to all members of the military (Active and Reserve Components) who were discharged solely for refusal to receive the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine and who request to be reinstated. The Secretaries of the Military Departments will process reinstatements for individuals either involuntarily discharged or those who voluntarily left the service or allowed their service to lapse, rather than be vaccinated under the vaccine mandate, consistent with this guidance.

In cases where the Service member was involuntarily separated (EO, sec. 2(a) and (b)), the Secretaries of the Military Departments will contact such Service members and make available to them reinstatement via the Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records (BCM/NRs) process. The BCM/NRs should exercise their broad discretion to order all appropriate retroactive corrections of the Service member's record as described in Attachment 2.

In cases where members voluntarily left the service or allowed their service to lapse (EO, sec. 2(c)), the Secretaries of the Military Departments will continue to broadly communicate (e.g., via social media, external web sites, newsletters) information to inform these members about the process to return to service. Should those individuals elect to return to service, then they must present a written statement attesting that they chose to leave the service or allowed their service to lapse, rather than be vaccinated under the vaccine mandate. The Secretaries of the Military Departments will then provide an accelerated process for the member to return to service.

In support of the requirement that a written outreach package be sent to each former Service member who was involuntarily discharged solely due to refusal to receive the

COVID-19 vaccine, the following documents are attached: 1) Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs welcome letter (Attachment 3); 2) Financial benefits fact sheet (Attachment 4); 3) Medical benefits fact sheet (Attachment 5); and, 4) BCM/NR application guidance (Attachment 6).

For the next 12 months, the Secretaries of the Military Departments will continue to report on their progress to reinstate those Service members voluntarily and involuntarily separated solely due to the refusal to comply with the COVID-19 vaccination requirements on a monthly basis. My point of contact is Mr. Kent Bauer at (703) 693-4204 or kent.p.bauer.civ@mail.mil.



Jules W. Hurst III
Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of
Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Attachments:
As stated

cc:
Director, Defense Health Agency
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Health Services Policy and Oversight
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Military Personnel Policy
Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, U.S. Army
Deputy Commandant for Manpower
and Reserve Affairs, U.S. Marine Corps
Chief of Naval Personnel, U.S. Navy
Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, U.S. Air Force
Deputy Chief of Space Operations, Personnel
Director for Manpower and Personnel, J1
Surgeon General of the Army
Surgeon General of the Navy
Surgeon General of the Air Force

Attachment

1

COVID-19 REINSTATEMENT GUIDANCE

REFERENCES:

- A. Executive Order (EO) 14184, “Reinstating Service Members Discharged Under the Military’s COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate,” January 27, 2025
- B. Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Providing Remedies for Service Member and Veterans Negatively Impacted by the Department’s Defunct Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Mandated Based Executive Order,” February 6, 2025
- C. Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, “Correction of Military Records for Service Members Involuntarily Separated for Refusal to Comply with Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Requirements,” February 7, 2025

I. GENERAL:

The Secretaries of the Military Department will:

- A. Implement a public information outreach program: (1) inviting former Service members discharged based solely on a refusal to comply with the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccination mandate to seek reinstatement; and (2) inviting former Service members who voluntarily left the service or allowed their service to lapse in accordance with appropriate procedures to return to service within 60 days of this memorandum.
- B. Implement a screening process to identify those former Service members that were involuntarily separated based solely on their refusal to comply with the COVID-19 vaccination requirement within 30 days of this memorandum.
- C. Implement an eligibility assessment process to pre-screen interested former Service members for eligibility for reinstatement or re-accession, as appropriate, utilizing retention standards. The eligibility assessment process will maximize the usage of waivers.
- D. Implement a process to facilitate expedited and fair consideration of eligible reinstatement cases before the Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records (BCM/NRs).
- E. Coordinate with the Defense Finance Accounting Service, Defense Health Agency, and Department of Veterans Affairs to implement an assistance process to facilitate expedited estimation of the pecuniary and other benefits entitled to a former Service member upon their return to service within 90 days of the BCM/NR’s decision to reinstate.

