Retirees seeking employment with foreign government need approval

by Tammy Cournoyer
Air Force Retiree Services

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas (AFRNS) -- Military retirees seeking any civil employment with a foreign government agency -- or any instrumentality of a foreign government agency -- must apply for permission in advance or risk losing their military retirement pay.

For retired Airmen, the Secretary of the Air Force and Secretary of State serve as approval authorities for requests, though the Air Force Personnel Center’s Airman & Family Readiness functions as the administrative manager for Foreign Government Employment program.

Legally, there are certain situations in which an employee receives compensation where the payment is indirectly received from a foreign state. Examples include consulting and legal services, as well as payments from domestic professional corporations. Before accepting employment, retirees should contact an ethics attorney at their local base legal office to discuss the implications, according to AFPC legal officials.

“This is a very complex program, and retirees should know the rules anytime they consider working for a foreign government or a company in a foreign country,” said Tom Badman, the program’s manager at AFPC. “Pre-approval is required whether or not compensation is received.”

If retired Airmen start working for a foreign government without pre-employment approval, Badman says they take the risk of having to repay some or all of their retirement pay.

Air Force Instruction 36-2913, Request for Approval of Foreign Government Employment of Air Force Members, outlines the rules and necessary paperwork, as well as application instructions. The application package includes the Foreign Government Employment Memo, Foreign Government Employment Questionnaire and a Standard Form 312, Nondisclosure Agreement, which can all be found on the Air Force Retiree Services website Foreign Government Employment page.

Retirees can mail application packages to: AFPC Directorate of Airmen and Family Care, Airmen and Family Readiness Division, 550 C Street W, JBSA-Randolph TX 78150. Packages can also be faxed to 210-665-2322, or emailed to afpc.retiree@us.af.mil.

Retired Airmen with questions about foreign government employment can send email to afpc.retiree@us.af.mil. To protect personal privacy, applicants are asked not to include Social Security numbers or any other personally identifiable information in emails.
180-day hiring restriction reinstated for military retirees

by Richard Salomon
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas -- Military retirees seeking to enter civil service in the Department of Defense now require a waiver if they are within 180 days following their official date of retirement.

The new DoD requirement took effect Dec. 23, 2016, as part of the National Defense Authorization Act of fiscal 2017; however, personnel who fall under a special salary rate table, such as air traffic controllers and information technology managers, are exempt from the 180-day requirement.

Enacted in 1964, the 180-day policy was waived after a state of national emergency was declared on Sept. 14, 2001. After that, the Air Force had the flexibility to appoint retired military members within 180 days of retirement without needing to first seek a waiver.

The Air Force is committed to sustaining and supporting a diverse civilian workforce, said Sandy Pyott, Civilian Force Management branch chief. We recognize the virtues that retirees, veterans and career civil servants bring to the table and how working together we can continue to be a world-class organization.

This policy applies to all non-appropriated and appropriated-fund civilian positions in the competitive and excepted service, senior executive service and senior-level positions, and scientific and professional positions. The policy also includes all permanent, temporary, term, part-time, flexible and intermittent positions. Waivers may be submitted when it is determined that the retired military member is more highly qualified than the other candidates on the referral certificate. Members who are separating from the military and are not entitled to receive retirement pay from the armed services are not impacted by the 180-day wait period. Positions that fall under the special salary-rate table are also exempt from the policy.

For more information, select "Any" from the dropdown menu on myPers at https://mypers.af.mil/ and search "180 days." Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following these instructions.
TRICARE’s Nurse Advice Line helps with care options

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – Older adults can have multiple health problems and may not know whether they need to see a doctor or can administer self-care, so TRICARE officials want people to consider calling the Nurse Advice Line first before deciding.

TRICARE officials report that more than half of all adults 65 and older have three or more chronic medical problems, such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, or arthritis.

People suffering from a rash, a sinus infection, or perhaps just have a common cold, can speak with a registered nurse who will help assess if self-care or if you need to see a medical professional.

