

Military Buy Back, or Military Service Deposit, allows federal employees to receive retirement benefits based on their military service. If your service was terminated under honorable conditions, it's generally creditable for federal civil service. To buy back military time, veterans must deposit money covering their military service, processed through the Army Benefits Center (ABC) at abc.army.mil.

If applying within three years of civilian service, no interest is charged. For those with over three years of civilian service before applying, interest may apply.

You can use the DFAS Online Military Buy Back Estimator Tool to estimate earnings and the cost of buying back military service. This tool is for informational purposes.

Payment Options:

Lump Sum Payment

Make your check payable to DFAS-CL-DSSN 8522. The check must have "Catch-62 Military Deposit" and your Social Security Number written on it. Mail to:

DFAS Cleveland
ATTN: J3DCBB/559
1240 E. 9th Street
Cleveland, OH 44199

Partial Payments

This is any amount you choose but must be a minimum of \$25.00 per pay period. Follow the instructions in the paragraph above (Lump Sum Payment). Partial payments can be made along with payroll deductions.

Payroll Deductions

This is any amount you choose but must be a minimum of \$25.00 per pay period. There must be a request in writing (no particular form) submitted to your payroll office, which includes the following: (1) Social Security Number; (2) name; (3) amount of deduction per pay period; (4) date to start the deduction; (5) signature.

Online Payment

Go online to <https://www.pay.gov>. In the search engine, type in MSD8522 and click on search. On the next page, click on the red 'Continue to the Form' button. Follow the instructions to complete the form and make your online payment for your military deposit. Under the Database dropdown, if you are Army or Army National Guard, choose OMA; and if you are Air National Guard, choose CP1.



Naval Medical Center
San Diego (NMCS D)

DHA CIVILIANS!

**Buy
YOUR
Service back**

DEPOSIT FOR MILITARY SERVICE



Information, tools, and forms can be found on the DFAS Website:

[https://www.dfas.mil/
CivilianEmployees/militaryservice/
militaryservicedeposits/](https://www.dfas.mil/CivilianEmployees/militaryservice/militaryservicedeposits/)

Step One

Complete your RI 20-97 on the DFAS website or using the fillable PDF (one for each branch of service). Submit your DD-214 or equivalent (not the Member-1 version) along with the RI 20-97 via the Ask DFAS Military Buy Back module on the DFAS website.

*[https://www.dfas.mil/
CivilianEmployees/
militaryservice/
militaryservicedeposits/](https://www.dfas.mil/CivilianEmployees/militaryservice/militaryservicedeposits/)*



Step Two

ABC will review the application, calculate the military deposit estimate, and send it to DFAS. You will receive a notice in eOPF that the estimate has been uploaded to your personnel file, where you can view the amount. Upon receiving your estimated military earnings computation from the military finance center via U.S. mail, FERS employees complete the SF 3108 and SF 3108A, Application to Make Service Credit Payment (FERS). Mail the application along with the completed RI 20-97 and DD Form 214 to the:

**Army Benefits Center -
Civilian (ABC-C)
305 Marshall Avenue
Fort Riley, KS 66442-7005**

Step Three

Once you receive a response from DFAS, you must make arrangements to pay the deposit, if the letter is not received from DFAS, you may still begin paying the deposit when the amount of the military deposit shows in Block 20 of your Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) If no letter is received, start paying when the deposit appears on your LES.

There are three available payment options; Payment Methods: Payroll Deductions, Check or Money Order, Pay.gov. You can view these in greater detail on the back of the flyer.

Step Four

Once your military deposit is paid in full, you'll receive proof of payment. If paid after March 1, 2023, you'll receive a Smart Doc with instructions to download the Paid-in-Full Letter. Once received, you can use Civilian Human Resources Personnel(CHRP) to have the document placed in your eOPF.