



Navy Reserve

About the Reserve

America's Navy Reserve is an essential element of the Total Force that is America's Navy. Wherever the important work of the Navy is being conducted in the world today, whenever the Maritime Strategy that guides those efforts is being executed, Navy Reservists are there. Seamlessly supporting. Actively contributing. Effectively leading. And ultimately, serving a key role in helping America's Navy to be A Global Force For Good.

Take this opportunity to learn more about the Navy Reserve. Familiarize yourself with the Reserve mission and the vision that guides it. Understand the realities of part-time service. Get a better sense of who Reservists are, where they come from, what they do and where they do it.

Plus, find plenty of other relevant information. Things like how the Reserve is structured. How the Reserve has factored into American history. Even how the uniforms of Reservists can tell a story about the people who wear them.

Whether you have a military background or not, you'll want to know as much as you can about the Navy Reserve. As you check out the opportunities available. As you look into the possibility of balancing military duty with everyday life. As you consider becoming part of A Global Force For Good.

Ready Now. Anytime, Anywhere.

Mission & Vision

The Navy Reserve Force Motto is "Ready Now. Anytime, Anywhere." It reflects the essence of the Reserve mission and vision. Like all military reserve forces, the Navy Reserve is a supplement to the Active Component (AC). Currently, Reservists represent about 20% of the Navy's Total Force. But it's much more than strength in numbers.



Today's Navy Reserve, from Civil Affairs to Navy SEALs, is integral to the Total Force. We stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our Active Duty component executing full spectrum operations that represent every facet of our Navy's Global Maritime Strategy for the 21st century. – VADM Dirk Debbink, Chief of Navy Reserve

Whether working in the U.S. or abroad, ashore, at sea or in the air, Reservists are prepared. They are accessible. They are versatile. And they are willing to go wherever they are needed.

Each Reservist is expected to uphold the core values of honor, courage and commitment. And together with Active Duty servicemembers, they help make up one of the most capable forces the world has ever seen. One Navy. One mission.

Over the past century, the Reserve has evolved into a vital asset, a respected partner and a true Force Multiplier. As a part-time servicemember, you will not only stand in to answer the call of duty, but your service will amplify the Navy's core capabilities, which include forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security, humanitarian assistance and disaster response.

Navy Reserve Mission Statement:

The mission of the Navy Reserve is to provide strategic depth and deliver operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team and Joint forces, from peace to war.

The Expanding Mission

The ongoing mission of the Navy Reserve is to have the right people and develop them with the right training. It's also to provide Reservists with the resources and support they need to serve effectively and successfully. In an increasingly complex world, this mission evolves to meet ever-changing initiatives.

As individuals and as units, Reservists continue to be more and more critical in the big picture. Serving side by side with Active Duty counterparts in direct support of the Fleet. Making the most of proven and potential abilities. Leading lives of pride, purpose and heroism on a mission that serves a greater cause.

Navy Reserve Vision:

Our vision for the Navy Reserve is to be a provider of choice for essential naval warfighting capabilities and expertise, strategically aligned with mission requirements and valued for our readiness, innovation and ability to respond to any situation.

The Strategic Focus Areas

Now and in the future, the Navy Reserve envisions itself to be a go-to force. A resource for roles that cover the full spectrum of Navy needs. It also strives to be an employer of choice. A fulfilling option for servicemembers from all backgrounds. Those with prior military experience. And those without.

Guided by its strategic focus areas, the Navy Reserve seeks to:

- **Deliver a Ready and Accessible Force** – Maximum responsiveness means Reservists get the type of advanced training that allows them to step right in and implement their skill sets
- **Provide Valued Capabilities** – Unmatched experience and expertise make Reservists respected and valued resources in today's Navy
- **Enable the Continuum of Service** – Seamless transition to temporary Active Duty service when called enables Reservists to uphold national security, and assistance is available to help balance the life of service with everyday life

What to expect when duty calls

Roles & Responsibilities

Unrivaled training. Undeniable purpose. Uncommon adventure. In the Navy Reserve, men and women from all walks of life come together to find it all.

Here, you can be part of something bigger than yourself. You can discover camaraderie that's rarely experienced in the everyday world. And you can benefit personally, professionally and financially.



To understand what it means to balance patriotic duty, personal commitments and everyday career interests, you must learn what it's like to be a Reservist.

Who Are Reservists?

Navy Reservists are highly motivated men and women who are dedicated to the defense of the nation and who reflect the diversity of the nation in so many ways.

There are individuals of all ages, backgrounds and ethnicities. There are people with high school diplomas and people with college degrees. There are those who are working toward higher education at all levels and those working as professionals in all kinds of career fields. And you can be a member whether you've had military experience prior to joining or not.

What Do Reservists Do?