The Nurse Advice Line provides access to care, especially after hours and when traveling, which helps retirees on the move. It can also help find doctors and schedule next-day appointments at military hospitals and clinics when available.

To access the Nurse Advice Line call 800-TRICARE (874-2273) and select Option 1. Visit the Nurse Advice Line webpage for more details. (Courtesy of TRICARE)

Pay dates for 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entitlement Month</th>
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<th>Annuitant Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2017</td>
<td>December 29, 2017</td>
<td>January 2, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provided by Defense Finance and Accounting Service

www.retirees.af.mil
Special retirement homes offer veterans a place to live in comfort

by Chief Master Sgt. Clarence E. Vold
U.S. Air Force Retired

Many of you may remember that 10 cents a month that was deducted from your military paycheck for something called the Old Soldiers Home. Today, the deduction is 50 cents a month, and the facility is known as the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

The monthly payroll deduction still helps maintain a trust fund that serves residents of the both Armed Forces Retirement Homes – one in the nation’s capital and the other in Mississippi. That money – then and today -- goes toward helping provide veterans with a place to live in comfort and enjoy life to the fullest as long as possible.

I paid the deduction for 30 years, and now I live in the AFRH facility in Washington. I came here for much the same reason as everyone else: Unbeatable value for my money. Here I receive my own comfortable room; three meals a day; superior medical, dental and vision care; and amenities. Amenities include cable TV, a deluxe fitness center, movie theater, bowling center and hobby shops. Both facilities offer resident day-trips, a full-service library, barber shop, 24/7 security, beauty salon, computer center, mailboxes, banking services, campus Exchange, and off-campus shuttle and public transportation.

Eligible veterans include those who served in enlisted, warrant officer or limited-duty officer status with honorable service; retired over age 60 with 20 or more years of active service; service in a war declared by Congress or received hostile fire pay, and discharged or released under honorable conditions. Other criteria may apply and can be considered by the AFRH chief operating officer.

You should be in good physical and mental health, and able to live independently. You must care for your own personal needs, eat meals in a dining facility, and keep all medical appointments. Once accepted, you cannot be made to leave for medical reasons. If you wish, this is your home for life; however, you can be forced to leave for unacceptable conduct.

The fee for independent living starts at 40 percent of your total income and is capped at $1,425 a month as of 2016 for either Washington or in Gulfport, Mississippi. Applications are being accepted for both locations. There are openings in Washington and a waiting list for Gulfport, but you can apply for both, then live in Washington until there is an opening in Gulfport.

The AFRH is a symbol of the U.S. government's commitment to provide a lifetime of support to anyone eligible to live in the AFRH – a home with all of the basic necessities provided. It’s not just for those that made a career in the military, but those that answered the call to serve their country and served honorably.

For further information or to request an application, visit https://www.afrh.gov/appl, email admissions@afrh.gov, or call 800-422-9988.
Life changes impact your retirement pay

by Retirement Pay Officials
Defense Finance and Accounting Service

When you experience a life-changing event such as death, birth, marriage or divorce, it can have an impact on your pay account.

Notifying DFAS might be the furthest thing from your mind during these times, but don’t forget that you have to inform us of changes so we can adjust your account accordingly.

The scenarios below are real-life situations that have affected retiree pay accounts. You can avoid being in these situations by keeping your account up to date.

Scenario 1: If you were not married upon retirement, then you will not have a beneficiary on file for the Survivor Benefit Plan. If you then marry after retirement, you have a one-year window from the date of your marriage to inform DFAS of your intent to cover your new spouse with SBP. If you do not inform DFAS of your marriage and your intent to provide SBP coverage for your new spouse within a one-year time frame, your request will be denied. If you contact DFAS at any time after the one-year notification window has closed, DFAS will be required to deny your application for coverage for your spouse.

