



Do army reserves get full benefits

Choosing whether to enlist as an active-duty vs. reserve service member is one of the primary choices that will shape your military career. The benefits of each option are varied and should be considered in total to chart the path to go a should be considered in total to chart the path total tot status of duty is right for you. Your Civilian Career Your career when you return to the civilian ranks is one of the most important factors of your military will enable you to launch and continue a successful career once your days of serving end. As an active-duty service member, you will be required to forgo starting your civilian occupational career for a period of at least two years. The benefits of choosing to enlist as active duty include being immersed in your chosen occupational specialty and gaining for your chosen vocation but will have to transfer that training immediately into a civilian career pursuit without the benefit of on-the-job training. As a reservist, you will have the chance to practice your trade one weekend per month and two weeks per year. The benefit of choosing reserve status is the ability to further your education and begin working as a civilian right away. Active Duty vs. Reserve Compensation Though it might not be the most important part of your decision, the compensation you will receive as an active-duty member or reservist. Duty Station Active-duty service members are often granted basic choice in where they will be stationed after recruit training and military occupational specialty school - called Advanced Individual Training (AIT) for Army soldiers. Active-duty enlistees can be stationed anywhere within the United States or abroad, depending on the duties and mission of their respective unit. Reserve status members will be stationed near their home and only be subject to international station in the event they are called for active duty. Leave and Liberty Leave and Liberty Leave and Liberty Leave and Liberty Leave and such leave is subject to the approval of the unit's commanding staff. Liberty is any period of time when active-duty members are technically "off from work," such as weekends and holidays where you are absolved from duty unless otherwise instructed. members are allowed to travel and corresponding to the length of liberty granted. The longer the liberty, the farther members can venture away from their duty stations. Reserve members are not subject to normal leave and liberty conditions, as they are only obligated for two days per month and one Field Training Exercise (FTX) per year. In the event that reservists are called into active-duty service, their leave and liberty will mirror the requirements and conditions of those normally serving access. Active-duty members may be stationed within the United States or abroad. They can retire with full benefits after 20 years of service. Reservists receive full medical and dental benefits only if called for active-duty service. They are afforded unlimited access to post exchanges and may be limited to 24 commissary visits per year. Reserve members are stationed near their home for weekend and twoweek drill and training duties unless called into active service. Reservists can retire after 20 years of service with modified retirement benefits. This article was written by Sgt. Michael Volkin, lead instructor at Basic Training University, an online learning school for those preparing for basic training. Interested in Joining the Military? We can put you in touch with recruiters from the different military branches. Learn about the benefits of serving your country, paying for school, military career paths and more: sign up now and hear from a recruiter near you. Show Full Article So you want to join the military. Whether you feel called to serve your country, service runs in the family, or you are largely drawn by the many potential benefits of joining up, deciding how to participate is a major decision. Besides which branch to serve in, you can choose to be on active duty is full-time service in the U.S. armed forces; reserve duty is part time. Reserve-duty service members have much more say in where they live and what kind of work they do full time than active-duty service members do. Both types of service members may be deployed, but the chance is greater for those on active duty. Active-duty service members do. Both types of service members do. Both types of service members may be deployed, but the chance is greater for those on active duty. members earn part-time pay and partial benefits. You must meet certain minimum requirements to join the military, whether full-time or part-time. You must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who is at least age 17, and if you're not yet 18, you meet a high school diploma or GED, but entrance is more difficult with a GED. You'll need to achieve a minimum score, which varies by branch, on the Armed Forces Qualification Test and the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test. Also, you must pass a military entrance medical exam and background check. Upon acceptance, you'll attend basic training (also called "boot camp" or "recruit training"), which lasts eight to 13 weeks, depending on your branch. You could then attend Officer Candidate School or advanced individual training if your job requires it. Both active duty and reserves have maximum age restrictions for who can enlist, but these differ by branch, as do physical fitness requirements. For example, to join the Air Force, you can't be older than 39, and you must pass the Air Force Basic Military Training Fitness, hair, nails, piercings, tattoos, and attire. In general, you must maintain a neat, professional, and natural appearance. Active Duty and Reserve Duty Active Duty Reserve Duty Army Reserve and Army National Guard Marine Corps Reserve Air Force Reserve Air Force