In general, Reservists have the same duties as their Active Duty counterparts. They provide invaluable expertise, experience and leadership. They deliver critical support to global operations and planning. And they earn the same respect as those serving on Active Duty.

Specific responsibilities depend upon basic factors like:

- Your designation as an Enlisted Sailor or a Commissioned Officer.
- Your occupational specialty in any of the professional areas offered in the Navy Reserve.

How Often Do Reservists Serve?

Navy Reserve service is generally associated with part-time service. What all Reservists have in common is a commitment to serving a minimum of one weekend a month plus two weeks a year. There are flexible drilling options that can enable service on weekdays or in an extended mission capacity to meet annual commitment requirements. There are also opportunities for additional service and pay.

Serving full-time as a Reservist

In the Navy Reserve, two important full-time service programs to be aware of are:

- **Navy Full-Time Support (FTS)** – This program allows Reservists to perform full-time Active Duty service in positions that support the training and administration of the Navy Reserve Force. Members receive the same pay, allowances and benefits as Active Duty members. One advantage of FTS over regular Active Duty is that members typically serve for longer periods at any assigned locations.
- **Navy Individual Augmentee (IA)** – This program allows Reservists to perform full-time Active Duty service in positions that support strategic objectives. Members may be chosen or volunteer to fill in, or augment, roles requiring specialized knowledge or skill sets. They could potentially fill needs outside the Navy in any of the service branches.

Deploying as a Reservist

As is the case with all military service branches, Reservists have the possibility of being deployed. There is no formula for determining who will deploy or when, where and for how long that might be. It comes down to what occupational specialties and operational units are needed at any given time, and who is best qualified and ready to serve those needs.

Keep in mind that if deployed, you are considered to be on Active Duty status and will be entitled to Active Duty pay and benefits. Plus, if a deployment lasts 120 continuous days, you will also be eligible to take advantage of the Tuition Assistance (TA) Program.

Also be aware that if you're a current or former Navy servicemember (NAVET), you can receive guaranteed initial deployment deferment for periods of up to two years when you affiliate with the Navy Reserve. Contact your career counselor or the Career Transition Office (CTO) to learn more.

Where Do Reservists Serve?

There are hundreds of Navy Reserve Centers across the country. Sites to train on drill weekends are readily available and typically located conveniently close to home – wherever that may be.

During the standard two-week annual training period, you also have the chance to travel to destinations in the U.S. or around the world – taking part in anything from scheduled training exercises to humanitarian outreach efforts.

What about Reservists who are serving full-time or on deployment? They could be serving virtually anywhere in the world, alongside Active Duty forces, wherever the Navy is.

What's Life Like in the Navy Reserve?

Reservists are trained professionals capable and willing to contribute to ongoing Navy training, planning and operations. Whether it's piloting an F/A-18 for the weekend, caring for the medical needs of a deployed Sailor's children, or helping to renovate a Navy base, Navy Reservists' lives are full of exciting challenges and gratifying moments on duty.

At the same time, Reservists are free to pursue their own interests out in the civilian sector when off duty. That means you can serve in the Reserve and have a full-time civilian job. Live and work where you want. Be there for your family. And live the everyday life of your choosing.

Navy Reserve organization and components

Structure

The Navy Reserve is the Reserve Component (RC) of America's Navy. And within the structure of the Navy Reserve, there are organizational categories that further define your service responsibilities and commitment status.



Basically, the Navy Reserve is itself the sum of the multiple components: Ready Reserve, Standby Reserve and Retired Reserve-Inactive. Each component has its own way of contributing to the overall mission. Some regularly. Some only in special circumstances.

As a Reservist, you will fall into one of these categories based upon details such as your military experience, your military status and your individual situation.

Ready Reserve

The Ready Reserve provides a pool of trained servicemembers who are ready to step in and serve whenever and wherever needed. It is made up of the Selected Reserve – which includes Drilling Reservists/Units as well as Full-Time Support personnel – and the Individual Ready Reserve.

Selected Reserve (SELRES)

This group – the largest and most relied upon of the Ready Reserve – consists of:

- **Drilling Reservists/Units** – These are designated Reservists who are available for recall to Active Duty status. They serve as the Navy's primary source of immediate manpower. They typically fulfill the traditional service commitment of one weekend a month and two weeks a year. And they receive many of the same benefits and perform many of the same duties as their Active Duty counterparts. This includes persons on initial Active Duty for training.

- **Full-Time Support** – These are designated Reservists who perform full-time Active Duty service that relates to the training and administration of the Navy Reserve program. They may be assigned to shore activities and commands or operational units. They typically are not reassigned to different locations as often as those on regular Active Duty. And they receive the same pay, allowances and benefits as Active Duty members.

