

OBLIGATIONS OF A RESERVIST IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

This documentation reemphasizes your obligations as a reservist. To qualify as a good year for retirement a member must accumulate 50 points in an anniversary year. A satisfactory year for participation standards varies substantially from a good year for retirement. Satisfactory participation is defined as the fulfillment of contractual and training requirements. **Satisfactory participation shall be considered a factor of performance and shall be reflected in members' performance evaluations.**

The Reserve Policy Manual (RPM) Article 4.A.2 contains the **SELRES satisfactory participation requirements. SELRES members are obligated to:**

- a. Complete IADT (not less than 12 days and no more than 15 days per FY);
- b. Report per orders;
- c. Attend 90% of scheduled, authorized paid IDT drills per FY (43 drills per FY);
- d. Satisfy the annual training (AT) requirement;
- e. Complete resident or correspondence courses required by the enlistment contract or commissioning program;
- f. Answer official correspondence;
- g. Respond to annual screening questionnaires (NLT 31 Oct each year);
- h. Promptly notify the Coast Guard via the chain of command of changes of residence and changes of phone number(s) or mailing address, changes in marital status or number of dependents, changes in civilian education or civilian employment, and any physical condition or other factor that would affect the member's immediate availability for active military service;
- i. Maintain physical fitness and weight standards (including being weighed semi-annually in Apr and Oct);
- j. Officers must accrue a minimum of 50 retirement points in an anniversary year to remain in an active status (10 U.S.C. 12642).

Reserve Policy Manual Article 2.B.2.e states that IDT drills are typically spread throughout the year (four drills per month), but they may be grouped to best use resources to meet surges in operations, seasonal requirements or for other reasons as determined by the unit issuing IDT orders. Note that grouping drills is done to meet needs of the unit and not for the convenience of the member. RPM Article 2.B.1 states "Normally, orders should be issued at least one month before the scheduled duty period..." **In order to comply with this policy, you should schedule your drills 30 days in advance.** ADT must be scheduled well in advance of the end of the FY (30 Sep) to ensure funds are available.

Unsatisfactory participation is the failure to comply with any of the contractual obligations or program requirements listed above. Participation is also considered unsatisfactory when members of the SELRES acquire at least nine unexcused absences from scheduled training within a 12-month period or fail to meet standards prescribed for annual screening, training for advancement, or performance of duty.

RPM Article 2.B.3 provides the following **policy on absences.**

- a. Reservists who are unable to perform scheduled inactive duty must inform their supervisors immediately. If a notification of a scheduled drill conflict occurs within 48 hours of the start of the scheduled drill, the drill may be rescheduled only for the following reasons:
 - (1) Illness or injury of reservist.
 - (2) Serious or unusual hardship due to unforeseen emergency.
 - (3) Accident or illness of a family member, requiring presence or other action by the reservist.
 - (4) Death or imminent death of a member of the immediate family.
 - (5) Commanding officer's discretion.
- b. **If a reservist is absent from a scheduled drill for any other reason than listed above, the absence must be recorded as unexcused and may not be rescheduled.**