

Veteran's Preference Information

The basis for veteran's preference is the Veterans Preference Act of 1944, as amended. The Act is now codified in the title 5 United States Code (U.S.C.) 2108 and other sections of title 5; U.S.C. Preference applies to positions in the competitive services and in the excepted service. Preference is given in competitive examinations, in appointments to positions, and in retention during reduction in force. Other benefits to which preference eligible are entitled include reinstatement in the competitive services and reemployment/restoration.

Disabled Veteran means a person who has separated under honorable conditions from active duty in the Armed Forces performed at any time and who has established the present existence of a service connected disability (a noncompensable disability or one of less than 10 percent) or is receiving compensation (i.e., 10 percent or more disability), disability retirement benefits, or pension because of a public statute administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs or a military dependent.

Active duty or active duty military duty for veterans' preference means full-time duty with military pay and allowances in the Armed Forces. It does not include "active duty for training" performed by members of the Reserve or National Guard, such as ROTC, weekend meetings or drills, and 2-week (for example: summer camp) or 6-month training periods. (Note: Under section 401 of public law 95-202, the Department of Defense has recognized Army Transport Service, certain Merchant Marine service in World War II, and certain Coast and Geodetic Survey Service in World War II as qualifying for veterans' benefits under title 38, U.S. Code. However, this service does not create an entitlement to veterans' preference and is not considered to active duty in the Armed Forces for any purpose under the Civil Service Laws.

Veteran's Preference Qualifying Time Periods Authorized Under 5 USC 2108

(Check the time periods that reflect the Member's Service)

Served on Active Duty under Honorable conditions, **ASWELLAS:**

During a war; **OR**

During the period 28 Apr 1952 through 1 Jul 1955; **OR**

For more than 180 consecutive days, other than for training, any part of which occurred

After 31 Jan 1955, and before 15 Oct 1976; **OR**

During the Gulf War from 2 Aug 1990, through 2 Jan 1992; **OR**

For more than 180 consecutive days, other than for training, any part of which occurred during the period beginning 11 Sep 2001, and ending on the date prescribed by Presidential proclamation or by law as the last day of Operation Iraqi Freedom; **OR**

In a campaign or expedition for which a campaign medal has been authorized. Any Armed Forces Expeditionary medal or campaign badge, including El Salvador, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, Southwest Asia, Somalia, and Haiti, qualifies for preference.

A campaign medal holder or Gulf War veteran who originally enlisted after 7 Sep 1980, (or began active duty on or after 14 Oct 1982, and has not previously completed 24 months of continuous active duty) must have served continuously for 24 months or the full period called or ordered to active duty.

Veterans' preference eligibility for Federal hiring is available to individuals who have been discharged or released from active duty service in the armed forces under honorable conditions.

Note: Veterans Preference will not be awarded without a copy of the DD-214 (Member copy 4) which specifies the final discharge or release from active duty as under honorable conditions (i.e., an honorable or general discharge, retirement, etc).

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214 online:

<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>.