

Allotment options clarified

FORT BENJAMIN HARRISON. Voluntary allotments from retired pay can be a convenient way of handling some of your recurring financial obligations, but there seems to be some confusion among Army retirees as to the purposes for which allotments can be made.

Basically, there are 10 purposes for which you can make an allotment from your active duty pay, and almost all of those allotments can be continued from your retired pay if you make the necessary arrangements before you retire. The only two that cannot be carried over are Combined Federal Campaign pledges and deposits in the Veteran's Educational Assistance Program (VEAP).

Any continued allotment will go on until you change or stop it. However, there are only six categories for which you can start an allotment after you retire, and there are some restrictions on making changes to the others.

The following chart may help you to understand all of this. While the chart can serve as a ready guide, it is always best to check with Retired Pay Operations before you request action on any of your allotments. For information about allotments, call toll-free 1-800-428-2290; Indiana residents may call collect, (317) 542-2900.

Requests to start, stop, or change an allotment require only a simple letter over the retiree's signature, addressed to: Retired Pay Operations, U.S. Army Finance and Accounting Center, Indianapolis, IN 46249-1568.

RETIRED PAY ALLOTMENTS			
Allotment Purpose	Continued from Active Duty	Start after Retirement	Change after Retirement
U.S. Savings Bonds	Yes	Yes	Yes
Life insurance			
NSLI	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹
Commercial (primary coverage on retiree only)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Army Mutual Aid Insurance	Yes	Yes	Yes
VGLI ²	Yes	Yes	Yes
Support of spouse, former spouse, other dependents	Yes	Yes	Yes
Repayment of loans			
Army Emergency Relief (AER)	Yes	Yes	Yes
American Red Cross	Yes	Yes	Yes
Contributions: CFC	No	No	N/A
AER	Yes	Yes	Yes
Payment of indebtedness to the US	Yes	Yes	Yes
Repayment of home loans	Yes	No	Yes ³
Payment to financial organization for credit to account	Yes	No	Yes ³
Payment of delinquent state or local taxes	Yes	No	No
VEAP	No	No	N/A

¹ Change requests should be sent to: Veterans Administration Center, PO Box 8079, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

² The Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance will be contacting retirees soon to offer allotment procedures for premium payments.

³ Changes may be made only for reasons beyond the retiree's control.