II. INVOLUNTARY SEPARATIONS (EO, sec. 2(a) and (b))

A. Identification of Eligible Former Service Members.

- 1) Using standardized but broad criteria (e.g., separation code, narrative reason, separation package), the Secretaries of the Military Departments will review the records of all former Service members involuntarily discharged in connection with the COVID-19 vaccination mandate to identify those discharged “solely” for refusal to comply.
- 2) If there is doubt whether the former Service member’s record qualifies as a separation “solely” for refusal to be vaccinated, the individual will be included in the group provided direct contact outreach as detailed in paragraph II.B.

B. Outreach.

- 1) The Secretaries of the Military Departments will contact each former Service member that was involuntarily separated solely for refusal to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
- 2) Consistent with EO 14184, the Secretaries of the Military Departments will invite these Service members to seek reinstatement by applying to have their records corrected to reflect continued service such that back pay, benefits, bonus payments, or other compensation, subject to required offsets, will be available.
- 3) Outreach will consist of: (1) a mailed written letter, (2) electronic mail outreach (if possible), and (3) follow-up telephonic outreach by a uniformed representative dedicated to reinstating these individuals.
- 4) The written outreach materials will include:
 - a. An invitation to seek reinstatement.
 - b. An explanation of the streamlined expedited process to seek reinstatement, to include instructions on completing the DD Form 149 Application and submitting other required documentation.
 - c. An explanation of the potential financial benefits upon reinstatement, to include a detailed explanation of the requirement for offsets.
 - d. An advisement that reinstatement will not be afforded to those who are unwilling or unable to return to active service, or active status, as applicable, for 4 years.
 - e. Contact information for a uniformed representative or other official to answer any questions or concerns.

C. Eligibility Pre-Screening.

- 1) Upon confirmation that a former Service member is interested in seeking reinstatement, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned will conduct a pre-screening evaluation of the member's physical and medical eligibility. To support this effort utilization of Military Entrance Processing Stations (MEPS) is authorized by the Secretaries of the Military Departments to execute accessions medical screenings. Whereas individuals will be screened in accordance with accessions medical standards, the Military Services will then adjudicate the individual against retention medical standards. To ensure United States Military Entrance Processing Command processes these individuals in a timely fashion, Military Service Recruiting Commands are required to notify MEPS prior to an individual's arrival for screening (via the Military Recruiter Information Suite or other applicable documentation). The Military Services are encouraged to send their applicants to MEPS on Mondays. Each individual reinstatement screening evaluation will be included in Military Services' daily applicant processing capacity. The Secretaries of the Military Departments are expected to inform individuals on what to expect upon arrival at MEPS.
- 2) The Secretaries of the Military Departments will evaluate and determine if interested former Service members meet retention standards, including medical retention standards as set forth in Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6130.03, Volume 2, "Medical Standards for Military Service: Retention," September 4, 2020, as amended, via current Military Service processes.
- 3) As an exception to policy, those individuals who separated involuntarily *solely* for refusal to receive the COVID-19 vaccine are exempt from Paragraph 5.1.a.(3) of DoDI 6130.03, Volume 1, "Medical Standards for Military Service: Appointment, Enlistment, or Induction," May 6, 2018, as amended, which states:
 - a. The medical standards in this volume apply to applicants for appointment as commissioned or warrant officers or enlistment in any Military Service and Component, to include federally recognized units or organizations of the National Guard.

(3) Applicants for re-accession in any Military Service and Component, including federally recognized units or organizations of the National Guard after a period of more than 12 months have elapsed since the date on their DD Form 214, "Certificate of Uniformed Service," or separation orders, as applicable. These applicants no longer have a status in any component of the military.

Accordingly, retention medical standards would apply to such persons for purposes of determining eligibility for reinstatement.

- 4) The Secretaries of the Military Departments will broadly apply waiver authorities to permit maximum eligibility, as appropriate. Disapproval authority for any waivers necessary for reinstatement may only be delegated to a civilian official within a Military Department appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

