Building Retirement Savings with the Blended Retirement System

The Blended Retirement System (BRS) is a modernized retirement plan for all new entrants into the Uniformed Services on or after Jan. 1, 2018, and eligible service members who opted into BRS. Features of the BRS include a defined contribution, consisting of government automatic and matching contributions, to a service member’s Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), a defined benefit (also known as a pension or monthly retired pay for life), after at least 20 years of service, a mid-career bonus called continuation pay and a new lump sum option at retirement.

Key Aspects Under BRS

1. Defined Contribution
   Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You Contribute</th>
<th>DoD Auto Contribution</th>
<th>DoD Matches</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

   New entrants on or after Jan. 1, 2018

   - Automatically enrolled at 3% of your basic pay in an age appropriate TSP Lifecycle Investment Fund.
   - Your Service automatically contributes the equivalent of 1% of your basic or drill pay to your TSP after 60 days of service.
   - You’ll see matching contributions at the start of 3 years through the completion of 26 years of service.

   All Service members are fully vested in the automatic 1% contribution – it’s yours to keep—after completing 2 years of service.

2. Defined Benefit
   Received after completing 20 qualifying years of service and attaining age 60*

   2% × Years Served × Retired Pay Base

   Calculate your retired pay base by averaging the highest 36 months of basic pay
   *or earlier based on qualifying active service

3. Continuation Pay
   Received between 8, but not more than 12 years of service

4. Lump Sum Option
   A choice of how to receive your defined benefit

Maximize Your TSP

The Power of Compounding
Compounding is powerful because it allows you to make money, not just on the money you contribute to your TSP, but also on the money that it earns. Think of it as having a snowball effect—so the sooner you start saving, the more years you have to save, and the more effective compounding is in building retirement savings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>30 Years</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$14,254</td>
<td>$42,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000 per yr for 30 years*</td>
<td>$97,454 Acct Value</td>
<td>$30,000 Contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$67,454 Acct Growth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*calculation using the planning tools at TSP.gov, based on an annual growth rate of 7% with monthly contributions)

Resource Websites

- TSP.gov
- DFAS.mil
- MilitaryOneSource.mil
- SEC.gov
- MilitaryPay.defense.gov/Calculators
- MilitaryPay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement

You can find additional information on #BlendedRetirement at http://militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement