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COMNAVRESFOR INSTRUCTION 1780.1D

From: Commander, Navy Reserve Force

Subj: MONTGOMERY GI BILL – SELECTED RESERVE BASIC AND KICKER
PROGRAM POLICY GUIDANCE

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1606
(b) MGIB-SR Field User's Handbook
(c) DODI 1322.17
(d) BUPERSINST 1001.39F
(e) RESPERSMAN 1001.5

1. Purpose. Provide policy guidance to Program Managers on effective management of the Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB SR) program in accordance with chapter 1606 of reference (a). This instruction has been revised and should be read in its entirety. Administrative procedures are published in reference (b).
2. Cancellation. COMNAVRESFORINST 1780.1C
3. Scope and Applicability. The MGIB-SR Program is the primary source of in-service educational benefits for the Selected Reserve (SELRES) Sailors. The program does not require any monetary contribution, only a commitment to serve satisfactorily for 6 years in a SELRES (drill pay) status.
4. Action. Addressees ensure widest dissemination and full implementation of this instruction.
5. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media or format, must be managed per SECNAV Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.
6. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, COMNAVRESFOR will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will automatically expire 5 years after effective date unless reissued or canceled prior to the 5-year anniversary date, or an extension has been granted.

7. References and Forms. Templates of the exhibits may be found in reference (b) available for download from the Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command (COMNAVRESFORCOM) Reserve Policy (N1C2) Web site at <https://www.navyreserve.navy.mil> under the COMNAVRESFORCOM (N1C2) page.



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Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via COMNAVRESFOR Web site, <http://www.navyreserve.navy.mil>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1	RESPONSIBILITIES	
1.	Commander, Navy Reserve Force (COMNAVRESFOR) (NIC2)	1-1
2.	Echelon 4 commanders	1-1
3.	NRA COs/OICs	1-1
4.	MGIB-SR Program Managers	1-2
5.	Personnel Support Detachments/Activities (PSD/PSA) or NRA Administrative and/or Manpower/Personnel Departments (as applicable)	1-2
Chapter 2	BASIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	
1.	General	2-1
2.	Eligibility Criteria	2-1
3.	Navy Reserve Recruiting Programs and MGIB-SR Eligibility	2-2
Chapter 3	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS	
1.	General	3-1
2.	Data Systems used for Administration	3-1
3.	NSIPS Reserve MGIB Data Field Definitions for Administration	3-1
Chapter 4	ELIGIBILITY ADJUDICATION AND DATA ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	
1.	General	4-1
2.	Record Adjudication	4-1
3.	Declaration of Eligibility	4-1
4.	Distribution of the NOBE	4-1
5.	Ineligible Members who Re-enlist for a Period of Less than 6 Years	4-1
6.	Corrected NOBE	4-1
7.	Reissuance of a Member's Lost Copy of a NOBE	4-2
8.	Signature Authority	4-2
9.	Form Control	4-2
Chapter 5	BENEFITS AND PROGRAM UTILIZATION	
1.	General	5-1
2.	Total Benefit Entitlement	5-1
3.	Benefits	5-1
4.	Monetary Benefit Level	5-1
5.	Multiple Entitlements	5-1
6.	Period of Entitlement	5-2
7.	Expiration of Termination of Entitlement Impact	5-2
8.	Continuation of Entitlement	5-2
9.	Nature of Eligibility	5-4
10.	Application for Benefits	5-4

Chapter 6	SUSPENSION AND REINSTATEMENT	
1.	General	6-1
2.	Suspensions	6-1
3.	Reinstatement Requirements	6-3
Chapter 7	TERMINATION, RECOUPMENT AND COLLECTION	
1.	General	7-1
2.	Terminations	7-1
3.	Special Cases	7-1
4.	Permanent Termination of MGIB-SR eligibility	7-1
5.	Collections and Recoupment	7-2
6.	Members Subject to DVA Collection Action	7-2
7.	COMNAVRESFOR/DoD Recoupment Waivers	7-2
Chapter 8	MGIB-SR KICKER PROGRAM	
1.	General	8-1
2.	Eligibility Criteria	8-1
3.	Kicker Program Incentive	8-1
4.	Suspension of Eligibility	8-2
5.	Continuance of Eligibility	8-2
6.	Termination of Eligibility	8-2
Chapter 9	TRANSFER OF UNUSED EDUCATION BENEFITS	
1.	Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) Implementation	9-1
2.	Navy Reserve Implementation	9-1