Individual Ready Reserve

This group consists of individuals who have had training or have previously served in an Active Duty component or in the Selected Reserve.

- **Inactive status** – These members of the Individual Ready Reserve do not drill, are not obligated to take part in military activities, and receive no pay or benefits.
- **Active status** – Individuals assigned to the Individual Ready Reserve may be eligible to receive pay or benefits for voluntarily performing specific types of Active Duty service.

Standby Reserve

The Standby Reserve is made up of Reservists who have transferred from the Ready Reserve after fulfilling certain requirements established by law. Most common Standby Reservists are those who have been deemed key civilian employees by the government or those suffering through personal adversity or disability.

While they are not required to perform training and are not part of any specific unit, they do create a pool of trained individuals who could be mobilized, if necessary, to fill manpower needs in specific skill areas.

Retired Reserve-Inactive

The Retired Reserve-Inactive is made up of Reservists who are drawing retired pay or are qualified for retired pay upon reaching 60 years of age.

Navy Reserve history – “Citizen Sailors” through the years

History

The Navy Reserve was officially formed in 1915 – just as the United States was emerging as a world power and just following the outbreak of World War I. But the concept of the American Citizen Sailor actually precedes America itself. Follow Navy Reserve history – from its militia-like roots to its official existence over the past nine decades.

Be Part of the Storied Tradition

Even before the Continental Congress established the Continental Navy, there were bands of residents in seaside towns such as Machias, ME, engaging in combat with British warships – inspired by the spirited battles of Minutemen.

By the end of World War II, there were millions of Americans actively engaged in that conflict as members of the Navy. And the vast majority of them – Reservists.

From the American Revolution to the ongoing engagements in the Middle East, American Citizen Sailors/Reservists have performed heroically in service to their nation – creating and maintaining a proud heritage and history built on the same core values that guide all of America’s Navy. Honor. Courage. Commitment.

Historical Highlights

Below are some of the key points in history leading up to the modern day Navy Reserve:

- On **June 12, 1775**, the first Reservists in American history served their country at sea. Throughout the battle for **American independence**, the small size of the Continental Navy often necessitated the service of Citizen Sailors.
- During the **War of 1812**, Citizen Sailors raided British commerce on the high seas and outfitted a fleet of barges called the Chesapeake Bay Flotilla in an effort to defend that vital body of water against British invasion.
- During the **Civil War**, President **Abraham Lincoln** authorized an increase in the personnel levels of the Navy, which assumed an important role in the strategy to defeat the Confederacy with a blockade of the South and a campaign to secure control of the Mississippi River.
- The Navy had grown from a force numbering 9,942 in **1860** to one manned by 58,296 Sailors by the end of the **Civil War** in **1865**. A total of 101,207 men from 21 states enlisted during the **Civil War**. Reservists were an integral part of the daring mission to destroy the Confederate ironclad *CSS Albemarle*, which resulted in the awarding of the Medal of Honor to six civilian volunteers.
- The first official use of a reserve source of Navy manpower took place in **1888** when Massachusetts organized a Navy battalion as part of the state militia.
- By **1897**, a total of 16 states had organized Navy units as part of their state militia.
- Reservists assisted in the **Spanish-American War** by providing coastal defense and serving aboard ships, with 263 Officers and 3,832 Enlisted men of various state Navy militias answering the call to arms.
- Secretary of the Navy **Josephus Daniels** and his assistant, a young New Yorker named **Franklin D. Roosevelt**, launched a campaign in Congress to appropriate funding for an official federal force. Their efforts brought passage of legislation on **March 3, 1915**, creating the Navy Reserve Force.
- On **August 29, 1916**, with the prospect of **World War I** looming, the Navy Reserve Force was formally organized, with the first official U.S. Navy Reservists hunting enemy U-boats from the cockpits of biplanes.

- By the summer of **1941**, two years after the start of **World War II**, virtually all members of the Navy Reserve were serving on Active Duty, their numbers destined to swell upon the Japanese invasion of Pearl Harbor on **December 7, 1941**. In the ensuing four years, the Navy would grow from a force of 383,150 to 3,405,525 at its peak. Among these numbers, most were Reservists, including five future U.S. presidents: John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and George H. W. Bush.
- The five decades after WW II were marked by massive mobilizations of Reservists fueled by **Cold War** fears. From the Berlin Crisis to **Vietnam** to the **defense buildup of the 1980s**, situations led to both expansion of the Navy Reserve and a greater focus on interoperability between Active Duty and Reserve Duty forces.
- In the **1990s**, more than 21,000 Navy Reservists supported **Operations Desert Shield** and **Desert Storm**. During this time, the distinct differences between full-time and part-time forces became less and less apparent.
- Response to events such as the ethnic cleansing of the former Yugoslavia and the attacks against the World Trade Center and Pentagon on **September 11, 2001**, illustrated the transformation of the Navy Reserve from a force in waiting for massive mobilization to an integral component in carrying out the mission of the U.S. Navy.
- Today, with approximately **20 percent of the Navy Total Force made up of Navy Reservists**, the role and contributions of the Navy Reserve and its men and women are as vital as ever, on all fronts – from conflict prevention to conflict support, from combat to peacekeeping, from disaster response to humanitarian relief.

