

HOSTILE FIRE AND IMMINENT DANGER PAY

SEPTEMBER 2010

BRIEF OVERVIEW

Hostile Fire and Imminent Danger Pays are monthly special pays that compensate service members for physical danger.

Hostile Fire Pay is paid to a member who meets one or more of these criteria: (1) takes hostile fire or is exposed to an explosion of a hostile mine; (2) is in a unit engaged in hostile action; (3) is killed, injured, or wounded by hostile fire or explosion of a hostile mine.

Imminent Danger Pay is paid to a member who is on duty in foreign areas where they are subject to the threat of physical harm or imminent danger because of civil insurrection, civil war, terrorism, or wartime conditions.

Although DOD regulations distinguish between Hostile Fire Pay and Imminent Danger Pay, they are derived from the same statute. An individual can collect one or the other, but not both simultaneously.

WHO CAN QUALIFY

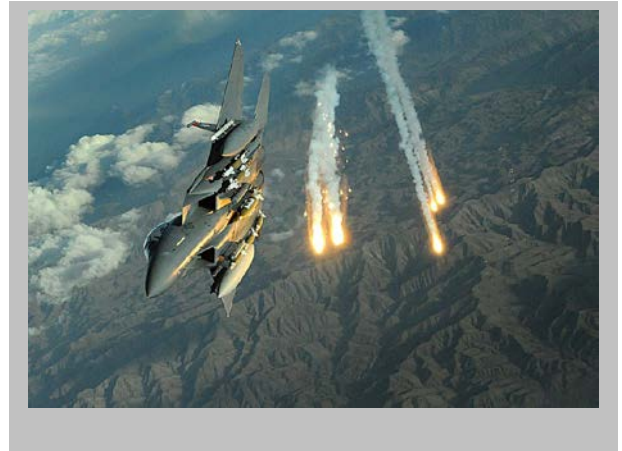
The Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (PDUSD(P&R)) designates imminent danger areas. To be eligible for this pay in a given month, a member must have served in a designated zone, even if only for less than a day. Some of the countries currently designated for IDP:

- Afghanistan
- Colombia
- Congo, Dem Rep of
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Iraq
- Kenya
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Lebanon
- Pakistan
- Philippines

REFERENCES:

- a. Title 37, United States Code, Section 310
- b. DoD Financial Management Regulation (DoDFMR, DoD 7000.14-R), Volume 7A, Chapter 10
- c. Military Branch of Service issued directives/guidance (e.g., regulations, orders, manuals, instructions, SDAP award plans, etc.)

CAVEATS: This article provides only a brief summary of the policies governing entitlement to Hostile Fire and Imminent Danger Pay. It is not a substitute for reading and becoming familiar with the laws, regulations, and policy documents under which the pay is administered. Additionally, it is not intended to address individual circumstances. Specific questions/concerns should be addressed to the individual military service's pay and/or personnel office and/or manager.



An F-15E Strike Eagle from Bagram Air Base deploys flares over Afghanistan Nov. 12, 2008. (Sgt. Aaron Allmon/U.S.A.F)

MONTHLY RATES

HFP/IDP is payable at the monthly rate of \$225.00 (regardless of duty time within that month spent in the area). Active and reserve component members receive the full monthly benefit regardless of the number of days they are on active duty or the number of days for which basic pay is paid.

Members of the Uniformed Services in the Pentagon or the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 were subject to hostile fire, and were entitled to hostile fire pay.

Hostile Fire Pay is determined by an Event.

Imminent Danger Pay is determined by a Threat.