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OCT 28 2016



MONTGOMERY GI BILL – SELECTED RESERVE BASIC
AND KICKER
PROGRAM POLICY GUIDANCE

CHAPTER 1
RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Commander, Navy Reserve Force (COMNAVRESFOR) (N1C2) will:
 - a. Act as the major claimant and operational Program Manager (PM) for the MGIB-SR Basic and Kicker Program in accordance with references (c) and (d).
 - b. Liaise with Navy Personnel Command (NPC), Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), commanders, and commanding officers/officers in charge (CO/OIC).
 - c. Hold echelon 4 commanders responsible and accountable for effective MGIB-SR program management for their respective command and subordinate commands.
 - d. Assist and train Navy Reserve Activities (NRA) in effective MGIB-SR program management and administration.
 - e. Monitor use of Department of Defense (DD) Form 2384-1, Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE) and DD Form 2384-2, MGIB-SR Kicker Obligation Agreement, as inspection items and review as required to ensure neither is vulnerable to fraudulent use.
2. Echelon 4 commanders will:
 - a. Be responsible and accountable for effective MGIB-SR program management at their respective command and subordinate commands.
 - b. Hold NRA COs/OICs, as applicable, responsible and accountable for effective MGIB-SR program management and administration.
 - c. Provide on-site training and assist visits for subordinate command PMs and administrators as necessary.
 - d. Request on-site training and assist visits from COMNAVRESFOR (N1C2) as necessary.
3. NRA COs/OICs will:
 - a. Be responsible and accountable for effective MGIB-SR program management and administration at their respective command.
 - b. Hold unit COs/OICs, as applicable, responsible and accountable for effective MGIB-SR program management at their command or unit.

- c. Appoint the command career counselor as the PM.

4. MGIB-SR Program Managers will:

- a. Effectively manage their command's MGIB-SR programs.
- b. Be familiar with this instruction and all references.
- c. Provide information on MGIB-SR eligibility requirements and benefits to all SELRES members.
- d. Act as primary counselor for this program.
- e. Request on-site training and assist visits as necessary.
- f. Determine and validate MGIB-SR eligibility of all officer and enlisted SELRES by adjudicating their Electronic Service Records (ESR) in accordance with chapter 4 and reference (b).
- g. Ensure every Selected Reserve (SELRES) member completes a Statement of Understanding (SOU) in accordance with chapter 4 and reference (b).
- h. Ensure accurate Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS) entries are made for each member assigned to the command in accordance with chapter 4 and reference (b).
- i. Ensure all eligible members receive a Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE) within 30 days of Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) completion.
- j. Ensure proper filing/forwarding of all copies of the NOBE.
- k. Ensure termination and suspension documentation is submitted as required.

5. Personnel Support Detachments/Activities (PSD/PSA) or NRA Administrative and/or Manpower/Personnel Departments (as applicable) will:

- a. Provide administrative support to the respective command PMs and administrators to include, but not limited to:

(1) Producing documents from SELRES members Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) to facilitate adjudication and determination of MGIB-SR eligibility status.

(2) Producing documents from SELRES members Inactive Duty Training (IDT) folders to facilitate adjudication and determination of MGIB-SR eligibility status.

(3) Producing documents from unit IDT folders to facilitate adjudication and determination of MGIB-SR eligibility status.

(4) Notification of all personnel actions affecting length of service, gains and losses, billet assignments, and unsatisfactory participation which may affect MGIB-SR eligibility. Forward gain notification to the NRA immediately upon receipt and loss notification prior to making NSIPS loss entries.

(5) Data entry into SELRES personnel database systems to facilitate accurate and timely MGIB-SR transactions, reporting, and production of NOBE.

NOTE: Direct input into personnel data systems (i.e. NSIPS) does not infer that PMs/administrators are responsible for database keystroke input. Database administrators must contact MGIB-SR PMs/administrators to receive the correct MGIB-SR data for input. Personnel database system administrators are ultimately responsible for all keystroke entries.

CHAPTER 2
BASIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. General. This chapter describes the basic requirements and procedures required to gain eligibility and entitlement for MGIB-SR program benefits.

2. Eligibility Criteria. Basic elements are:

a. Incur a 6-year SELRES obligation on or after 1 July 1985.

(1) Officers may obligate for the MGIB-SR by signing an ESR Administrative Remarks (NAVPERS 1070/613) agreeing to remain in an IDT pay status for 6 years in addition to any other current SELRES obligation. The date that the NAVPERS 1070/613 is executed establishes both the 6-year obligation date and the eligibility start date.

(2) Enlisted members must be eligible in all respects per reference (d) to enlist or reenlist for a 6-year period.

NOTE: Service in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) - Active Status Pool (ASP)/Voluntary Training Unit (VTU) does not meet IDT obligation requirements.

b. High School Diploma, General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or Equivalent. Members must possess a high school diploma, GED or equivalent prior to applying for benefits. This requirement is tracked and monitored by the DVA.

c. Complete required IADT.