D. BCM/NR Reviews.

- 1) The BCM/NRs will give COVID-19 reinstatement cases priority consideration, subject to existing statutorily specified priority consideration for post traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and military sexual trauma.
- 2) The BCM/NRs, using the attached guidance in the memorandum, will assess each case to determine if an error or injustice exists within the former Service member's record and order all appropriate records corrections, which may include but is not limited to reinstatement with no break in service, restoration of the member's previous grade or rank, and credit for lost service time due to separation.
- 3) Disapproval authority for reinstatement (only) for an eligible Service member (i.e., a Service member "discharged solely for refusal to receive the COVID-19 vaccine") under this policy will be reserved to the Secretary of the Military Department concerned and may not be further delegated.
 - a. Any case where the BCM/NR does not direct reinstatement for an eligible Service member must be sent to the Secretary concerned for a final decision.
 - b. If a Service member is granted reinstatement but denied additional claims for relief (e.g., retention bonuses, missed promotion opportunities, special pay), the disapproval authority for the additional requested relief may be delegated at the discretion of the Secretary concerned if reinstatement is otherwise approved.
 - c. Final decision authority in cases where an ineligible Service member is denied reinstatement may be delegated at the discretion of the Secretary concerned.
- 4) If the BCM/NR finds that the record should be corrected to reflect reinstatement, they will issue a contingent decision that permits calculation of associated pecuniary benefits but predicates final record correction upon acceptance of reinstatement by the Service member. The contingent decision of the BCM/NR will be the final decision of the review board and will not require additional action by the BCM/NR to implement the relief directed.
- 5) Nothing precludes a former Service member who has already requested reinstatement (or re-accession) through the BCM/NRs to apply again under this policy. Such cases should be reviewed de novo by the BCM/NRs.

E. Pre-Reinstatement Assistance.

- 1) For those former members whose records are corrected to reflect a reinstatement to service, the Secretaries of the Military Departments will implement a process to facilitate an expedited estimate of all pay and benefits with the Defense Financial Accounting Service, Defense Health Agency, and other Government Agencies as appropriate.
- 2) Where possible and appropriate, the Secretaries of the Military Departments will encourage and facilitate pre-submission of relevant information and documentation (e.g., tax returns, medical expenses) by the former Service member to facilitate faster calculation and processing of compensation payments.
- 3) For purposes of computing creditable service for the retired pay calculation, the Secretaries of the Military Departments shall treat the period of a returning member's involuntary gap in service as active service for a member who was separated while serving in a full-time status. For a member who was separated while serving in the Ready Reserve of a Reserve Component, the Military Department shall credit the member with the number of points toward retirement, as provided in 10 U.S.C. § 12732(a)(2), commensurate with the pay and allowances the member would have otherwise received in the member's part-time status during this period, with a minimum of 50 points per year status for the purposes of retirement calculation.
- 4) The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall obtain written confirmation of the Service member's intent to be reinstated and acknowledgement of the requirement for an additional service commitment.

F. Reinstatement Election.

- 1) Following receipt of their compensation payment estimate, the former Service member will have 60 days to consider and to decide whether to accept reinstatement. Acceptance will be submitted in writing and include an acknowledgment of the 4-year service commitment.
- 2) Reinstatement of members involuntarily separated will not be afforded to those who are unwilling or unable to return to active service, or active status, as applicable, for at least 4 years.
- 3) A 2-year minimum service obligation is available for individuals who would have become eligible for a regular or non-regular retirement in 2 years or less from the date of their separation if they had not been separated solely due to their refusal to comply with the COVID vaccination mandate.
- 4) Those Service members who elect reinstatement will be reintegrated to service through existing Military Department policies.

- 5) Those Service members who decline reinstatement will not have their records corrected. Nothing in this policy prohibits or prevents these members from separately applying to the BCM/NR for alternate relief related to their COVID-19 vaccination discharge.

III. VOLUNTARY SEPARATIONS (EO, para. 2(c))

A. Outreach.

- 1) The Secretaries of the Military Departments will use a broad communication strategy (social media, web sites, newsletters, etc.) to publicize the opportunity for any former Service members who voluntarily left the service or allowed their service to lapse according to appropriate procedures, rather than receive the COVID-19 vaccination, to return to service with no impact on their service status, rank, or pay.
- 2) Outreach materials will include:
 - a. An invitation to seek to return to service.
 - b. An explanation of the process for re-accession.
 - c. The requirements to be eligible for re-accession (i.e., meet retention standards and submit a written and sworn attestation that they voluntarily left the service or allowed their service to lapse according to appropriate procedures, rather than be vaccinated under the vaccine mandate, to return to service.)
 - d. A sample/form attestation form and instructions on completing.
 - e. An explanation that re-accession under this policy does not include backpay, bonuses, or other compensation.
 - f. An advisement that re-accession will require a minimum 2-year period of active service.
 - g. Contact information for a uniformed representative or other official to answer any questions or concerns.

