

Priority placement for Disabled Military Reserve and National Guard Technicians is a Department of Defense (DoD) program derived from Section 8337(h) or 8456 of Title 5 United States Code (U.S.C.).

The Air Force has designated Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command as the sole point of contact for counseling and providing guidance to Air Force Military Reserve Technicians occupying officer-level positions regarding their priority placement eligibility via the application-based process.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DISABLED MILITARY RESERVE TECHNICIANS?

Military Reserve and National Guard Technicians who will be or have been involuntarily medically retired due to a service-connected medical disability that disqualifies them from military membership or from holding their required military grades provided:

- The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has determined that the technician is not disabled under the provisions of Section 8337(a) or 8451 of Title 5, U.S.C.;
- The Military Reserve Technician has either applied for or is receiving an annuity under Section 8337(h) or 8456 of Title 5, U.S.C.; and,
- In the case of National Guard Technicians, separation must have occurred on or after December 31, 1979.

WHEN DOES PRIORITY PLACEMENT ELIGIBILITY TERMINATE FOR MILITARY RESERVE TECHNICIANS RECEIVING/APPLIED FOR A DISABILITY ANNUITY UNDER SECTION 8337(h)(3) OR 8456 OF 5 U.S.C. 8337?

Eligibility for priority placement terminates upon:

- Placement in a permanent Federal position regardless of the grade level;
- Declination of a PPP job offer;
- Restoration to their earning capacity as determined by OPM; or
- Termination of eligibility for an annuity.

HOW LONG ARE NATIONAL GUARD TECHNICIANS ELIGIBLE FOR PRIORITY PLACEMENT CONSIDERATION FOR COMPETITIVE SERVICE POSITIONS?

Eligibility for competitive service positions is limited to 1 year from separation.

HOW DOES A MILITARY RESERVE TECHNICIAN RECEIVING A DISABILITY ANNUITY EXERCISE THEIR PRIORITY STATUS ?

A Military Reserve Technician applies by following these steps:

- Create a login.gov account to sign in to USAJOBS (first time users). Login.gov is a service that offers secure and private online access to government programs, such as Federal benefits, services, and applications. To establish a login.gov account, the PPP applicant must:
 - Use the same email address for login.gov and USAJOBS,
 - Create a new password, and
 - Have a working phone number (mobile or landline); login.gov will send a unique security code each time the account is accessed.
- Create a USAJOBS profile using the same email address for the login.gov account (first time users).
- Build or post a resume to the USAJOBS profile and upload essential documents. Examples of essential documents may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - The Military Reserve and National Guard Technician Disability PPP Self-Certification Checklist at https://www.esd.whs.mil/Directives/forms/dd3000_3499/
 - SF-50 effecting the Military Reserve Technician's separation from the technician position; if not yet separated, the most recent SF-50; and
 - Apply to and submit all required documentation referenced in the JOA, on USAJOBS by the closing date.

WHAT ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS SHOULD A MILITARY RESERVE TECHNICIAN HAVE AVAILABLE DURING THE HIRING PROCESS?

To facilitate a smooth hiring process, it is recommended that the following documents are available and used as applicable:

- Documentation showing the Military Technician has applied for or is receiving an annuity under 5 Section 8337(h)(3) or 8456 of 5 U.S.C.;
- Narrative resume;
- Copy of a Notification of Personnel Action (SF-50) documenting separation from the technician position or current federal appointment if still employed;
- Military Reserve and National Guard Technician Disability PPP Self-Certification Checklist Form;
- Veteran's preference documentation (e.g. DD-214, VA Letter, Statement of Service), if applicable
- Apply to and submit all required documentation listed in the job opportunity announcements (JOAs) for which interested and available.

WHAT TYPES OF POSITIONS CAN I APPLY FOR?

The following guidelines will govern your job opportunity announcement (JOA) choices:

- National Guard Technicians:
 - Prior to separation and after the 1-year period, priority placement is limited to excepted service positions, unless the technician has prior competitive status.

- During the 1-year period of separation are eligible to apply for competitive service positions.
- Must meet all established Federal and DoD qualification requirements.
- Prior to separation you can apply for permanent DoD appropriated-funded positions at your current, permanent, or retained grade. If separated, you can only apply for positions at the permanent grade held immediately prior to separation.
- May include any or all DoD installations/organizations within your commuting area. There are no permanent change of station (PCS) entitlements when exercising your priority status unless PCS is authorized outside of the PPP.

WHAT GRADES CAN MILITARY RESERVE TECHNICIANS RECEIVING A DISABILITY ANNUITY APPLY FOR THROUGH THE APPLICATION-BASED PROCESS TO RECEIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION?

Priority placement eligibility is limited to the current permanent grade or retained grade of the Military Reserve Technician. If separated, eligibility is limited to the permanent grade held immediately prior to separation.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A MILITARY RESERVE TECHNICIAN APPLIES TO A DOD VACANCY?

Military Reserve Technicians receiving a disability annuity and exercising priority placement status through the application process are considered equal to Priority 3 registrants in the Automated Stopper and Referral System (ASARS) of the PPP.

- Once the JOA closes, the HRO will evaluate the application and refer eligible well-qualified PPP applicants to the selecting official for consideration and selection.
- You will receive a notification from USAJOBS on the status of your application and whether you were referred to the selecting official.
- When exercising priority placement status through the application-based process, Military Reserve Technicians, if determined well qualified, will preclude new appointments, conversions, and transfers unless a PPP exception applies.

ARE THERE ANY PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION (PCS) ENTITLEMENTS FOR A MILITARY RESERVE TECHNICIAN PLACED THROUGH THE PPP?

No. Priority placement entitlement for Military Reserve PPP applicants is limited to vacancies in the commuting area of the Military Technician's former duty station. There are no PCS entitlements for individuals who exercise their priority placement status via the application process.

DOES PRIORITY PLACEMENT FOR MILITARY RESERVE TECHNICIANS APPLY TO ALL DoD JOB VACANCIES?

No. Priority placement eligibility is limited to permanent DoD appropriated-funded positions in the Military Reserve Technician's commuting area and at the Military Reserve Technician's current permanent grade or retained grade. If separated, eligibility is limited to the permanent grade held immediately prior to separation.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

In all cases, when you apply for DoD positions as a Military Reserve Technician priority placement eligible, you must follow all instructions as required by the JOA. This process is necessary in order for the HRO to determine if you are well qualified for the position. The evaluation factors used to rank you are the same factors that apply to all candidates. If you do not submit an application and required documentation, you will not be considered for the position.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

The PPP is too complex to adequately explain in such an abbreviated format. This FAQ sheet only provides an overview of the program's basic policies and procedures. You may find information at the following resources:

<https://www.fedshirevets.gov/job-seekers/federal-employment-overview/>

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/hiring-information/veterans-authorities/>