Scenario 2: At the time of your retirement, you are required to designate a beneficiary for any pay due to you at the time of your death (this is known as your Arrears of Pay, or AOP, beneficiary designation). If you designated the spouse you had at the time of your retirement as your AOP beneficiary, then divorced that spouse and never updated your AOP beneficiary designation, your former spouse will receive your arrears of pay. Even if you have a new spouse at that time of your death, your new spouse will not receive your AOP unless he or she has been designated as beneficiary for the payment, and this designation has been filed with DFAS.

Scenario 3: If you elect to have SBP spouse coverage at the time of your retirement, but your marriage is later terminated by death or divorce, you must inform DFAS of this change. If you do and later remarry, DFAS will restart your SBP coverage and begin deducting premiums again. If you forget to inform DFAS of your remarriage, we will not know to restart your coverage and begin deducting premiums. If you then die (after a full year of marriage), your current spouse will be entitled to receive SBP; however, since no SBP premiums have been paid, your spouse at the time of your death will not receive annuity payments until the premium debt has been recouped. This may result in a hardship for your spouse during an already difficult adjustment period.

Scenario 4: If you were married at the time of your retirement and elected SBP coverage for your spouse, then divorced and remarried several times during your lifetime, your spouse at the time of your death will face many challenges. Because you elected SBP upon retirement, your spouse at the time of your death will be entitled to an annuity, as long as you were married for at least one year. If you did not keep your records updated with DFAS, your spouse at the time of your death will need to provide DFAS with death certificates and/or divorce decrees for all your previous spouses before the SBP annuity can be paid. This could create a significant hardship and considerable delay for your ultimate beneficiary.

For tips on how to audit your pay account, visit http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/newsevents/newsletter/Audit-Your-Account.html.

www.retirees.af.mil
Assistance fund campaign is underway

by Bill D’Avanzo
Air Force Fundraising Chief

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The annual Air Force Assistance Fund “Commitment to Caring” Campaign is underway until May 19, but the retiree family can donate any time.

Last year, Airmen generated over $5 million in pledges and donations during the 2016 campaign – of that, $68,000 was donated by retirees. On behalf of our four affiliate charities of the AFAF, THANK YOU!

We’d love to see even more of our fellow retirees give to the AFAF charities. There are about 600,000 of us, and if we all could send in a check for $5 or $10, it would make a big difference in the lives of many of our fellow Airmen and their families in need, nearly doubling the total in donations from last year’s campaign!

I’d like to take a few minutes of your time to explain why these are four charities well worth our support…

The Air Force Village Charitable Foundation (AFVCF) was founded in 1964 by Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay to provide assistance to Air Force officers’ widows who, through no fault of their own, had fallen on hard times. Today, that very real need continues to be met at Blues Skies of Texas (a.k.a. Air Force Village) in San Antonio. One may think that an officer or their family shouldn’t be in need, but a serious sickness can very quickly deplete a lifetime of savings. We see it all too often. Costs not covered by Medicare come out of the pockets of the retiree. Long-term care costs an average of $75K per year, and on average, people need care for three years! Medicaid doesn’t kick in until a person’s assets are nearly completely depleted and their income is below a certain level. Furthermore, Medicaid only covers long-term care for short periods of time, such as rehab after an injury/illness.

Contributors can be assured that 100 percent of the money donated through the AFAF campaign goes to help those widows and widowers in need. Visit Blues Skies of Texas for details.

The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation helps widows of all Air Force retirees, both officers and enlisted, through financial grants of assistance. These widows spend much of their lives coping with the difficulties of military life and supporting their spouses through years of active duty. We are not questioning why they need help; we just acknowledge that they need it. We provide assistance for as long as it is required. We have several widows who have been receiving monthly checks for several years. We also help Air Force widows with a specific need they may be facing, in a single disbursement. We do not offer loans. All funds disbursed are considered to be grants of assistance. We believe that military spouses are entitled to a decent standard of living, entitled to live with dignity, and entitled to be proud of their service. We consider it to be a privilege to be a part of this noble endeavor. Visit The LeMay Foundation for more information.

