

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 31 January 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230004514

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his record to show payment of his Health Professions Officer (HPO) Board Certification Pay (BCP) for the period beginning 5 September 2022.

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENT(S) CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) Certificate

FACTS:

1. The applicant states, in pertinent part, he is an active duty nurse anesthetist, Area of Concentration (AOC) 66F (Nurse Anesthetist). He obtained his certification in May 2022 while he was in the inactive Reserve. He began active duty service on 5 September 2022 but did not receive any HPO BCP until January 2023. He was eligible for the \$6,000.00 per year HPO BCP and should be compensated with back pay accordingly.

2. A review of the applicant's available service record reflects the following:

a. On 24 July 2020:

(1) He was appointed as a Reserve commissioned officer and executed an oath of office.

(2) USAREC Form 601-37.28 (Department of the Army Service Agreement F. Edward Herbert Armed Force Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP) shows he was accepted for admission into the Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice for a 3-year scholarship with a 3-year service obligation upon completion of the program.

b. His record is void of the Army Medical Department Special Pay Memorandum or any documentation pertaining to the HPO BCP.

c. On 26 July 2022, the U.S. Army Human Resources Command, issued Orders Number A-07-200874 ordering him to active duty, effective 5 September 2022 to fulfill active duty requirements in a voluntary indefinite status.

d. He continues service with the Regular Army.

3. The applicant provides the NBCRNA Certificate recognizing him as a CRNA, effective 27 May 2022.

4. On 21 September 2023, the Office of the Surgeon General, Chief, Special Pay Branch, Human Resources, G-1, provided an advisory opinion recommending approval of the applicant's request stating, in effect, a review of the supporting documentation, policy, special pay, and finance data, shows the applicant was eligible (met all requirements) to receive the \$6,000.00 per year HPO BCP, effective 5 September 2022 to 31 December 2022. Due to no fault of his, the required documents were not processed as required. He is eligible to receive the HPO BCP (\$6,000.00 per year) totaling \$1,916.66 for the above time frame. The exact arrears payment is determined by Defense Finance and Accounting Service Indiana (DFAS-IN).

5. On 22 September 2023, the applicant was provided a copy of the advisory opinion and provided an opportunity to respond. He provided a rebuttal to the advisory opinion with no further information or documentation to provide and agreeing with the opinion.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition, available military records and Office of the Surgeon General advisory opinion, the Board concurred with the advising official finding the applicant was eligible to receive the \$6,000/year HPO BCP effective 5 September 2022 thru 31 December 2022. The opine noted that due to no fault of the applicant, the required documents were not processed as required. Based on this, the Board granted relief.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

█	█	█	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by showing the applicant is authorized payment of Health Professions Officer Incentive Pay (HPO)-Board Certification Pay (BCP) (\$6,000/ year) effective 5 September 2022 thru 31 December 2022, totaling \$1,916.66 for the above time frame. The exact arrears payment is determined by Defense Finance and Accounting Service Indiana (DFAS-IN).

2/6/2024

X █

CHAIRPERSON

█

I certify that herein is recorded the true and complete record of the proceedings of the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in this case.

REFERENCES:

1. Title 37 United States Code (USC), section 335 states the Secretary concerned may pay HPO BCP under this section to an officer in a Regular or Reserve component of a uniformed service who is entitled to basic pay under section 204 of this title or compensation under section 206 of this title; and is serving on active duty in a designated health profession specialty or skill. To receive a bonus under this section, an officer determined to be eligible for the bonus shall enter into a written agreement with the Secretary concerned that specifies, the amount of the bonus; the method of payment of the bonus under subsection (e)(2) (lump sum or installments); the period of

obligated service; whether the service will be performed on active duty in an active status or in a Reserve Component. HPO BCP under subsection (c) may not exceed \$6,000.00 for each 12-month period an officer remains certified in the designated health profession specialty or skill.

2. Department of Defense 7000.14-R (Financial Management Regulation) states to be eligible for Board Certification Pay (BCP) payable at a rate of \$6,000.00 annually (prorated monthly), Health Professions Officers must:

- meet the eligibility criteria itemized in paragraph 050204
- be serving in an Active Component (AC) or a Reserve Component (RC) of a Military Service and entitled to basic pay under Title 37, USC, section 204 or compensation pursuant to 37 USC, Section 206
- be serving on active duty or in an active Reserve status in a designated health professional clinical specialty
- have a post-baccalaureate degree in a clinical specialty (a post Master's certificate acceptable to the Secretary concerned can satisfy this requirement)
- be certified by a professional board in a designated health profession clinical specialty

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//