(1) Non-prior service enlisted members must complete recruit training and any required follow-on rate training (i.e. "A" school) before becoming eligible.

(2) Direct Commission Officers (DCO) with no prior Military Service must complete DCO Indoctrination School before becoming eligible.

d. ~~Not Be In Receipt of a Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Scholarship Stipend.~~ Reserve personnel may participate in the ROTC scholarship program. However, they cannot accept a stipend without losing MGIB-SR benefits. Members must be asked if they are receiving this stipend as there are no required entries in the ESR that indicate such receipt.

e. Service members may only enter into one 6-year obligation for entitlement to MGIB-SR Basic benefits.

3. Navy Reserve Recruiting Programs and MGIB-SR Eligibility

a. New Accession Training (NAT) Program. NAT program personnel attend full recruit training and either follow-on "A" school or apprenticeship training. This fulfills member's IADT requirement. Upon successful completion of IADT members are immediately eligible for MGIB-SR.

Note: Time spent on IADT counts towards completion of the 6-year obligation. However, entitlement for benefits does not begin until affiliation with the NRA.

b. Navy Veteran (NAVET)

(1) Military Service Obligation (MSO) Remaining. Members who affiliate with Service remaining on their initial MSO normally do not have sufficient time remaining under that contract to be eligible for the MGIB-SR program. To gain eligibility they must either extend their current contract, if eligible in accordance with reference (c), or re-enlist to incur the required 6-year obligation.

(2) MSO Completed. Members who complete their initial MSO and enlist under a 6-year contract are immediately eligible for the MGIB-SR program.

c. Other Service Veteran (OSVET). These members affiliate with the Navy Reserve after Service in another active or reserve component. Some members may have originally gained entitlement to MGIB-SR benefits or possibly been terminated from eligibility while serving in the other component. PMs shall contact COMNAVRESFOR (N1C2) to verify any previous eligibility/ineligibility data for OSVETs prior to NSIPS data entry.

CHAPTER 3
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

1. General. This chapter provides data system information necessary for commands to administer MGIB-SR Basic and Kicker program.
2. Data Systems used for Administration
 - a. NSIPS. This is the Navy's pay and personnel system used to administer all pay, drill accounting, reenlistment contracts, extensions, NAVPERS 1070/613s, and MGIB-SR data entries.
 - b. Reserve Headquarters System (RHS). Accessible by echelon 4 and above commands.
 - c. Inactive Manpower and Personnel Management Information System (IMAPMIS). This data system receives information from RHS, compiles data, and transmits information to the Reserve Component Common Personnel Data System (RCCPDS).
 - d. Reserve Component Common Personnel Data System (RCCPDS). This data system receives information submitted by all Department of Defense (DoD) reserve components, compiles data, and transmits information to the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC).
 - e. Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC). Maintains data on both Active Component (AC) and Reserve Component (RC) members. This system is the link between the Navy Reserve systems and the DVA national computer system.
3. NSIPS Reserve MGIB Data Field Definitions for Administration
 - a. Eligibility Status. This single character data field indicates members' eligibility status and determines which NSIPS fields must also be entered to report MGIB-SR benefit eligibility, ineligibility, suspension or termination. Displayed as NGIBE field in RHS, and GIBE Status field on MGIB-SR Career Information Management System (CIMS) administration report.
 - b. Obligation Eligibility Status. This date field is used for members who incurred an initial 6-year SELRES obligation between 1 July 1985 and 30 September 1990. Displayed as GIEODE field in RHS, GIBE field on MGIB-SR CIMS administration report.
 - c. Conversion Date. This date field is used for members who incur an initial 6-year SELRES obligation on or after 1 October 1990. Displayed as CONV field in RHS, CONDT field on MGIB-SR CIMS administration report.

d. Start Date. This date field indicates that the member has met the last remaining eligibility requirement. This is the member's first day of benefit entitlement. Displayed as NGIB field in RHS, GIBSD field on MGIB-SR CIMS administration report.

e. Termination Date. This date field is the termination date of a member's MGIB-SR benefit. When data is entered in this field it also requires an entry in the Recoupment Status field in NSIPS and automatically calculates the Service Remaining field in NSIPS. Displayed as GIBTD field in RHS and on MGIB-SR CIMS administration report.

f. Service Remaining (GIBSR). This numeric field subtracts the number of months satisfactorily served in the SELRES from the total 6-year obligation for members whose eligibility has been terminated prior to completion of their 6-year (72 months) obligation. This results in a number of months remaining not satisfactorily completed. DoD utilizes this figure to determine the recoupment penalty amount assessed against the member.

g. GI Bill Recoupment Code (NGIBR). This numeric code indicates if recoupment of unearned benefits is required. This code is not displayed on MGIB-SR CIMS Administration Report.