B. Process.

- 1) Where such former Service members elect to return to service, the Secretaries of the Military Departments will ensure individuals meet retention standards via established processes or consider waivers as appropriate.
- 2) The Secretaries of the Military Departments will closely monitor these accessions to ensure expeditious reintegration of these individuals.

- 3) Their return to service will include restoration of same rank and pay. Re-accession under this policy will not include backpay, credit for lost service, or similar relief associated with reinstatement. Nothing in this policy prohibits or prevents those former Service members seeking re-accession from seeking additional relief such as backpay or lost service credit through the normal BCM/NR process.

IV. REPORTING.

- A. The Secretaries of the Military Departments will provide reports 30 days after the effective date of the memorandum, and every 30 days thereafter, to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)).
- B. These reports will detail actions taken to implement the requirements of this memorandum and any pending actions.
- C. At a minimum these reports must include the number of requests for reinstatement received by the BCM/NRs, the rank/grade of the requestor, the date the application was reviewed by the Board, the relief that was directed, and, if known, the date on which the directed relief took effect. The reporting period for tracking this information will conclude after all applications to the BCM/NRs requesting reinstatement have been finalized. The report will also include information on number of voluntary attestations received and the status of those accessions. Additional guidance on the contents of the report will be provided by the USD(P&R).

V. LIMITATIONS.

- A. Nothing in this policy applies to Service members or former Service members who were subject to adverse action based on misconduct unrelated to their COVID-19 vaccination status.
- B. This COVID-19 vaccination mandate reinstatement and return to service policy will terminate 1 year after the effective date of this memorandum.

Attachment

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PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

FEB - 7 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

SUBJECT: Correction of Military Records for Service Members Involuntarily Separated for Refusal to Comply with Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Requirements

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine mandate was an unfair, overbroad, and completely unnecessary burden on our Service members. Service members were not afforded a timely, fair, or measured process to seek and receive an accommodation from this requirement but were unjustly separated solely for refusal of the vaccine, regardless of their years of service given to our Nation.

Thus, per Executive Order 14184, "Reinstating Service Members Discharged Under the Military's COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate," January 27, 2025, the Department "shall make reinstatement available to all members of the military (active and reserve) who were discharged solely for refusal to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and who request to be reinstated."

Because a large number of former Service members may seek reinstatement to active service by applying to the Boards for Correction of Military or Naval Records (BCM/NRs), to help ensure consistency across the Military Services and provide swift, full, and fair review of these cases, this memorandum provides supplemental policy guidance for BCM/NR actions on such applications.

As noted above, the requirement that Service members receive a non-critical and unnecessary COVID-19 vaccine without an adequate due process mechanism for vaccine accommodations was an injustice. In cases where the Service member was involuntarily separated, the BCM/NRs should exercise their broad discretion to order all appropriate retroactive corrections of the Service member's record and should normally grant requests to correct the record to reflect continued service with no separation (i.e., reinstatement with no break in service), restoration of the Service member's previous grade and rank (normally the grade and rank held immediately prior to separation unless the Service member's pay grade was reduced prior to separation for misconduct relating solely to refusal to comply with the vaccination requirement), and credit for lost service time due to separation or credit for qualifying years of service for a non-regular retirement (i.e., credit for 50 retirement non-pay points), as appropriate and consistent with applicable laws.

To swiftly return the impacted Service members to active service, the BCM/NRs should give priority consideration to these applications in a manner consistent with other categories of cases entitled to priority consideration under existing laws. Additionally, requests for reinstatement from these former Service members previously considered by the BCM/NR but denied without the benefit of this guidance, shall be, upon petition, granted de novo review utilizing this guidance. Lastly, to ensure consistency in application of this guidance, final

decisional authority in cases where the full relief requested is not granted by the BCM/NR shall be reserved to the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. This authority cannot be delegated.

If an impacted Service member desires to apply for a records correction on an additional basis (i.e., not exclusively on an unjust separation due to the COVID-19 mandate) or requests a medical separation or retirement, the Service member will be advised, for purposes of this effort, they must proceed exclusively on a COVID-19 unjust separation basis but may apply for relief on another basis, or seek different relief, using the normal BCM/NR processes.

