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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Veterans Affairs

Frank Guevara
Director

Fact Sheet #33
Rev: 6/15

Concurrent Receipt & Special Compensation (CRDP AND CRSC)

Concurrent Receipt means receiving military retirement benefits and VA disability compensation at the same time without one offsetting the other. Before 2004 concurrent receipt was forbidden by law. In 2005 the law was changed and the CRDP and CRSC programs were created.

Dual Eligibility

Veterans who are eligible for both CRDP and CRSC will be given their choice of benefit. While CRSC is tax free, CRDP may be the greater benefit for some veterans.

Concurrent Receipt (CRDP)

Qualified disabled military retirees will now get paid both their full military retirement pay and their VA disability compensation. This law will be phased in through 2013. This means that military retirees with 20 or more years of service and a 50% (or higher) VA rated disability will no longer have their military retirement pay reduced by the amount of their VA disability compensation. Payment of CRDP is automatic and VA will work with DFAS to make adjustments to retirement payments. CRDP is a taxable benefit.

CRDP Update 1/28/2008: Those members who have been rated less than 100 percent, but receiving IU (Individual Unemployability) benefits, will now receive CRDP.

Concurrent Receipt Eligibility

To qualify for concurrent receipt you must:

- Be a Military Retiree with 20 or more years of service, including:
- Chapter 61 Medical Retirees with **20 years** or more.
- National Guard and Reserve with **20 or more** good years. (Once they turn 60 and begin drawing a retirement check)
- Temporary Early Retirement Authority (TERA) Retirees may also be eligible.
- Have a Service Related VA disability rating of 50% or higher.

Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC)

CRSC allows certain military retirees to receive both their military retirement pay and VA Disability Compensation concurrently if the service connected disabilities are “combat related”. In addition to the qualifications for CRDP the veteran must have “combat related” disabilities rated 10% or higher. CRSC is a non-taxable form of compensation. In order to receive CRSC a veteran must apply through their branch of the military (Form DD2860).

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Along with the application a claimant must send:

- All DD214's and DD215's (especially for the period when combat medals were earned)
- Retirement Orders
- Copies of all VA rating decision letters including any that refer to Individual Unemployability (IU) or Special Monthly Compensation (SMC).
- Service Medical Records that verify how the injury/disability occurred. (Do not send computer disks or x-rays)
- Physical Evaluation Board results*
- Reserve Retirement Point computation including any 15 or 20 year letters*

* - if applicable

2008 Update: The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, signed into law on January 29, 2008, includes changes to Chapter 61 retiree eligibility, a new component for (CRSC). This legislation expands eligibility to medical retirees with less than 20 years of service, effective January 1, 2008. Medically retired veterans must still provide documentation that shows a causal link between a current VA disability and a combat related event.

Combat Related Special Compensation eligibility includes disabilities incurred as a direct result of:

- Purple Heart Wounds
- Armed Conflict (Gun shot wounds, shrapnel, burns, etc.)
- Conditions Simulating War (War games, live fire weapons training, etc)
- Hazardous Duty (Flight duty, rescue missions, diving, demolition, parachute duty, etc.)
- An Instrumentality of War (Injury caused by combat vehicles, their emissions, ordinance, etc)
- Agent Orange Exposure (Diseases related to agent orange and the secondary disabilities they cause)
- Radiation Exposure (Radiation exposure from nuclear weapons testing, occupation of Hiroshima or Nagasaki, time as a POW of Japan, or service in certain nuclear mining sites lasting 250 days or more)
- Gulf War, Mustard Gas or Lewisite (Diseases specifically caused by exposure to chemical fires, etc.)

Reservists

Retired reservists must have 20 years of qualifying service (supported by documentation from the applicable branch of service such as a 20-year letter, retirement orders or a statement of service) in order to be eligible. (Please note that qualified reservists will not receive CRSC until they begin to receive retired pay at age 60.)

Veterans Affairs Office Locations:

- 175 W. Fifth Street, Second Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0470 (909) 387-5516
- 15900 Smoke Tree Street, Hesperia, CA 92345 (760) 995-8010
- 8575 Haven Ave., Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730 (909-948-6470
- **Or call Toll Free from anywhere in San Bernardino County : 1-866-4SBVets (1-866-472-8387)**