CHAPTER 4
ELIGIBILITY ADJUDICATION AND DATA ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. General. The record adjudication process is integral to effective program management. Adjudicating records enables the PM to make accurate determination of eligibility and NSIPS data entry requirements.
2. Record adjudication. The PM shall ensure record adjudication for each member, officer and enlisted, who:
 - a. Affiliates/enlists with the SELRES via Navy Recruiting Command or Career Transition Office, or
 - b. Transfers between NRAs (to validate previous data), or
 - c. Re-enlists for a term of 6 years, or
 - d. Re-affiliates after a period of authorized voluntary suspension (see chapter 6).
3. Declaration of eligibility. Commands shall make necessary NSIPS entries within 10 days after the calculated Start Date (GIBSD) and shall generate the NOBE within 30 days after the GIBSD.
 - a. Members must be declared eligible in NSIPS within three working days of gaining eligibility, or the benefit will not be initiated. Utilize NSIPS Data Entry form in reference (b) to request and document NSIPS entry.
4. Distribution of the NOBE. One original and two copies shall be made of the NOBE and distributed as follows:
 - a. Original to NPC (PERS-313C) for digital filing, via the Electronic Submission (e-Submission) application on the BUPERS Online web site.
 - b. Copy to IDT folder.
 - c. Copy to member.
5. Ineligible Members who Re-enlist for a Period of Less than 6 Years. Members whose records were previously adjudicated and who re-enlist for a period of less than 6 years do not have to be re-adjudicated.
6. Corrected NOBE. When an erroneous NOBE is discovered, commands must re-issue the document with the corrected data and stamp or type the words "CORRECTED COPY" along the

top edge of the form. Distribute the corrected document in accordance with paragraph 4 of this chapter, and destroy all old copies.

7. Reissuance of a Member's Lost Copy of a NOBE. Review member's OMPF prior to reissuing a lost NOBE. If available in OMPF, do not reissue. If not available in OMPF, make a certified copy of the NOBE from member's IDT folder and stamp or type the words "RE-ISSUED ON (date)" along the top edge of the form with the signatures of both the commanding officer (or designee) and the member directly beneath.

8. Signature Authority. The commanding officer or designee (paygrade E-6 and above or civilian equivalent) is authorized to sign the command signature block on the NOBE.

9. Form Control. The NOBE is a source document for validation of a monetary benefit and is vulnerable to fraudulent use. Commands will safeguard computer access to the printing functions associated with this form in NSIPS. All manual versions of the NOBE shall be destroyed in a manner that prevents unauthorized use. No electronic versions of the NOBE may be placed on any Web site or stored on any Navy Information System other than as previously authorized in this chapter.

CHAPTER 5
BENEFITS AND PROGRAM UTILIZATION

1. General. This chapter describes the benefits of the MGIB-SR program, limitations to the use of these benefits, and the administrative method of gaining payment for a course of study.

2. Total Benefit Entitlement. The MGIB-SR program provides for a total of 36 full-time benefit months (hereafter referred to as months) of payment entitlement.

a. A benefit month is defined as a full calendar month during which a member is pursuing a full-time course of study and receiving the full-time rate of payments for MGIB-SR.

b. Amounts are pro-rated for course loads of less than full-time, for partial month attendance, or for non-traditional types of study.

c. The DVA determines member's benefit payment amount based on documentation received from the institution of learning.

3. Benefits. Members incurring 6-year obligations on or after 1 October 1990 may pursue the same courses of instruction eligible under the chapter 30 active duty Montgomery GI Bill. Members may also receive payment for graduate studies on or after 30 November 1993.

4. Monetary Benefit Level. The full-time benefit rate is adjusted annually on 1 October. Current rates may be found by either calling the DVA at 1-888-GIBILL1 (1-888-442-4551), or on the DVA website at:

http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/resources/benefits_resources/rate_tables.asp

5. Multiple Entitlements. Members may become entitled to multiple DVA-managed education assistance programs, but may not use the same period of service to gain eligibility for more than one benefit.

a. Multiple Entitlement Cap. Federal law limits the total months of DVA-administered education benefits paid to any member to 48 months when eligible for benefits under two or more DVA education programs.

b. Restrictions on Concurrent Usage. Members with multiple entitlements cannot receive monies from more than one DVA-managed educational assistance program for the same period of a course of study.