This guidance does not apply to those former Service members who are unwilling or unable to return to active service for at least 2 years. Furthermore, this guidance shall not be extended to Service members who apply to the BCM/NRs for reinstatement after 1 year from the date of this memorandum. Finally, this guidance does not apply to those Service members who remained in service, voluntarily left the service, or allowed their service to lapse according to appropriate procedures, rather than be vaccinated under the COVID-19 mandate. Those Service members are still encouraged to apply to the BCM/NRs for alternate and appropriate relief, e.g., removal of negative documentation or revision of their discharge terms, such as characterization of service.

Beginning 60 days after the date of this memorandum, and every 30 days thereafter, each Secretary of a Military Department will submit a report to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness indicating the number of requests for reinstatement received by the BCM/NRs, the grade of each requestor, the date each application was reviewed by the Board, the relief that was directed, and, if known, the date on which the directed relief took effect. The reporting period for tracking this information will conclude after all applications to the BCM/NRs requesting reinstatement have been finalized or 2 years from the date of this memorandum, whichever is later.

As with all correction board determinations, applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and this policy does not address situations where a BCM/NR determines the facts of a particular case warrant a different or additional finding of an error or injustice. In those instances, the BCM/NRs should fashion the remedy they find necessary and appropriate within applicable legal limits.



Darin S. Selnick

Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of
Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Attachment

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

MAR 28 2025

Dear Fellow Veteran,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to return to service in the finest military in history. Your career ended too soon, and on behalf of Secretary Hegseth, the Department of Defense is eager to welcome you back.

On August 24, 2021, the Secretary of Defense mandated that all Service members receive a COVID-19 vaccine. In 2022, Congress passed a law requiring the Secretary of Defense to repeal that wrongful mandate, but not before more than 8,000 Service members had been forced out of the military under that policy. I deeply regret that you were forced to choose between compliance and ending your military career. You and thousands of your comrades in arms deserved much better, and the Department is committed to righting that wrong.

In Executive Order 14184, "Reinstating Service Members Discharged under the Military's COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate," dated January 27, 2025, President Trump directed the Department to make reinstatement available to those Service members whose careers were ended by the Department's since-repealed "unfair, overbroad, and completely unnecessary" COVID-19 vaccine requirement. EO 14184 also provides for backpay for Service members who return, consistent with applicable law.

On February 7, 2025, Secretary of Defense Hegseth directed the Secretaries of the Military Departments to "provide an accelerated process" for those who choose to return. Pursuant to that guidance, you will find enclosed instructions from your Military Service concerning the process to return, which will generally include a service obligation of four years, although in some cases a service obligation may be as little as two years for those eligible to retire within that time. If you choose to pursue reinstatement, the Department is committed to guiding you through the necessary steps.

Secretary Hegseth is committed to reviving the warrior ethos and restoring trust in our military, and I hope you choose to contribute your skill and experience to that effort. Thank you for your service to the United States of America, and I hope to welcome you back soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Dill".

Tim Dill
Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary
of Defense for Manpower and Reserve
Affairs

Attachments:

Service Specific Reinstatement Information

Financial Benefits Fact Sheet

Medical Benefits Fact Sheet

Attachment

4

Financial Benefits of COVID-19 Reinstatement



www.DFAS.mil

This is an explanation of the potential financial benefits and required offsets that may result from reinstatement by the board of corrections for military records. The "reinstatement period" is the time between the separation date listed on your DD 214 and the date you return to service.

Potential pay and allowances



Required offsets



Your financial benefit*

POTENTIAL PAY AND ALLOWANCES



- + **Basic Pay**
- + **Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)**
- + **Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) from your last Permanent Duty Station (PDS)****
- + **Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) if applicable**
- + **Bonus payments recouped as a result of separation**
- + **Bonus payments earned during the reinstatement period**

MINUS REQUIRED OFFSETS



- **Wages earned from any job or self employment during reinstatement period**
- **Payments received from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) during the reinstatement period (VA Disability Compensation and Education Benefits)**
- **Separation Payments**
- **Lump Sum Leave Payments (Leave is restored)**
- **SGLI and FSGLI premiums for the reinstatement period**
- **Thrift Savings Plan contributions**
- **Any DoD debts**

Your financial benefit is subject to federal and state tax withholding.

