

WANT TO EARN \$5000 FOR LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE? HERE'S HOW: THE RC FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PILOT PROGRAM!!

A newly expanded Navy Reserve program gives ALL Selected Reservists another area in which Reserve Force expertise adds to the Navy's strategic depth.

The Foreign Language and Culture Pilot Program now allows ALL Reservists to receive bonuses for completing certain language and culture studies programs at accredited colleges and universities. Eligibility for this program is established by OPNAVINST 1550.11.

Bonuses can reach \$5,000 during a fiscal year. To be eligible for the program, enlisted Sailors must have at least 24 months remaining on their service contract at completion of the last approved course. Officers must agree, by signing a page 13, to continue serving as a Selected Reservist for 24 continuous months following the end of the last approved course.

A course of study in critical languages and regional areas or cultural disciplines must meet certain criteria to be approved. Participants must take a three or more credit hour course at an institution of higher learning which is accredited and recognized by the Department of Education (DOE). Interested Sailors can search for accredited schools at <http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/Search.aspx>.

To apply for bonuses, eligible members should submit the school's course application, the Language Culture Bonus application (OPNAV 1500/55), and a copy of the course description from the school's course catalog within 60 days of registering for the course to their Naval Reserve Activity (NRA) Educational Services Officer (ESO).

To receive the bonus submit the completed Language Culture Bonus application endorsed by your NRA ESO and Commanding Officer with course transcript showing a grade of "C" or higher within 60 days of course completion. A Page 13 service agreement is also required for officers.

If there are any questions, members should contact their local Navy Reserve Activity, Educational Services Officer or CNRFC program point of contact Lisa Wade COMNAVRESFOR N73 at (757) 322-6607, DSN 262-6607, Fax (757) 444-1061 or email cnrfc_ciso@navy.mil.

Additional information can be found at www.navyreserve.navy.mil, or visit CNRFC N7 at <https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/3447B/n7/CISO/LC/LC/Language%20and%20Culture.aspx?PageView=Shared&PagePreview=true>.

Courses must focus on the following languages or one of the disciplines for a designated cultural regional area:

Foreign Languages:
Modern standard Arabic and Arabic dialects
Cambodian/Khmer
Chinese – Mandarin
Hausa
Hindi
Ibo/Igbo
Indonesian
Japanese
Kurdish
Malay
Pashto/Pashtu
Persian – Dari/Farsi
Philippine languages (excluding Tagalog)
Serbo-croatian
Somali
Swahili
Thai
Turkish
Urdu
Vietnamese
Yoruba

Regional Areas:
Caribbean
Central America
Central Asia
East Asia
Eastern Europe
Middle East North Africa
South America
South Asia
Southeast Asia
Sub-Saharan Africa
West Africa

Disciplines:
Economics
Foreign Language
Geography
History
Political Science
Religion
Sociology/Anthropology

The total bonus amount paid to an individual participant shall not exceed \$5,000 in the fiscal year the course is completed.

The following award levels are authorized:

Bonus Amount	Course Level and Discipline
\$1,250	100-200 (or equivalent) level culture
\$1,500	300 and higher (or equivalent) level culture
\$2,000	100-200 (or equivalent) level language
\$2,500	300 and higher (or equivalent) level language