(1) Example: Member could not receive simultaneous payments for both chapter 30 and chapter 1606 for the spring quarter of 2016 courses. However, the member can change program choice term to term. Therefore, this member could use chapter 30 benefits for the spring 2016 quarter and use chapter 1606 benefits for the fall 2016 quarter.

(2) In the rare case of a member pursuing two different courses of study at two institutions simultaneously, payments can be made from two programs concurrently (chapter 30 benefits for a baccalaureate degree program at school A and chapter 1606 for technical training at school B). Check with the DVA for restrictions and rules prior to attempting concurrent programs.

c. Active Duty Tuition Assistance (TA) and MGIB-SR. Members eligible for and receiving active duty TA for a course of study may only draw MGIB-SR benefits concurrently if enrolled in a half-time or greater program of education.

6. Period of Entitlement. The period of entitlement begins on the Start Date, as defined in chapter 3 of this instruction. Except for continuation of entitlement provisions in paragraph 8 of this chapter, and suspension and restoration conditions in chapter 6 of this instruction, the period of entitlement for MGIB-SR will end:

a. Upon completion of the 14-year period that began on the date that MGIB-SR basic entitlement was established from 1 October 1992 to 29 June 2008, or separation from the SELRES during that 14-year period, whichever came first.

b. On the date the member separates from the SELRES, if initial date of MGIB-SR basic entitlement is established after 29 June 2008. For these members, there is no delimiting date for benefits usage. As long as they remain in the SELRES and maintain satisfactory participation, they retain eligibility.

7. Expiration or Termination of Entitlement Impact. Once entitlement to MGIB-SR expires or is terminated, any future MGIB-SR entitlement is also forfeited. Entitlement to MGIB-SR will expire when:

a. Final determination is made of the member's failure to participate satisfactorily in required training for the SELRES, or

b. Member receives financial assistance in the form of a Senior ROTC Scholarship in accordance with section 2107 of reference (a).

8. Continuation of Entitlement. Entitlement to MGIB-SR educational assistance and eligibility for MGIB-SR Kicker education incentives may continue or be extended beyond the time limits established in paragraph 6 of this chapter upon:

a. Disability Separation. A service member is separated from the SELRES because of a disability that was not the result of individual gross negligence or misconduct, and was incurred after the date that he or she became entitled to educational assistance pursuant to this instruction.

(1) The member will retain entitlement through the end of the period of entitlement described in section 6 of this chapter for an MGIB-SR Start Date established before 30 June 2008.

(2) For a member separated from the SELRES with an MGIB-SR Start Date on or after 30 June 2008, the remaining period of entitlement will be 14 years after separation from the SELRES.

(3) Ensure documentation that transfers the member from drill pay status clearly states that transfer was involuntary due to a disability and not at the request of the member. Member must contact the DVA within 1 year after separation for continued eligibility.

b. Reduction in Force. A member is separated from the SELRES between 1 October 1991 and 31 December 2001, or between 1 October 2007 and 30 September 2014, because of unit inactivation or because of a reduction in authorized end strength, as determined by the Secretary of the Navy.

(1) Member will retain entitlement through the end of the period of entitlement described in paragraph 6 of this chapter, for an MGIB-SR Start Date established before 30 June 2008.

(2) For a member separated from the SELRES with an MGIB-SR Start Date on or after 30 June 2008, the remaining period of entitlement will be 14 years after separation from the SELRES.

c. Course Completion Date. Member is enrolled in an educational institution and the period of MGIB-SR entitlement expires before completion of the enrolled course.

(1) If the MGIB-SR will expire in accordance with paragraph 6 of this chapter, the period of entitlement will be extended to the end of the institution's quarter or semester.

(2) If the member is enrolled in an institution not operated regularly on a quarter or semester basis and the period of entitlement expires after a major portion of the course is completed, the period of entitlement will be extended to the end of the course, or for 12 weeks, whichever is the lesser period of extension.

d. Ordered to Active Duty (AD). If member is ordered to AD in accordance with sections 12301(a), 12301(d), 12301(g), 12302, or 12304 of reference (a) with an MGIB-SR Start Date before 30 June 2008, member will have the period of entitlement extended for the period of AD, plus 4 months. If the DVA finds the order to AD caused a member to discontinue a course in the pursuit of a program of education, and the member fails to receive credit or training time toward completion of the approved educational course objective, the education benefits paid for such a course will not be counted toward the member's authorized months of entitlement.