*may elect lump sum or quarterly installment

** If your last PDS was overseas, BAH for the U.S. location from where you were separated

Financial Benefits of COVID-19 Reinstatement



www.DFAS.mil

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Service members who were involuntarily separated solely based upon the refusal to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and seek a reinstatement to service with a four-year service obligation will receive a tentative decision from the applicable Service Board of Correction of military records. Following the tentative Board Decision, DFAS will reach out to you for documentation needed to calculate your estimate. Below is a list of documentation that you may be asked to provide.

Have these documents ready for DFAS so we can provide a timely estimate.

- Documents showing wages from any jobs or self-employment during any year of the reinstatement period:
 - All W-2s
 - Your tax return (Form 1040s)
 - Pay stubs for the current year
 - Spouse's W-2s if filing jointly (will be used for verification only)
- DD214/Separation orders
- A copy of your bonus contract (If you had a bonus contract when you separated)
- Bank Information for any potential electronic funds transfer (EFT)



Did you have any life-changing events since your separation? Life-changing events can impact your potential entitlements! Take a look at the list below. If any of these things happened to you, DFAS will need the documents listed.

1. Did you get married? DFAS will need your marriage certificate.
2. Did you get divorced? DFAS will need your divorce decree and any support orders, such as child support.
3. Was there a birth of a dependent? DFAS will need the birth certificate.
4. Did a dependent of yours pass away? DFAS will need a death certificate.
5. Did your dependent child turn 21 and go to college? DFAS will need school/college records for any year they were in school.
6. Any other changes in dependency status? Please gather any documents you would need to document those changes. DFAS will need them.

Scan the QR code to get more information about your financial benefits.



Attachment

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Medical Benefits Reimbursement for COVID-19 Reinstatement

This is an explanation of the possible medical benefit reimbursements and necessary offsets that you could receive if you are reinstated by a board of corrections for military records. The "reimbursement period" is the time between the separation date on your DD 214 and the date you return to service.

DoD may reimburse medical expenses you and your family may have paid for during your reinstatement period.

If reinstated to the Selected Reserve or the National Guard, you may qualify for medical benefits reimbursement only if you had TRICARE Reserve Select until your discharge date.

Medical Expenses

- + **Insurance premiums (medical, vision, and dental)**
- + **Out of pocket expenses (annual cost shares, deductibles, copays, and pharmacy costs)**
- + **Self-Pay (amount paid to providers for medical, pharmacy, vision, and dental)**

Minus Required Offsets

- **TRICARE Reserve Select premiums for reinstatement period (only members reinstated to the Selected Reserve or National Guard)**
- **Annual TRICARE Select Catastrophic cap (Cat Cap) (\$1000.00)**

Required Documentation

If you receive a tentative decision from your Military Department's Board for the Correction of Military Records that your request for reinstatement to Service is approved, below is a list of documentation that you will be asked to provide:

Employer sponsored health insurance plan

- Copy of BCMR decision
- End-of-year Pay Stubs reflecting healthcare premium paid and/or
- Copy of insurance card or a letter detailing type of coverage (single, family, etc.) for each year
- End-of-year claims summary report from insurance carrier of all the paid claims, amount charged, amount paid by insurance provider, amount member paid.
- Copies of explanation of benefit statements, and/or, if available, annual catastrophic cap reports

Purchased insurance from the Market

- Copy of BCMR decision
- A report from your insurance carrier totaling healthcare premiums paid during the period concerned
- Copy of insurance card or a letter detailing type of coverage (single, family, etc.) for each year
- End-of-year claims summary report from insurance carrier of all the paid claims, amount charged, amount paid by insurance provider, and the amount the member paid.

Self-Pay

- Copy of BCMR decision
- A signed attestation stating that you had no healthcare coverage during time of separation and paid providers in full
- Medical bills from providers that include dates of service, diagnosis codes, procedure codes, and amount billed
- A receipt from the provider confirming date of service, amount billed, and amount paid.

How to submit:

Contact DHA TRICARE Health Plan at

dha.san-diego.healthcare-ops.mbx.thp-eligibility-adj@health.mil

Attachment

6

Guidance for Requesting COVID Reinstatement Correction Board Application Instructions

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records (BCM/NRs) are administrative boards within each Military Department authorized by law to correct errors or injustices within a Service member's military or naval record.

