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AFR Aviation Bonus (AvB)

Applicable to: Air Force Reserve

FY27 Aviation Bonus (AvB)

This article outlines the requirements, eligibility, and application process for the Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) Aviation Bonus (AvB). The AvB is a legally binding contract offering financial compensation in exchange for a Reserve Service Commitment.

Key Dates & Agreement Effectiveness

The FY27 AvB Program allows application submissions beginning 1 Oct 2026 with publication of the myFSS knowledge article. The FY27 AFR AvB application deadline is 15 Sep 2027.

For Option 2a, your AvB agreement effective date will be the latest of the following:

- The program approval date.
- Your personal eligibility date.
- The date you sign the agreement.

FY27 Option 2a AvB start dates must be between the program approval date and 30 Sep 2027. Option 2b AvBs start the day after the member's current AvB ends.

Important Note: *FY27 AvB packages must be submitted no later than 15 Sep 2027. Signatures cannot be backdated. Members should sign the agreement during the FY27 program window to establish intent, even if all supporting documentation is not yet available.*

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the AvB, you must meet the following criteria as of the agreement's effective date:

Category	Requirement
Position	AGRs and ARTs must possess a Core ID of 11X, 12X, or 18X. TRs must be assigned to flying billets for the MDS and locations listed in Tier 3, including flying staff positions when attached for flying at those specified locations. IMAs are not eligible.
Qualification	Must be qualified for operational flying duty per DAFMAN 11-401 and AFMAN 11-402 and meet all other requirements for the aviation career specialty.
Pay	Must be entitled to and receiving Aviation Incentive Pay (AvIP) as of the AvB agreement effective date.

Category	Requirement
Rank	Must be O-5 or below when incurring the initial AvB contractual obligation. Promotion to O-6 does not prohibit completion of the agreement; the agreement terminates and payments stop upon promotion to O-7.
Years of Aviation Service (YAS)	11X Pilots: minimum 11 YAS. 12X CSOs and 18X RPA Pilots: minimum 7 YAS. Must have less than 24 YAS on the agreement effective date for a minimum one-year agreement. No agreement may extend beyond 25 YAS.
Conduct	Must not have substantiated adverse findings from an officially documented investigation or inquiry for conduct during the period for which a bonus payment would be made and must not be awaiting involuntary separation.
Status	Must not have been dismissed or discharged for cause, retired, or separated.
UIF	Must not have an active Unfavorable Information File (UIF).
Participation	AvIP, AvB, and CSIP payments are not authorized for periods of unauthorized absence.
Flying Status	Must not be awaiting operational flying disqualification resulting from a Flying Evaluation Board (FEB) or medical disqualification.
Other Bonuses	Must not be receiving an affiliation or accession bonus for the same skill and/or period of military service; the conflicting bonus must be terminated with approval.

Agreement Tiers & Payment Details

FY27 AFR AvB Tiers

Agreement Tiers/Amounts

FY27 AFR AvB Eligibility			
Tier 1A	AGR: 11X Pilots		
	Contract Lengths	12-29 Months	30-60 Months
	Annual Amt	$30,000	$50,000
Tier 1B	AGR: 12X CSOs & 18X RPA Pilots		
	Contract Lengths	12-29 Months	30-60 Months
	Annual Amt	$25,000	$35,000
Tier 2	ART: 11X Pilots, 12X CSOs & 18X RPA		
	Contract Lengths	1-5 Yrs	
	Annual Amt	$30,000	
Tier 3	TR: Specified AFSC, MDS & Location		
	Contract Lengths	1-2 Yrs	3-5 Yrs
	Annual Amt	$10,000	$15,000
	AFSC	MDS	Location
	11F Fighter Pilots	All	All Locations
	11H Pilots	MH-139	Maxwell AFB
		HH-60	Davis-Monthan AFB
		HC-130J	Patrick SFB
	11K Trainer Pilots	T-6	Laughlin AFB
			Sheppard AFB
			Vance AFB
		T-38	Laughlin AFB
			Sheppard
		T-7	All Locations
	11M Mobility Pilots	C-130H	Peterson SFB
		C-130J	Keesler AFB
			Youngstown
		C-17	Pittsburgh ARS
			March AFB
		C-5	Dover AFB
			Travis AFB
			Westover ARB
		KC-135	Grissom ARB
			Beale AFB
			Niagara Falls ARS
			March AFB
		KC-46	Seymour Johnson AFB
			McConnell AFB
			March AFB
	12X CSOs	All	All Locations

Table 7. FY27 AVB Eligibility

Note: There are no up-front or lump-sum payment options. AvB amounts are paid in arrears in annual installments on the anniversary date of the agreement or upon completion of an agreed-upon term of service in a qualifying Tier 1 agreement. Payments are based on full years and, for qualifying Tier 1 agreements, months (not days), and are subject to applicable federal and state taxes.