The Air Force Aid Society is the affiliate charity most of us are familiar with. The society provides Airmen and their families worldwide with emergency financial assistance, education assistance, and an array of base-level community-enhancement programs. We all remember living as an airman or lieutenant -- from paycheck to paycheck. Even today, our Airmen make as little as $19K per year (the 2016 poverty guidelines set the poverty level as $11,880 for a single person in the 48 contiguous states). With the everyday expenses of living, it’s easy to find yourself in need at that income level. That’s why the Air Force Aid Society is here, and why they’ve been here since 1942! With many civilian charities facing hard times, the Air Force Aid Society continues our Air Force heritage of “taking care of our own”. To learn more, visit www.afas.org.

The Air Force Enlisted Village comprises two campuses: Bob Hope Village in Shalimar, Fla. just 3 miles from Eglin Air Force Base and Teresa Village in Fort Walton Beach in Florida, located between Hurlburt Field and Eglin AFB. Hawthorn House, a fully equipped assisted-living residence with memory care, is located at Bob Hope Village. The village’s primary goal and focus is to “provide a home” and financial assistance to Air Force surviving spouses.

More information can be found at www.afev.us or by calling toll free 800-258-1413.

www.retirees.af.mil
Use the form below to contribute this year (please don’t send cash in the mail!).

Just a small contribution from all of us makes a very big difference.

It’s not about us giving more; it’s about more of us giving!

---

Air Force Assistance Fund Retiree Contribution Form
This form is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974

If cash, complete section A
If PDP, complete section B

A. CASH

Air Force Village Charitable Foundation (AFVF)

The minimum allotment to any affiliate is $1 per month.

Air Force Aid Society (AFAS)

Air Force Enlisted Village (AFEV)

The General and Mrs Curtis E LeMay Foundation (LeMay)

TOTAL GIFT: $________

Signature: ____________________________

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION RELEASE AUTHORIZATION:

Let us thank you, and update you on what your donation is accomplishing! Information you voluntarily enter here will be released, along with your name and amount given, to the Retiree(s) to whom you made a pledge.

Home Mailing Address: _____________________________

Please do not enter your work email address.

Personal Email Address: _____________________________

Release of Information Authorization (Signature) _____________________________

www.retirees.af.mil
DFAS changing its mailing addresses beginning May 1

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service mailing addresses for retired and annuitant pay are changing May 1. Mail sent via the U.S. Postal Service will be sent to Indianapolis where it will be processed and sent electronically to the DFAS facility in Cleveland.

The new addresses for retired and annuitant pay is:

<table>
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<th>Defense Finance and Accounting Service</th>
<th>Defense Finance and Accounting Service</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Military Retired Pay</td>
<td>U.S. Military Annuitant Pay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8899 E 56th Street</td>
<td>8899 E 56th Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis IN 46249-1200</td>
<td>Indianapolis IN 46249-1300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rather than have different post office boxes as in the past, the difference now is reflected in the different ZIP codes. As of May 1, the previous post office boxes in London, Kentucky, will no longer be valid for mailing transactions.

New office serving retirees at station in Pennsylvania

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Jenny Pappas and Col. William Griffin cut the ribbon on the new Retiree Activities Office at Horsham Air Guard Station in Pennsylvania. Pappas is the director of the RAO, and Griffin is the vice commander of the 11th Attack Wing and the RAO’s active-duty coordinator.

The grand opening was held in conjunction with the station’s Retiree Appreciation Day activities. Horsham’s RAO is a satellite facility of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey.

For more information about the Horsham RAO, call 215-323-7135 or visit the station’s website at http://www.111attackwing.af.mil.

(Courtesy photo)
Commentary:

AFJROTC instructors can impact young lives

by Col. Bobby Woods
Air Force Junior ROTC

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFRNS) -- After a successful military career, many dedicated Air Force leaders find it difficult to hang-up the uniform for good. Our military lifestyle of team work, discipline, dedication, hard work, and the experience of living our core values are ingrained into who we are.

Those qualities, which are distinctive with Air Force retirees, are needed in high schools and in Air Force Junior ROTC.