e. Enlisted to Officer Appointment. An enlisted member separates from the SELRES and immediately receives an appointment as an officer in the SELRES of the same RC for the period that, with time already served for entitlement for MGIB-SR educational assistance in accordance with this instruction, must be equal to or greater than 6 years. Newly appointed officers with previous MGIB-SR eligibility and service obligation remaining for the basic benefit entitlement shall sign an NSIPS NAVPERS 1070/613 agreeing to serve the remainder of the required service in the SELRES. The PM will ensure appropriate NSIPS entries are made in the officer's new NSIPS record.

f. Involuntary Removal from Kicker Specialty. If member is involuntarily removed from the Kicker-eligible rating or has the Kicker-eligible Navy Enlisted Classification (NEC) removed involuntarily. Involuntary removal includes promotion out of the NEC pay grades authorized, loss of NEC due to no fault of the member, and forced conversion due to no fault of the member. COMNAVRESFOR (N1C2) will make final determination on voluntary versus. involuntary removal.

9. Nature of Eligibility. In 1990, the legal interpretation of chapter 1606 of title 10 U.S.C. changed the status of the MGIB-SR program from a "benefit" to a "right". Members who meet the eligibility criteria shall be made eligible for MGIB-SR, regardless of individual desire, request, or intent to use benefits.

10. Application for Benefits. Many application methods exist for members to apply for benefits. Regardless of application method, member will be required to provide school's VA Certifying Official with a copy of their signed NOBE before benefits will be processed.

a. Consult with the VA Certifying Official at the institution the member is attending. The institution's financial aid office, registrar or veterans affairs office should have copies of the VA Form 22-1990.

b. Apply online at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov>.

c. Visit the nearest VA Regional Office to apply in person.

d. Call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) and request an application via mail.

CHAPTER 6
SUSPENSION AND REINSTATEMENT

1. General. This chapter outlines policy for suspension and reinstatement of MGIB-SR entitlement.

Note: Federal law prohibits suspending benefits on the basis of mobilization.

2. Suspensions. Suspensions may be voluntary, involuntary, or automatic. Suspensions that occur during the initial 6-year SELRES obligation that established member's eligibility may require the member to take action to reconstitute the remainder of the 6-year obligation in order to have benefits reinstated.

a. Voluntary Suspension

(1) Missionary. Members whose religious beliefs require a period of service may request up to a 3-year suspension. Members must provide documentation from the religious organization as validation.

(2) Personal Request. Members may request up to a 1-year suspension for any reason.

(3) Voluntary Suspension Period Rules. Members are authorized one voluntary suspension. Members may only utilize one of the two types of voluntary suspensions listed above, and shall not exceed the limits of their period of suspension.

(4) Completion of a Period of Voluntary Suspension. Member must re-affiliate with the SELRES before the time limit for the suspension (1 or 3 years) has expired. Additionally, the member has 60 days from re-affiliation to obligate for the time spent in suspended status to "reconstruct" a 6-year SELRES obligation.

(5) Failure to Complete Voluntary Suspension Period. Members who fail to comply with paragraph 2a(4) of this chapter, shall have their MGIB-SR benefits terminated in accordance with chapter 7 of this instruction. The Termination Date will be the date of initial suspension.

b. Involuntary Suspension.

(1) Unsatisfactory Participation. Members who fail to maintain satisfactory participation requirements in accordance with reference (e) shall have their benefits suspended.

(2) Members will be notified of involuntary suspension of MGIB-SR eligibility in writing and afforded 60 days to respond before a final determination is made. Follow procedures contained in reference (b) to process involuntary suspensions.

(3) Members who fail to respond within 60 days shall have their MGIB-SR eligibility terminated.

(4) Enlisted members subject to involuntary suspension prior to completing the 6-year MGIB-SR service obligation, if retained in a probationary status in accordance with reference (e), shall NOT be entitled to retain MGIB-SR eligibility.

(5) After notification procedures and member's response, the unit CO shall make the final recommendation to terminate or reinstate member's MGIB-SR eligibility and inform NRA CO.

(6) NRA CO shall forward the Reinstatement or Termination Letter, as applicable, to COMNAVRESFOR (N1C2). Reinstatement is only authorized if unsatisfactory participation determination was in error and has been corrected.

(7) COMNAVRESFOR (N1C2) has final authority to determine reinstatement or termination of MGIB-SR benefits resulting from involuntary suspension.

c. Automatic Suspensions. Members, in some circumstances, may have their MGIB-SR benefits suspended without a formal request (i.e. automatic).

(1) Members who complete an initial 6-year obligation for MGIB-SR, have no prior voluntary suspension, and leave a SELRES status shall have their MGIB-SR benefits automatically suspended.

