

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 11 February 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230012049

APPLICANT REQUESTS: retirement points for correspondence course hours

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Self-Authored Letter
- Correspondence Course Documents
- DA Forms 1380 (Record of Individual Performance of Reserve Duty Training)

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b); however, the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) conducted a substantive review of this case and determined it is in the interest of justice to excuse the applicant's failure to timely file.
2. The applicant states he would like to receive credit for correspondence course hours and have them added to his retirement points sheet, which does not reflect his completed correspondence course hours. He is requesting this so his retirement payout will be correct, at the time of his actual retirement. His goal is to have completed correspondence courses converted into credible retirement points. The submitted total number of course hours is 354 hours which converts to 118 total retirement points. He has tried other avenues to resolve this issue with no success. He originally submitted a personal action request through the Integrated Personnel and Pay System - Army, but had the request returned along with the reasons it was denied. Along with the explanation was a link for the Army Review Boards Agency site to submit his application. Hopefully he can get some resolution on this matter since his retirement date is approaching.
3. The applicant provides the following documents:
 - a. Correspondence course documents, which show the completion of his correspondence courses and the course hours. They are available for the Board's review.

b. DA Forms 1380 (Record of Individual Performance of Reserve Duty Training), 23 August 2023, signed by an officer having knowledge of duties performed, show he is requesting retirement points for the following periods:

- 30 April 2003, 8 hours (2 retirement points)
- 6 May 2003, 8 hours (2 retirement points)
- 14 May 2003, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 16 May 2002, 12 hours (3 retirement points)
- 24 May 2002, 20 hours (5 retirement points)
- 8 August 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 19 August 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 12 August 202, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 23 August 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 29 August 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 13 September 2002, 8 hours (2 retirement points)
- 5 February 2003, 8 hours (2 retirement points)
- 12 February 2003, 8 hours (2 retirement points)
- 19 February 2003, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 5 June 2003, 8 hours (2 retirement points)
- 13 June 2003, 8 hours (2 retirement points)
- 19 June 2003, 8 hours (2 retirement points)
- 12 June 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 5 June 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 7 March 2003, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 1 November 1990, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 14 March 2003, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 15 April 1991, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 11 July 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 31 January 2003, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 19 July 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 25 July 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 5 August 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 12 August 2002, 4 hours (1 retirement point)
- 43 total retirement points

4. The applicant's service record contains the following documents:

a. DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) shows he was enlisted in the Regular Army from 18 September 1985 through 17 September 1989. He was honorably transferred to a U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) unit. He remained in the USAR through immediate reenlistments.

b. Memorandum notification of eligibility for retired pay at age 60 (20 year letter), 19 April 2007 informed him he has completed the required years of qualifying reserve service and is eligible for retired pay, on application, at age 60.

c. Orders 00078568077.00, 14 March 2024 transferred him to the USAR retired reserve effective 30 September 2024.

d. DA Form 5016 (Chronological Statement of Retirement Points), 5 February 2025, shows he had 36 years, 7 months, and 14 days qualifying for retired pay.

5. On 20 December 2024, the Retirements Services Officer, USAR Command (USARC) provided an advisory opinion, which states USARC reviewed the applicant's documents and determined he should not be awarded points in accordance with Army Regulation 140-185 (Training and Retirement Point Credits and Unit Level Strength Accounting). He is outside the suspense date to turn in a DA Form 1380 and does not provide a reason for the later (20 years) submission. He also provides no proof of completion of the duty as stated. A lack of substantiating documentation showing his multiple attempts and reason of delays is reason for the denial. No administrative relief granted.

6. On 3 January 2025, the advisory opinion was provided to the applicant to allow him the opportunity to respond. He did not respond.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was not warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Based upon the available documents, the findings and recommendation outlined in the USARC advisory, and the lack of a rebuttal of those findings and recommendation submitted by the applicant, the Board concluded there was insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting a change to the applicant's record.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

: : : GRANT FULL RELIEF

: : : GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF

: : : GRANT FORMAL HEARING

█ █ █ DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. Therefore, the Board determined the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

█
█ █
█ █
█ █
█ █

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 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b), provides that applications for correction of military records must be filed within 3 years after discovery of the alleged error or injustice. This provision of law also allows the ABCMR to excuse an applicant's failure to timely file within the 3-year statute of limitations if the ABCMR determines it would be in the interest of justice to do so.

2. Army Regulation 140-1 (Mission, Organization, and Training) provides policy guidance on the mission, organization, and training of the USAR. Paragraph 3-28 (Army correspondence courses) states, USAR Soldiers who cannot take part in Reserve duty training, or wish to augment this training, may enroll in Army courses. Retirement points will be credited at the rate of 1 point for each 3- credit hours of nonresident instruction successfully completed. Correspondence courses, when used by a unit as part of an IDT training schedule, will not be credited to the soldier for retirement point credit. IDT pay is not authorized for correspondence courses.

3. Army Regulation 140-185 (Training and Retirement Point Credits and Unit Level Strength Accounting), in effect at that time, prescribes the types of training and activities for which retirement points are authorized and the procedures for recording retirement point credits and training for USAR Soldiers. In pertinent:

a. Paragraph 2-4a (Criteria for awarding retirement points) states, personnel on Active Duty, Active Duty for Training (ADT), Initial ADT, involuntary ADT, or Annual Training are awarded 1 point for each calendar day they serve in one of these categories and may not be awarded additional points for other activities while in such status.

b. Paragraph 2-4b states, Table 2-1 provides criteria for award of retirement points for IDT performed in accordance with AR 140-1 (unless another reference is cited). Most types of IDT are covered by one of the following rules on required duration of IDT and calendar day limitations on points.

(1) Four-hour rule. One point for each scheduled 4-hour period of IDT at UTA, RST, ET, ATA, or make up assembly. Maximum of 2 points in 1 calendar day.

(2) Two-hour rule. One point for each 2 hour or greater period. Two-hour aggregates of shorter periods may be used, except in the case of 2-hour unit training assemblies. Maximum of 1 point in 1 calendar day.

(3) Two/eight-hour rule. One point for each 2 hour or greater period. Two-hour aggregates of shorter periods may be used except in the case of 2-hour unit training assemblies. Award of a second point in the same day requires additional hours to bring the day's total to a minimum of 8. Maximum of 2 points in 1 calendar day.

c. Paragraph 2-4c states, points may not be awarded under more than one of the rules in b above during any single calendar day.

d. Paragraph 2-4d states, no individual may be awarded a total of more than 2 points for IDT in 1 calendar day, with the following exceptions:

(1) TPU soldier who recruits a new member as specified under rule 17 in Table 2-1.

(2) Correspondence courses completed as specified under rule 4 in table 2-1.

e. Table 2-1 (Award of IDT retirement points), Rule 4 states, when the individual completed Army correspondence course nonresident instruction, and is a Selected Reserve Soldier in Training/Pay Categories (T/PC), A, B, C, M, P, or Q or Individual

Ready Reserve or Standby Reserve Soldier (H, D, G, or N), the individual will be awarded 1 point for each 3 credit hours satisfactorily completed.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//