

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 5 August 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240012695

APPLICANT REQUESTS: request an Exception to Policy (ETP) permitting retroactive enrollment in the Blended Retirement System (BRS).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DA Form 71 (Oath of Office – Military Personnel) – reflective of the applicant being appointed a commission on 2 March 2021
- Email communication – reflective of the applicant being referred to this Board to request an ETP for enrollment in the BRS
- Leave and Earnings Statement – reflective of the applicant's pay and entitlements for the months of May-July 2024; \$289.14 monthly Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) and \$1156.56 monthly Roth TSP contributions; Retirement Plan: "Choice"
- Memorandum – Subject: Request an ETP to the BRS Opt-in Window, 20 May 2024 – reflective of the applicant's commander's submitted request for an ETP permitting retroactive enrollment in the BRS noting that she was in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps in 2018 and unable to access the BRS enrollment link

FACTS:

1. The applicant states in part she:

- Was appointed a commission in the Regular Army on 2 March 2021
- She was enrolled in the BRS program automatically and began making contributions
- She realized last year she was not enrolled in the BRS nor receiving matching contributions
- Re-enrolled in the BRS on 21 February 2024, but she is not receiving matching contributions at this time

2. A review of the applicant's service records reflects that:

- On 2 March 2021 – she was appointed a Regular Army commission within the Army Nurse Corps
- She remains in the Regular Army

**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 review based on law, policy, and regulation. The Board reviewed and concurred with the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff G-1 memorandum noting the applicant was in ROTC at the time and was not able to access the BRS link at the time and she completed the BRS Opt-In course on 21 February 2024. The Board granted relief to allow the applicant to opt-in to BRS.

**BOARD VOTE:**

<u>Mbr 1</u>	<u>Mbr 2</u>	<u>Mbr 3</u>
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XXX	XXX	XXX	GRANT FULL RELIEF
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:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
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:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
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:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION
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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 she elected into the blended retirement system
- her election was received and processed by the appropriate office in a timely manner

**X //SIGNED//**

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. All Army Activity Message Number 050/2019 (Implementation Guidance for ETP to Retroactively Enroll Certain Eligible Soldiers in the Blended Retirement System and Hardship Extension of the Enrollment Period) provides that Soldiers who would like to request an ETP to the BRS Calendar Year (CY) 2018 Opt-In enrollment will acknowledge the irrevocability of the Opt-In decision. Soldiers who were notified of their eligibility for BRS and did not have access to the BRS link on MyPay, must notify the Deputy Chief of Staff G-1 of the discrepancy. These extensions do not create the authority to enroll a Soldier who had the opportunity to elect to enroll in the BRS during the CY2018 but who chose not to do so, nor does it allow for retroactive Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) contributions
2. Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, Implementation of the Blended Retirement System dated 27 January 2017 states that the BRS goes into effect 1 January 2018. Service members who enter the military on or after 1 January 2018, will automatically be enrolled in BRS. Service members who enter service on or before 31 December 2017 are grandfathered into the legacy high-3 retirement system. However, service members in the active component as of 31 December 2017, who have served fewer than 12 years, or service members in the Reserve component who have accrued less than 4,320 retirement points as of 31 December 2017 and are in a paid status, will have the option of electing BRS or to remain in the legacy retirement system. Those currently serving members who are eligible to opt into BRS will have an entire year to make their opt-in decision. The opt-in or election period for BRS begins 1 January 2018 and concludes on 31 December 2018. The decision to opt-in is irrevocable.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//