As our society changes and the challenges facing our nation become more evident, the demand and need to mentor our youth has never been greater. They truly are the future of our great nation. More than ever before, negative influences often outweigh the positive. High school is where these young adults start to solidify the patterns, attitudes, and actions that carry forward into adulthood.

We all know that one bad choice in the early stages of adulthood can be the difference between a successful and productive life and a life that fails to achieve all that is possible. Our youth need positive leaders, mentors, teachers and role models to help prepare them to make good decisions in life and become productive citizens and leaders for our nation.

AFJROTC is a Title 10 U.S. Code citizenship program for students in the 9th through 12th grades. Our program has nearly 900 units operating in high school locations worldwide. There are more than 120,000 high school cadets in the program and over 1,950 retired Air Force officer and enlisted professionals who lead, mentor, guide, and teach our cadets. AFJROTC enjoys overwhelming support from schools and communities because of the huge positive impact on cadets, schools, and communities. In hundreds of American communities with no nearby military bases, the cadets and instructors of AFJROTC are truly “the face of the Air Force.”

If you want to continue to serve and make positive impacts in the lives of our nation’s high school students, then please consider applying to be an AFJROTC instructor. We are always seeking highly motivated retirees in the ranks of major to colonel and technical to chief master sergeant with an undergraduate degree and who have a passion for mentoring youth.

We have vacancies across the nation and overseas for both officers and enlisted. If you are interested or want more information about the program, please visit our webpage and click on “INSTRUCTORS” in the right column.

Thank you for your service to our great nation and for considering Air Force Junior ROTC. (Courtesy of AFJROTC)
Air Force Retiree Activities Offices

Retiree Activities Offices are made up of retired volunteers from all services, including surviving spouses. Their charter is to coordinate, establish and staff an office on an active-duty, Reserve or Guard base through command channels that will assist retirees and surviving spouses with a myriad of actions.

These actions include: serving as an information center for TRICARE, base services, etc.; offering referrals for financial assistance and pay matters; counseling active-duty Airmen nearing retirement; and providing guidance on retirement issues.

Another major activity involves working with base agencies to set up Retiree Appreciation Day events offering briefings by different agencies on respective services, tax preparation and advice (at selected locations); staff judge advocate assistance, base tours, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, etc.

Not all states or countries have an established Air Force RAO. The phone numbers and email addresses of RAOs Air Force-wide are listed below.

Alabama
MAXWELL
Phone: 334-953-6725
email: retiree.affairs@us.af.mil

Alaska
JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON
Phone: 907-552-2337
email: jerry.beale@yahoo.com

Arizona
DAVIS-MONTHAN
Phone: 520-228-5100
dmfarao@us.af.mil, 350msp.rao@us.af.mil
LUKE
Phone: 623-856-3923
email: 56lw.rao@us.af.mil
Arkansas
LITTLE ROCK
Phone: 501-987-6095
Toll Free: 877-815-3111
email: 19.aw.cvr@us.af.mil

California
BEALE
Phone: 530-634-2157
email: nasva70a@hotmail.com
EDWARDS
Phone: 617-277-4931
e417rao@us.af.mil
LOS ANGELES
Phone: 310-653-5144
e19 collusion@us.af.mil
MARCH
Phone: 951-655-4077@4079
email: 19aw.cr@us.af.mil
MCCLELLAN
Phone: 916-640-8445/8446
e-mail: george.moses@va.gov
MOFFETT FIELD
Phone: 650-603-8047
email: bfrinch@ts2052.gov
TRAVIS
Phone: 707-424-3904
email: raastravis@yahoo.com
VANDENBERG
Phone: 805-606-5474
email: vandenberg30sw@us.af.mil