Members with an Existing Agreement

If you have an existing AvB agreement, you may be eligible to execute a new agreement under Option 2b.

- Eligibility Window: You may sign a new agreement once you are within one year of your current agreement's completion date.
- Agreement Length: The new agreement must add at least 12 months of obligated service and may be for up to an additional five years.

- Effective Date: The new agreement begins the day after the existing agreement ends. The dates must be consecutive.
- Payment Rate: The new agreement maintains the same annual rate as the existing AvB agreement.
- No Higher-Rate Renegotiation: FY27 does not permit renegotiation of an existing contract for a higher annual amount.

Members electing this option must select Option 2b on the FY27 Aviation Bonus Program Agreement for their respective status.

How to Submit Your Application

FY27 AvB packages must be completed in their entirety, signed, and submitted with all required supporting documentation as a single PDF file in the order shown on the applicable FY27 AvB checklist. Incomplete packages will be returned without action.

AGR Members: Submit through myFSS directly to ARPC.

TR/ART Members: Submit to your Wing Talent Management Consultant (WTMC); the WTMC will submit the package through myFSS.

All members are responsible for following up with the WTMC, as applicable, to ensure required documents are submitted and additional information is provided if requested by ARPC.

Important: *Do not wait to sign solely because supporting documents are still pending. Signatures cannot be backdated. Once eligibility is established, the contract start date is determined using the applicable FY27 rules.*

Conditions for Termination & Recoupment

Your AvB agreement may be terminated, and future payments may stop, under several conditions, including but not limited to:

- Promotion to O-7.
- Cross-training out of the rated specialty (for example, 12X to 11X), except as otherwise permitted by the FY27 guidance.
- Entering Undergraduate Flying Training (UFT) or training in another competitive category such as medicine or law.
- Failure to maintain applicable eligibility requirements.
- Separation or retirement.
- Certain changes in Reserve status or billet that are not authorized under the applicable agreement.
- Accepting VLPAD assignment orders. AFR AvB agreements require service in the SELRES; a member accepting VLPAD orders will transfer to the IRR during the VLPAD tour, terminating any active AFR AvB agreement.

Members who are the subject of an ongoing officially documented investigation or pending adverse action must report it to their AvB supervisor. Any otherwise-due bonus payment may be withheld until the matter is closed with no adverse findings or action.

Recoupment: If you fail to complete the full term of your agreement and the service completed qualifies for a lower annual payment rate, you may be required to repay the difference between the amount previously paid and the amount earned for the completed term. Annual payments for an incomplete year and monthly payments for an incomplete month are subject to recoupment. An exception exists for members transferring to fill approved Key, Command, Joint, or other boarded positions.

Contact Information

For questions, please have your designated representative contact the HQ ARPC Special Pay and Incentive Branch (DPATI) via the Total Force Service Center:

- Commercial: 210-565-0102
- DSN: 665-0102

Attachments

- FY27 AFR AvB Program Guidance (/USAFCommunity/s/view-file?id=069Rw00000XBP0CIAX)
- FY27 AGR AvB Checklist (/USAFCommunity/s/view-file?id=069Rw00000XBbFnIAL)
- FY27 AGR AvB Agreement (/USAFCommunity/s/view-file?id=069Rw00000XBe5ZIAT)
- FY27 ART AvB Checklist (/USAFCommunity/s/view-file?id=069Rw00000XBKZwIAP)
- FY27 ART AvB Agreement (/USAFCommunity/s/view-file?id=069Rw00000XBGxnIAH)
- FY27 TR AvB Checklist (/USAFCommunity/s/view-file?id=069Rw00000XBB0UIAX)
- FY27 TR AvB Agreement (/USAFCommunity/s/view-file?id=069Rw00000XBZaYIAX)
- FY27 AFR AvB Frequently Asked Questions (/USAFCommunity/s/view-file?id=069Rw00000XBMDbIAP)
- AvB Program Memo
- AFRC AvB ETP Request

CREATE A REQUEST

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Questions (https://www.af.mil/Questions.aspx)

RSS (https://www.af.mil/RSS/)

FOIA (http://www.foia.af.mil/)

IG (https://www.afinspectorgeneral.af.mil/)

AF Sites (http://www.af.mil/AF-Sites/)

Accessibility (https://dowcio.war.gov/508/)

EEO (http://www.af.mil/Equal-Opportunity/)

Suicide Prevention (https://www.resilience.af.mil/)

SAPR (https://www.resilience.af.mil/SAPR/)

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