

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 5 September 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240000295

APPLICANT REQUESTS: payment of Health Professions Officer (HPO) Board Certification Pay (BCP) for the period beginning 29 January 2023.

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) Certification, 7 June 2021

FACTS:

1. The applicant states he has been board certified since the date of his commissioning on 29 January 2023 and would like to receive his BCP. After speaking to his S-1 at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM), he was told that he had to submit an application to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in order to be eligible for back pay regarding his BCP.
2. A review of the applicant's available service record reflects the following:
 - a. His record is void of the DA Form 71 (Oath of Office – Military Personnel) showing his appointment as a commissioned officer in the Regular Army and execution of an oath of office.
 - b. DA Form 5074-1-R (Record of Award of Entry Grade Credit (Health Services Officers)), dated 7 September 2022 shows award of entry grade credit in the rank of captain (CPT) in the Area of Concentration 66F (Nurse Anesthetist). This form shows he completed his Doctorate in Nursing Practice Anesthesia at Quinnipiac University from 7 May 2018 through 8 May 2021.
 - c. On 22 November 2022, The U.S. Army Human Resources Command issued Orders Number 1122-326-SG22-5 appointing him as a commissioned officer in the Regular Army in the rank of CPT with the Army Nurse Corps, with a subsequent order to active duty.

- d. On 2 March 2023, the Department of the Army issued Orders Number 0004115024.00 hiring him to active duty as an Army Medical Department (AMEDD) officer, in the rank of CPT with a retroactive effective date of 29 January 2023.
- e. He continues service in the Regular Army.

3. The applicant provides the NBCRNA Certification dated 7 June 2021 showing he is a certified Nurse Anesthetist through 30 June 2025.

4. On 13 August 2024, the Chief, Special Pay Branch, Human Resources, G-1, Office of the Surgeon General, provided an advisory opinion recommending approval of the applicant's request stating, in pertinent part:

- a. The AMEDD Special Pay Branch issues this advisory opinion to provide clear and concise guidance on the retroactive HPO BCP request. The aim is to determine eligibility and calculate arrears payment based on policy, plan, procedures, and rates.
- b. The applicant has formally requested retroactive payment of HPO BCP effective 29 January 2023. This opinion is issued after a review of supporting documentation, policy, special pay, and finance data, with the aim of providing clear and concise guidance on the retroactive HPO BCP at \$6,000.00/year. effective 29 January 2023. The applicant is eligible to receive \$4,016.66 for 29 January 2023 – 30 September 2023. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS-IN) will calculate the exact arrears payment.

5. On 14 August 2024, the applicant was provided a copy of the advisory opinion and afforded an opportunity to respond. He concurred with the advisory opinion.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found relief is warranted.
2. The Board concurred with the finding of the advisory official that the applicant was eligible for HPO BCP beginning on 29 January 2023. The Board determined the applicant's record should be corrected to show he was authorized HPO BCP for the period 29 January 2023 – 30 September 2023, and he should be paid any monies he is due as a result of this correction.

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 to show he was authorized HPO BCP for the period 29 January 2023 – 30 September 2023. He should be paid any monies he is due as a result of this correction.

2/26/2025

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 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 in 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 Financial Management Regulation 7000.14, Volume 7A states to be eligible for 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 an 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//