The BCM/NRs order corrections to an applicant's military service records that may result in a related financial payment. They do ***not*** order specific financial relief – they won't direct payment of a specific dollar amount. For example, if the BCM/NR orders reinstatement, it won't specify the amount you will receive in backpay based on the restored period of service.

For COVID reinstatement requests, the BCM/NRs will issue a contingent decision that will not go into effect until after you (1) have had an opportunity to receive a backpay estimate from Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and (2) formally accept the military service obligation requirement.

You should ***not*** apply to the BCM/NR until you have completed the medical pre-screening process and received confirmation that you are eligible to apply for reinstatement.

COVID reinstatement requests will be considered by the BCM/NRs on a priority basis. Applicants who request types of relief that are not reasonably related to their discharge for refusal to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine, or who wish to request personal appearance before the BCM/NR, will still have their applications considered by the BCM/NR; however, those applications may be considered under normal timeframes rather than be expedited through the COVID reinstatement process.

BCM/NR APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- (1) To apply to your Military Department's BCM/NR for reinstatement begin by downloading DD Form 149, "Application for Correction of Military Record" found at: <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/Forms/dd/dd0149.pdf>
- (2) Your application can be handwritten, scanned, or electronically completed. See the backside this document for step-by-step instructions on completing the DD Form 149.
- (3) After you have completed the DD Form 149, submit the form with any required documentation to your Military Department's BCM/NR.

NOTE: Pre-screened eligible Service members requesting COVID reinstatement are ***not*** required to include a copy of their Service records. The Military Departments will ensure your appropriate records are made available to the BCM/NR.

Guidance for Requesting COVID Reinstatement Correction Board Application Instructions

FILLING OUT THE DD FORM 149

- In Blocks 1-10 fill in your basic military demographic information.
 - If any blocks are inapplicable, leave those blank.
 - Include your current email address to ensure the BCM/NR can reach you for questions.
- Fill out Blocks 11a & 11b, if applicable.
- In Block 12 (“Category”) check the “other” block and write “COVID Reinstatement”.
- In Block 13 (“What correction and relief are you requesting”) list all relief, including reinstatement, you believe you are entitled to because of your discharge.
 - Generally, the BCM/NRs only grant the relief that an applicant specifically requests.
 - If you believe you are entitled to relief other than standard reinstatement (BAH, BAS, and basic pay, subject to required offsets; see DFAS fact sheet) you will need to specifically list the requested relief when you request to be reinstated.
 - If you run out of space, you may continue in Block 18 or on a separate page.
- Do **not** complete Section 3 – Block 14; it should be left blank.
 - If you believe any of the conditions listed are related to your request, those are outside of COVID reinstatement and require you apply through the standard BCM/NR process.
- In Block 15 (“Why should this correction be made”) write “I was wrongly discharged solely for refusing to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.”
- In Block 16 (“Approximate dates”) write “January 27, 2025.”
- In Block 17 (“Do you wish to appear”) check “No.”
- Completion of Block 19 (“Documentary evidence”) is only required if you request additional relief beyond standard reinstatement and have documents relevant to those requests.
- Do **not** complete Section 5; it should be left blank.
 - COVID reinstatement is only available to those Service members eligible and willing to return to active service which precludes applications on behalf of deceased or incapacitated Service members.
- Section 6 – Blocks 23-25
 - Applying for reinstatement does not require you have a lawyer or representative.
 - If you do not have a lawyer or representative, Section 6 should be left blank.
 - If you do have a lawyer or representative and want the BCM/NR to contact them (instead of you) enter their contact information in Blocks 23-25.
- In Block 26 (“Electronic correspondence”) check “Yes.”
 - If you are unwilling or unable to receive correspondence and documents electronically, check “No” but note it may delay the overall processing time for your case.
- In Block 27 sign and date the DD Form 149.
- In Block 28 (“related to wars and contingency”) check “No.”
 - If you believe your request is related to your service in one of the wars or contingency operations listed, such a request is outside of the COVID reinstatement and will require you to apply through the standard BCM/NR process.

For more information on applying to the BCM/NRs please visit <https://www.milreviewbds.mil> or