(2) Members who gained basic entitlement to MGIB-SR benefits between 28 November 1989 and 30 June 2008, and enter into AD in the Navy Reserve as a Canvasser Recruiter (CANREC) or in the Full Time Support (FTS) Program shall have their MGIB-SR benefits automatically suspended.

d. Suspension Documentation. Suspension documentation depends on the type and timeframe for suspension.

(1) Voluntary Suspension. If member has not completed a 6-year obligation, submit a Suspension Letter through the chain of command to COMNAVRESFOR (N1C2). No letter is required if the member is suspended after completion of the 6-year obligation. See letter format in reference (b).

(2) Involuntary Suspension. Suspension of MGIB-SR eligibility notification is required. Commands shall follow procedures and utilize letter formats in reference (b).

(3) Automatic Suspension. No suspension letter required.

3. Reinstatement Requirements. Members who satisfactorily complete a period of suspension will have their MGIB-SR eligibility reinstated. Satisfactory completion is defined as:

a. Voluntary Suspension Reinstatement. A member must reaffiliate with the SELRES before expiration of the approved 1-year or 3-year suspension AND must reenlist or extend, as required, to reconstitute the remainder of the initial 6-year MGIB-SR obligated service requirement.

b. Involuntary Suspension Reinstatement. If it is determined, after receiving member's response to Suspension Notification, the member should not have been declared an unsatisfactory participant, NRA CO shall recommend to COMNAVRESFOR (N1C2) for member's MGIB-SR eligibility to be reinstated, citing the corrective action taken (i.e. removal of unsatisfactory drills).

c. Automatic Suspension Reinstatement.

(1) A member whose MGIB-SR benefits were suspended in accordance with paragraph 2c(1) of this chapter, must re-affiliate with the SELRES before expiration of 1 year from the date of suspension. No additional service is required as member already fulfilled initial 6-year MGIB-SR obligation.

(2) A member whose MGIB-SR benefits were suspended in accordance with paragraph 2c(2) of this chapter, must re-affiliate within 1 year of release from CANREC or FTS contract and, if necessary, reenlist or extend for the period of time required to fulfill the initial 6-year SELRES obligation.

CHAPTER 7
TERMINATION, RECOUPMENT, AND COLLECTION

1. General. This chapter outlines policy for termination, recoupment, and collection.

Note: Federal law prohibits terminating benefits for members due to mobilization.

2. Terminations. Members who do not maintain eligibility criteria will normally have their benefits eligibility terminated. Proper use of the adjudication procedures given in reference (b) will provide termination data fields in most cases. Termination of eligibility can result from any of the following:

- a. Failure to reaffiliate with the SELRES and obligate necessary service, if required, following a voluntary or automatic suspension of MGIB-SR eligibility in accordance with chapter 6.
- b. Failure to respond to involuntary suspension notification in the authorized time frame.
- c. Final determination of unsatisfactory participation following involuntary suspension notification and response process, including enlisted members retained in a probationary status.
- d. Voluntary transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), including Active Status Pool (ASP) and Voluntary Training Unit without requesting a voluntary suspension.

3. Special Cases

- a. Members Declared Unsatisfactory Participants after Completing their 6-Year Obligation. Members declared unsatisfactory participants after completing a 6-year obligation will NOT have MGIB-SR benefits terminated if they remain in a SELRES status after being declared unsatisfactory.

- b. Members who Fail to Complete Enlistment Program Requirements. Members enlisted or affiliated in a temporary rating program who fail to complete the program requirements to make their rate permanent within the specified time will NOT have MGIB-SR benefits terminated if they remain in a SELRES status.

- c. Members who are Discharged. Members discharged will be characterized depending upon the narrative reason for discharge.

4. Permanent Termination of MGIB-SR eligibility. Once a member has been declared an unsatisfactory participant and been awarded NGIBE Code "H", barring discovery of an administrative error, that member can never regain MGIB-SR eligibility in the Navy Reserve or any other component of the Guard or Reserve.

5. Collections and Recoupment. Members whose MGIB-SR benefits are terminated may be impacted by DVA collection actions or DoD recoupment actions.
6. Members Subject to DVA Collection Action. If DVA determines that a person's eligibility for benefits has changed, that person may be subject to DVA collection action.
7. COMNAVRESFOR/DoD Recoupment Waivers. Recoupment is a penalty assessed by DoD and as such, waivers based on personal requests are not normally authorized. Waivers for unsatisfactory participation may be considered if the reason was either beyond the member's control or resulted from administrative error AND the member responded to involuntary suspension notification as authorized. Member may submit waiver requests to the Education Director, N1C2 at: CNRFC_MGIB@NAVY.MIL.