Reserve Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard Space Force No reserve and Air National Guard Space Force No reserve Service at this time A typical active-duty service term lasts eight years: four years of active duty and four years of inactive duty. A typical reserve-duty service term lasts three to eight years, depending on your branch and job. You don't need prior military will train you. Active duty is considered a 24/7 job, but you can generally expect to have regular work hours and weekends off. Personal time off, which is known as "leave," is a total of 30 days per year, accrued at a rate of 2.5 days per month, and must be approved by your command. You will also get time off, called "liberty," of 24, 48, 72, or 96 hours for weekends and holidays. Sick time must be approved by medical personnel but is not counted against your leave time. In the reserves, you will usually serve within a 90-minute drive of your home at least one weekend a month for unit training, plus a two-week field service exercise per year. The rest of your time is yours. Whether you sign up for active duty or the reserves, you'll be legally bound to complete your minimum service requirement. Enlisting means giving up a great deal of control over your life. Read your contract before you sign it. Have someone you trust (who is not a recruiter) read it as well and discuss it with you. Make sure you understand the full scope of your commitment. If you don't know anything about the military, you might think active duty means putting yourself in the line of fire, while reserve duty means being next in line for combat if there aren't enough active-duty service members to fill a need. It's way more nuanced than that. More than 200 jobs are available to reservists—and that's just in the Army. There are jobs in mechanics and engineering, science and medicine, support and logistics, and many other areas besides ground forces. When you join the military, you'll speak with a service enlistment counselor to determine what your specialty will be based on what the service needs, which jobs are available, your ASVAB test score, and the job's physical requirements compared with your physical ability. For example, you could be a financial management technician in the Army as an enlisted soldier or a reservist. Someone who holds this job as a reservist might be an accountant or financial planner in their civilian job. On active duty, you may have a say in where you live, but ultimately, the government will station you wherever it needs you, which could be in the United States or overseas. You will live on or near a military installation. You can expect to move every two to three years. In the reserves, the government will station you near your home, where you can pursue your education or civilian career full time. You can live anywhere in the United States. If you are called to active duty or deployed, there is a good chance that you will have to move. Members of the Individual Ready Reserves (IRR) can be called up to replace active-duty soldiers. Some have completed active-duty soldiers. obligation but remain by choice. Members of the IRR are not part of a drilling unit, and participating in annual training is optional. How often you get deployed, where you are deployed, and what you do during deployment depend on your military's needs. Deployment depend on your military branch, your skills, and the military's needs. deployment can make staying in touch with loved ones back home a challenge. Deployment does not necessarily mean going into combat. Active-duty service members who are deployed. Reservists may be called to serve at the scene of disasters in the United States. Active-duty personnel are more likely to go overseas. Pay as a reservist is per weekend drill plus annual two-week training, and it increases based on rank and years of service. In 2021, pay starts at about \$306 per month for someone with the lowest rank and least experience, based on the typical service of one weekend a month and two weeks a year. You also earn base pay for basic training. Active-duty pay is salaried and also depends on rank and years of service. A level E-1 enlisted recruit, the level at which most people start, will earn a base pay of \$1,650.30 per month in 2021. The base pay for the lowest level officer, 0-1 ensign, is almost \$3,400 in 2021. Active-duty service members are eligible for full benefits, including medical and dental care, education benefits, a housing and food allowance, and a retirement plan. Reserve-duty service members (excluding individual ready reservists) earn partial benefits. Benefits for reservists include healthcare for themselves and their families through the TRICARE Reserve Select plan, where you are responsible for annual premiums, a deductible, and cost sharing; educational assistance through the GI Bill with at least six years of service; and eligibility for the military's Blended Retirement System pension and thrift savings plan (TSP). Reservists who are activated or deployed become eligible for active-duty pay and benefits. According to Blue Star Families, a nonprofit dedicated to strengthening military families, and other negative consequences in spite of federal laws that are supposed to protect service members against these negative consequences. You can serve in the military spouses get and keep jobs thanks to preferential hiring and easy job transfers from one installation to another. Joining the military is a major decision. You can't easily break your commitment, and doing so has serious consequences. Furthermore, whether you join the active-duty service or the reserves, you could be deployed, though your chances are greater on active duty. Both part- and full-time duty offer many benefits, but these come with the potential for major sacrifices that will affect both you and your loved ones, so it's a decision to consider carefully.