

Continuation on Active Duty (COAD) and Continuation on Active Reserve (COAR)

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Summary

Severely wounded, injured, and ill Soldiers often think their military career is over. This is not the case for many Army Wounded Warriors (AW2) Soldiers. To date, most wounded, injured, and ill Soldiers who have requested to continue their service in the Army have been able to do so. The Army wants Soldiers to have the option of continuing their service. Soldiers who are severely wounded in action and later found unfit for duty by a Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) and Medical Evaluation Board (MEB) may still apply for Continuation on Active Duty (COAD)/ Continuation on Active Reserve (COAR) regardless of the extent of their injuries. As Soldiers and their Families decide whether to medically retire from the Army or continue their service, AW2 Advocates are with them every step of the way, from looking at their options, making a decision, and going through the process.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who is eligible for COAR?

A. A Soldier must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Has served 15 but less than 20 years of active Federal service for COAD or 15 but less than 20 qualifying service years for non-regular retirement for COAR
- Is qualified in a critical skill or shortage Military Occupational Specialty (MOS)
- Has a disability as a result of combat or terrorism

Q. Am I still competitive for promotion?

A. Yes, you are eligible for promotion and still competitive. In FY08, the selection rate for promotion of AW2 Soldiers was higher than the Army average. AR 600-8-19 and Warrior Transition Unit (WTU) Consolidated guidance govern promotion rules, policy, and procedure.

Q. How long can I stay in COAD/COAR?

A. Once approved for COAD/COAR, Soldier may remain on Active Duty (provided otherwise qualified) until their retention control point (RCP), mandatory removal or retirement date (MRD), or age 60 Guard whichever comes first.

Once approved for COAR, Soldiers may serve to their maximum years of service (MYOS), MRD, age 60, or whichever occurs first. They will be required to reenlist if the period for which their COAD or COAR was approved extends beyond their contractual enlistment.

Q. When does the COAD/COAR process begin?

A. A COAD/COAR request goes forward to the Physical Disability Agency (PDA) after the Soldier receives their unfit rating and indicates that they desire to pursue COAD/COAR.

Q. Who is the disapproval authority for AW2 COAD/COAR request?

A. The U.S. Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1.

Q. Will I remain in the same Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) while I am in COAD/COAR?

A. Most Soldiers remain in their current MOS and are assigned in accordance with their limitations.

Q. Can I revoke/withdraw my COAD/COAR application?

A. Yes, a Soldier may request to revoke/withdraw their application through their local Physical Evaluation Board Liaison Officer (PEBLO).

Q. Can I reenlist while in COAD/COAR?

A. Yes, you are allowed to reenlist. Soldiers are not required to meet medical standards for disabilities for which they were continued. However, they may be denied reenlistment if their disabilities have worsened or if they have new medical impairments which fall below the medical retention standards of AR 40-501, Chapter 3.

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Links

- [Army Wounded Warriors Program](#)
This website provides information regarding the COAD/COAR program to Wounded Warriors.
- [Continuing on Active Duty \(COAD\) or Reserve Duty \(COAR\) Homepage](#)
The COAD/COAR Homepage provides AW2 Soldiers with resources related to the COAD/COAR process.

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References

Regulations

- [AR 40-501, Standards of Medical Fitness](#)
- [AR 600-8-19, Enlisted Promotions and Reductions](#)

- [AR 635-40, Physical Evaluation for Retention, Retirement, or Separation](#)

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Points of Contact

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