CHAPTER 8
MGIB-SR KICKER PROGRAM

1. General. The MGIB-SR Kicker Program became effective 1 April 2000 and provides an additional educational assistance benefit to Reserve Component (RC) members who possess critical specialties. It is designed as a recruiting and retention incentive to fill critical personnel needs. The program is administered as an incentive (a selective recruiting and retention tool), rather than an entitlement (guaranteed by law to all who qualify). Kicker Program eligibility may only be granted once, and the member must serve for 6 years in the SELRES of the same component that granted the Kicker incentive. See reference (b) for application process.

2. Eligibility Criteria

a. Members must be either entitled to educational benefits under chapter 1606 of reference (a) or determined to be eligible for benefits under chapter 1606 of reference (a) in all regards with the exception of incurring a 6-year SELRES obligation.

b. Members must be in specialties identified in the most current Enlisted Incentive Bonus and MGIB-SR Kicker Program Eligibility Policy document at the time of Kicker Program application. Members enlisted through Navy Reserve recruiting in a temporary rating program must complete all respective program requirements to make their rating permanent within the time required to maintain eligibility.

c. Members must obligate for 6 years in the SELRES on or after 1 April 2000. Enlisting, re-enlisting, or extending a current enlistment may accomplish this.

Note: Members who were serving on a 6-year obligation in the SELRES prior to 1 April 2000 must have incurred a new 6-year SELRES obligation to gain eligibility for the Kicker Program. (There can be no Kicker eligibility obligation dates established prior to 1 April 2000).

d. Members must be serving in an IDT pay status. Members in the IRR/ASP and VTU are not eligible.

3. Kicker Program Incentive

a. Will be paid to eligible members in addition to their MGIB-SR basic benefits.

Note: This is not an increase of the MGIB-SR basic benefit.

b. Will be paid at the rate of \$200 per month based on full-time educational pursuit. Monthly payments will be adjusted based on rate of pursuit less than full-time as determined by the DVA.

c. Will be paid for either a maximum of 36 full-time benefit months, until MGIB-SR basic educational benefits are exhausted, or until MGIB-SR basic or MGIB-SR Kicker eligibility is terminated, whichever comes first.

d. May also be paid in conjunction with educational assistance received under chapters 30 and 33 of title 38, U.S.C. (Montgomery GI Bill and Post 9/11 GI Bill respectively). If the Kicker incentive is paid under these authorities, the service member must still be eligible in all respects for MGIB-SR basic benefits under chapter 1606 of reference (a), and must have been issued a NOBE. The member must elect when applying for educational benefits which program to supplement with the Kicker.

4. Suspension of Eligibility. Benefits will be suspended in conjunction with suspension of eligibility for MGIB-SR basic benefits if the same period is used to gain eligibility for both. If a subsequent 6-year obligation establishes eligibility for MGIB Kicker benefits, Kicker benefits may be suspended or terminated under the provisions of chapters 6 and 7.

5. Continuance of Eligibility. Kicker incentive benefits may be continued or extended under the same circumstances and for the same time periods as the basic benefit. Additionally, Kicker benefits may be continued or extended;

a. When a member is involuntarily removed from the eligible specialty that established eligibility during the 6-year Kicker obligation period.

b. When the specialty that established eligibility is not listed as eligible on subsequent Enlisted Incentive Bonus and MGIB-SR Kicker Program Eligibility Policy documents.

c. When a member remains in the SELRES but voluntarily changes to a specialty not listed as eligible on a subsequent Enlisted Incentive Bonus and MGIB-SR Kicker Program Eligibility Policy message and member has completed the 6-year Kicker obligation period.

6. Termination of Eligibility

a. Benefits will be terminated and unearned monies recouped (if applicable) in accordance with regulations in chapter 7 of this instruction, or

b. Benefits will be terminated when a Service member remains in the SELRES, but voluntarily changes his/her specialty to a specialty not listed in the current Enlisted Incentive Bonus and MGIB-SR Kicker Program Eligibility Policy document during the 6-year Kicker obligation period. If termination is based solely on this factor, payment of MGIB-SR basic benefits will continue providing the member remains eligible for basic benefits.

NOTE: DFAS will recoup a portion of the Kicker incentive monies received in proportion to the MGIB-SR Kicker obligation period not completed.

CHAPTER 9
TRANSFER OF UNUSED EDUCATION BENEFITS

1. Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) Implementation. In accordance with reference (c), Secretaries of military departments may authorize the transfer of MGIB-SR benefits, basic and kicker, to promote recruitment and retention. MGIB-SR TEB may not be implemented before Fiscal Year 2018.
2. Navy Reserve Implementation. If authorized by Commander, Navy Reserve Force, MGIB-SR TEB policies and procedures will be announced via NAVRESFOR message.