BRS

The Blended Retirement System

Defined





BRS incorporates a defined contribution retirement savings and investment plan, called the Thrift Savings Plan or TSP, that offers the same types of savings and tax benefits many private corporations offer their employees under 401(k) or similar plans. The TSP is the same defined contribution plan thousands of DoD and federal government civilians take advantage of for their retirement savings.

How your contributions matchup

Service Contributions to Your Account (Service Employees Only)

You put in:	Your service puts in:		And the total
	Automatic (1%) Contribution	Service Matching Contribution	contribution is:
0%	1%	0%	1%
1%	1%	1%	3%
2%	1%	2%	5%
3%	1%	3%	7%
4%	1%	3.5%	8.5%
5%	1%	4%	10%
More than 5%	1%	4%	Your Contribution + 5%

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- Service Automatic (1%) Contributions. If you opt into the BRS, your service will begin contributing an amount equal to 1% of your basic pay into your TSP account each month. This does not come out of your pay. It's called a Service Automatic (1%) Contribution and it begins immediately. If you enter service on or after Jan. 1, 2018, you must wait 60 days before the Service Automatic (1%) Contribution starts.
- Service Matching Contributions. In addition, if you opt into BRS and elect to contribute a portion of your own pay into your TSP account, your service will match up to an additional 4% of your basic pay. No matter how much you contribute of your own pay, you can only receive a maximum contribution from your service of an amount equal to 5% of your basic pay. If you enter service on or after January 1, 2018, you will begin receiving Service Matching Contributions after completing two years of service. Service members who opt into BRS will begin re4ceiving Service Matching Contributions immediately.
- Re-enrollment: If you join the Uniformed Services on or after January 1, 2018, you will be automatically enrolled into the TSP's Lifecycle (L) Fund appropriate for your retirement age at 3% of your basic pay. While you can opt out of this enrollment, you will be automatically re-enrolled each calendar year.
- Vested. Being vested means having ownership. To be fully vested in your TSP account means you are entitled to all of the funds in it. Under BRS you are always vested in your own contributions and their earnings. You are also immediately vested in the Service Matching Contributions and their earnings. To become vested in Service Automatic (1%) Contributions, however, you must have completed two years of service. If you've completed two years of service before you opt-in, you're immediately vested in your entire account.

Portability. Once fully vested, your TSP account is portable. You can leave it with the TSP to grow or you can move it to another qualifying government or private-sector retirement account, when you separate or retire from service.

Resources

- ✓ Learn more about BRS at http://militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement.
- Explore Military OneSource and other financial resources at http://www.militaryonesource.mil.
- Locate an accredited personal financial manager or counselor at your installation's Military and Family Support Center, or search at http://militaryInstallations.dod.mil.

The DoD does not take a position on which retirement system a service member should choose.