

U. S. Army Human Resources Command 200 Stovall Street Alexandria, VA 22332

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CRSC Expansion Provides Compensation for Eligible Medical and TERA Retirees

Washington, DC – Eligibility for Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) has been extended to retired military veterans with less than 20 years of service, as a result of the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Beginning June 10, 2008, claims are being processed for eligible retirees to receive tax-free compensation through the CRSC program. Retirees must meet three basic criteria: 1) they must be receiving military retired pay, 2) they must have had their military retired pay reduced by VA-disability payments (VA Waiver), and 3) they must have a 10% or greater VA-rated disability that can be linked to a combat-related event through official military documentation.

The CRSC program will now cover 20-year retirees, Medical Chapter 61 retirees, Temporary Disabled Retired List retirees (a component of Chapter 61), and Temporary Early Retirement Act (TERA) retirees. Those receiving retirement under section 12731b of Title 10 United Stated Code are not included. For a retiree's injury to qualify as being combat-related, it must have occurred due to armed conflict, hazardous duty, an instrumentality of war or a result of training that simulates war.

Enacted by Congress on December 2, 2002, CRSC provides eligible military retirees with "combat related" VA-rated injuries with monthly compensation replacing the VA-disability offset, thereby enabling them to receive full military retirement pay and VA-disability compensation. Until now, CRSC has only been available to retirees with 20 or more years of service. The recently approved legislation expands eligibility retroactively, to retirees of any era. If any backpay

is due, it will be calculated back to January 1, 2008, which is when the legislation for this change became effective.

Military retirees can verify that they meet the CRSC eligibility requirements by supplying copies of all VA-rating decisions, DD214s and medical documentation stating "how" the injury is linked to a combat-related event to their branch of service contact listed below.

For more information about CRSC, including details about the expansion of the program to medical and TERA retirees, eligibility requirements and claim submission instructions, retirees can visit the Army's CRSC Web site at www.crsc.army.mil, email crsc.info@us.army.mil or call1-866-281-3254. Military retirees from other branches of Service other than the Army can contact their branch regarding CRSC using the contact information below:

ARMY

Attn: Combat-Related Special Compensation 200 Stovall Street, Room 8N65 Alexandria, VA 22332 Phone: 1-866-281-3254 Website: <u>www.crsc.army.mil</u>

NAVY and MARINE CORPS

Secretary of the Navy Council of Review Boards Attn: Combat-Related Special Compensation Branch 720 Kennon Street SE, Suite 309 Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374 Phone: 1-877-366-2772 Website: www.hg.navy.mil/corb/CRSCB/combatrelated.htm

AIR FORCE

United States Air Force Disability Division (CRSC) 550 C Street West Ste 6 Randolph AFB TX 78150-4708 Phone: 1-800-616-3775 Website: <u>ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/crsc</u>

COAST GUARD

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