

BEAR PROGRAM UPDATES

The Bonus Extension and Retraining program has been revised for soldiers in overstrength military occupational specialties who retrain and reclassify in a shortage MOS. Soldiers serving under the BEAR program may have up to 24 months of previously obligated service forgiven, provided they re-enlist for the Regular Army re-up option within 90 days after completing MOS training.

ETS option

Soldiers whose terms expire before Oct. 1 and who hold a critical skill (see Table 1) and who extend under the provisions of the BEAR program may be eligible for a lump-sum bonus as follows:

Zone A					
	12-23 months	24-35 months	36-47 months	48-59 months	60+ months
Pfc.	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$9,000	\$11,500
Spc.	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$7,500	\$9,500	\$13,000
Sgt.	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
Staff sgt.	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$17,000
Zone B					
Spc.	\$4,000	\$5,500	\$9,000	\$12,000	\$14,500
Sgt.	\$5,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$13,500	\$16,500
Staff sgt.	\$6,000	\$9,500	\$10,000	\$15,500	\$18,500
Zone C					
Spc.	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$7,500	\$9,500	\$13,000
Sgt.	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
Staff sgt.	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$17,000

Critical skill option

Soldiers who extend under the provisions of the BEAR program and who hold a critical skill (see Table 1) may be entitled to a bonus as follows:

Zone A					
	12-23 months	24-35 months	36-47 months	48-59 months	60+ months
Pfc.	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500
Spc.	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$8,500
Sgt.	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,500
Staff sgt.	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,500	\$12,500
Zone B					
Spc.	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$7,000	\$9,000	\$10,000
Sgt.	\$5,000	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$11,000	\$14,000
Staff sgt.	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$11,000	\$14,000	\$16,000
Zone C					
Spc.	\$2,000	\$3,500	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$8,500
Sgt.	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,500
Staff sgt.	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$10,500	\$12,000

Table 1: Critical skills

The following MOSs are designated as critical skills for the BEAR program:

MOS	Rank	SRB zone
13R	Field artillery firefinder radar operator (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
14S	Air/missile defense crew member (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
15J	OH-58D armament/electrical/avionics system repairer (E-3 through nonpromotable (E-4)	A and B
21Y	Geospatial engineer (E-3 through promotable E-4)	A, B and C
25N	Nodal network operator-maintainer (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
25U	Signal support systems analyst (E-3 through promotable E-4)	A, B and C
35F	Intelligence analyst (E-5 and E-6)	A, B and C
35L	Counterintelligence agent (E-6 only)	A, B and C
46R	Public affairs broadcast specialist (promotable E-4 through E-5)	A, B and C
63B	Wheeled vehicle mechanic (E-3 through E-6)	A, B and C
88M	Motor transport operator (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
92F	Petroleum supply specialist (E-3 through promotable E-5)	A, B and C
92G	Food service specialist (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
92R	Parachute rigger (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B

Soldiers who extend under the provisions of the BEAR program and who reclassify to special critical skill (see Table 2) may be eligible for a bonus as follows:

Zone A					
	12-23 months	24-35 months	36-47 months	48-59 months	60+ months
Pfc.	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,500
Spc.	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$16,000
Sgt.	\$8,000	\$9,500	\$11,000	\$13,500	\$18,000
Staff sgt.	\$9,500	\$11,000	\$13,500	\$17,500	\$20,000
Zone B					
Spc.	\$6,000	\$8,500	\$10,000	\$13,000	\$17,500
Sgt.	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$14,000	\$18,500
Staff sgt.	\$9,500	\$12,000	\$14,000	\$18,500	\$21,000
Zone C					
Spc.	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$14,000	\$18,500
Sgt.	\$9,500	\$12,000	\$14,000	\$18,500	\$21,000
Staff sgt.	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$17,500	\$23,000	\$27,000

Table 2: Special critical skills

These MOSs are designated as special critical skills:

MOS	Rank	SRB Zone
09L	Interpreter/translator (E-3 through E-6)	A, B and C
13D	Field artillery automated tactical data system specialist (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
14S	Air/missile defense crew member (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
18B	Special Forces weapons sergeant (E-4 through E-7)	A, B and C

18C	Special Forces engineer sergeant (E-4 through E-7)	A, B and C
18D	Special Forces medical sergeant (E-4 through E-7)	A, B and C
18E	Special Forces communications sergeant (E-4 through E-7)	A, B and C
18F	Special Forces assistant operations and intelligence sergeant (E-7 only)	A, B and C
21D	Diver (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
21P	Prime power production specialist (E-5 through promotable E-5)	A, B and C
25P	Microwave systems operator-maintainer (E-3 through promotable E-4)	A, B and C
25Q	Multichannel transmission systems operator-maintainer (E-3 through E-5)	A, B and C
25S	Satellite communications operator-maintainer (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
35G	Imagery analyst (E-3 through E-6)	A, B and C
35H	Common ground station analyst (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
35M	Human intelligence collector (E-6 only)	A, B and C
35N	Signals intelligence analyst (E-3 through E-6)	A, B and C
35P	Cryptologic linguist with AD/JN/PF/PU/QB/RU (E-3 through E-6)	A, B and C
35P	Cryptologic linguist with FR, must hold SQI, P, S, or V. (E-3 through E-6)	A, B and C
35S	Signals collector/analyst (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
37F	Psychological operations specialist (E-3 through E-6)	A, B and C
38B	Civil affairs specialist (E-5 through E-6)	A, B and C
68W	Health care specialist (E-3 through nonpromotable E-4)	A and B
89D	Explosive ordnance disposal specialist (E-3 through promotable E-4)	A, B and C