Colorado
BUCKLEY
Phone: 720-847-6693/9213
david.colella.2@us.af.mil
USAF ACADEMY
Phone: 719-333-7877
rao.peterson@us.af.mil
PETERSON
Phone: 719-556-7153
rao.peterson@us.af.mil
Delaware
DOVER
Phone: 302-677-4612
rao.dover@us.af.mil
District of Columbia
JOINT BASE ANACOSTIA-BOLLING
Phone: 202-767-5244
rao.638@us.af.mil
Florida
CENTRAL FLORIDA
Phone: 407-208-2137
e-mail: centraflorida@thevillages.net
EGLIN
Phone: 850-882-5916
rao.evington@us.af.mil
HOMEstead
Phone: 786-415-7580
rao.home@us.af.mil
HURLBUT FIELD
Phone: 850-884-5443
rao.638@us.af.mil
MACDILL
Phone: 813-828-4555
rao.macdill@us.af.mil
PATRICK
Phone: 321-494-5464
rao.patrick@us.af.mil
TYNDALL
Phone: 850-283-2737
rao.tyndall@us.af.mil
Georgia
MOODY
Phone: 229-257-3209
rao.moody@us.af.mil
ROBINS
Phone: 470-327-4707
email: 75abw.rao@us.af.mil

Idaho
MOUNTAIN HOME
Phone: 208-828-4878
email: 366rao@us.af.mil

Illinois
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
Phone: 847-506-7625
rao.usrao2@gmail.com
RANTOUL
Phone: 217-893-1723 (machine)
geneandjune@aol.com
SCOTT
Phone: 618-256-5092
rao.scott@us.af.mil
Indiana
FORT WAYNE
Phone: 260-478-3780
Email: 122retireeoffice@gmail.com
Kansas
MCCONNELL
Phone: 316-759-3829/4411
mary.eary.1@us.af.mil
Louisiana
BARKSDALE
Phone: 318-456-5976
retiree.office@us.af.mil
Maryland
JOINT BASE ANDREWS
Phone: 301-981-2726
shigenu.sato.vol@mail.mil
Massachusetts
HANSCOM
Phone: 781-225-1310
rao.hanscomafb@gmail.com
OTIS
Phone: 508-968-4175
rao@ang.af.mil
WESTOVER
Phone: 617-557-3918/3424
rao.westover@us.af.mil
Michigan
SELFRIQGE ANG BASE
Phone: 586-239-5580
Email: selfrao@yahoo.com
Minnesota
MINNEAPOLIS
Phone: 612-713-1517
Email: msp834rao@yahoo.com

Mississippi
COLUMBUS
Phone: 662-434-3120
Email: 14tw.rao.columbus@us.af.mil
KEESLER
Phone: 228-376-8111
rao.keesler@us.af.mil
Missouri
JEFFERSON BARRACKS NGB SRAO
Phone: 314-527-8212
gerald.hansen@ang.af.mil
O’FALLON
Phone: 636-379-5577
rao.sara@ofallon.mo.us
WHITEMAN
Phone: 660-687-6457
Email: 509bw@us.af.mil
Montana
MALMSTROM
Phone: 406-731-4751
Email: jeremy.hall@1stliberty.org
Nebraska
OFFUTT
Phone: 402-294-2590
Email: offu@us.af.mil
New Mexico
KIRTLAND
Phone: 505-846-1536
Email: thomas.isaacson@us.af.mil
New York
NIAGARA FALLS
Phone: 716-236-2389
Email: john.caruso@us.af.mil
STEWART
Phone: 845-563-2369
How the Afterburner is delivered

People with an online myPay account automatically receive an Afterburner via email at the address on file with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

Others who wish to subscribe electronically need only navigate to the Air Force Retiree Services website, scroll to the lower right hand corner, and enter their e-mail address in the box under “Join our Mailing List.” Clicking “Submit” and a second screen will pop-up giving where users can opt for e-mail service. Individuals are then able to choose the Afterburner from a list of topics.

Remember, people who do not have a myPay account or subscribe electronically will receive a hard-copy Afterburner at the mailing address on file with DFAS. (The Afterburner office does not maintain mailing addresses.)

If you have any questions, send email to afpc.retiree@us.af.mil.