

VEP

ALL THINGS VETERANS – VET CHATS

Military Buy Back Program

Frequently Asked Questions

The **Military Buyback Program** is a benefit for all veterans with active duty **military** service time to receive credit for their **military** service time to be added to their years of civil service with the government and increases their retirement annuity.

1. **How much does military buy back cost?**

For every year of creditable service, you get 1% (this varies for age 62 with 20 years and Special Provision) towards your retirement annuity calculation. That percentage is then applied to your High-3 Salary.

2. **Is it worth it to buy back military time?**

Another benefit to **buying back military time** is that in addition to the higher retirement pension, you may be eligible to retire sooner. So if you're right on the 'cusp' of being eligible to retire – **buying back** your **military time** might make you eligible to retire sooner than you had thought.

3. **How long do I have to buy back my military time?**

You **are** applying to **buy back** your **military service time** within three years of civilian service and therefore, no interest **will** be charged. For federal employees with more than three years of civilian employment prior to application to **buy back** their **military service time**, there may be interest charges.

4. **Does buying back military time affect VA disability?**

If you make a **military** deposit, there is no **effect** on your other **military benefits** such as medical **benefits**, base access, commissary, or **VA benefits**, including any **disability** payments from the **VA**. ... If you decide to pay it **back**, review your FERS or CSRS **buy back** options.

5. **What happens when you buy back your military time?**

The eligible **military service time** is added to **their** retirement date immediately upon finalizing **their buy back** process. The **buy-back** process **MUST** be completed prior to filling out **their** retirement papers for processing. It will not be accepted after **they** apply for retirement and **they** will lose the service **time**.

6. **Can medically retired military buy back time?**

Federal law prohibits **retired** active duty **military** members from **buying back** their **military time** and adding it to their FERS pension (this is because they are already receiving compensation for their **military retirement**).

7. What Form do I use for the Military Buy Back Program? **SF 3108 (Application to Make Service Credit Payment)**