Navy reserve recruiting and training sites

Locations

Where would I train if I were to join the Navy Reserve? Where can I find someone who can tell me more about opportunities in the Navy Reserve? Here, you can get answers to two of the most important questions that are likely to come up when considering serving in the Navy Reserve.



Serving Near Home

There are hundreds of Navy Reserve Centers across the country where you can train on drill weekends or perform your service requirements. In most cases, that equates to a location convenient to your home, your family, your work and your life. That also means that you can realistically serve in the Navy Reserve without having to relocate.

Finding a Local Recruiter

When it comes to learning more about the Navy Reserve, a Navy Reserve recruiter is one of the best resources you can call on. They can answer questions, provide the information you need and point you in the right direction.

There are thousands of locations nationwide where Recruiters are available. In most cases, that means there will be someone nearby to talk to.

Ways to Join

Part-time service in the Navy Reserve presents an exceptional opportunity. For those currently serving in the military. For those who have previously served in the military. Even for those who have no prior military experience. Wherever you stand, there are things you'll need to know before you're ready to join the Reserve. And that thought process and the way to go about joining will depend upon your service background.

Potential affiliation or sign-on bonuses now available

You may qualify to earn a bonus from \$5,000 to \$20,000 when you join the Navy Reserve. Contact a Navy Reserve Recruiter for details. Currently serving in the Navy? Contact your Career Counselor or the Career Transition Office (CTO) for details.

Right now, choose the description that best characterizes you. From there, learn more about transitioning into the Navy Reserve. Learn more about affiliating with the Navy Reserve. Or, if you're new to the military, learn more about starting your service career in the Navy Reserve.

Serving Now



What will you do when your current military service obligation is up? As an Active Duty member of the military, you can go on serving full-time. You can opt to enter the civilian sector. Or you can discover the best of both worlds – making the seamless transition to part-time service in the Navy Reserve.

Served Before



What would you give to feel the pride of wearing the uniform again? The answer doesn't have to be a full-time commitment. You could be serving part-time. Making the most of your prior military service experience. And rediscovering what you miss most about the military – through an affiliation with the Navy Reserve.

Never Served



Whatever your background, there could be an important place for you serving part-time in today's Navy Reserve. You can bring your professional experience, your education, your passion and your potential. Apply yourself to a greater cause. And take away even more than you give.

There's so much to gain from becoming part of the Navy Reserve. So take everything in this section into consideration as you decide if the Navy Reserve is right for you.

Take on a bigger mission in life

Reasons to Join

Why join the military as a Reservist? Because you can take advantage of outstanding benefits and advance your career. Because you can better your life and the world around you. Because you can take on a bigger mission in life – and do it all serving part-time.



As a member of the Navy Reserve, you can remain rooted in the world you now know. Focus on what matters most while expanding your horizons. And take on a limited

commitment that yields a lifetime of rewards.

Reap the Tangible Benefits

Navy Reserve benefits are exceptional by most standards. Beyond generous pay, the Navy Reserve provides unrivaled career training, no-cost educational assistance and the chance to earn a potential sign-on bonus from \$5,000 to \$20,000 when you join. Contact a Navy Reserve Recruiter for details.

Want to learn more about everything else the Navy Reserve offers that can help you secure a better future for you and your family?

Advance Yourself as a Professional

Today's Navy Reserve has a wealth of career opportunities. From Construction to Cryptology. Health Care to Chaplaincy. Law Enforcement to Office Administration. Whatever your interests, Navy Reservists work side by side with Active Duty personnel and benefit from the same training, access to equipment and advancement opportunities.

Here you'll find unprecedented, real-world experience that civilian employers find highly valuable but rarely provide in the short-term. Here you can bolster your resumé. Help finance your education. Get state-of-the-art training. And get paid for it all.

Challenge Yourself in Exciting New Ways

If you want to take your skills to another level, be part of something bigger than yourself and make an impact on the world, you can do it in the Navy Reserve – staying close to home, family and friends as you serve.

The Navy Reserve makes it possible to lead a balanced life. You can apply all of the values, experiences and skills you'll gain to your private life. The Navy Reserve is an ideal way to be who you want to be and who you need to be – at home and on duty.

Take Pride in the Company You Keep

Relationships created in the Navy Reserve are beyond what most people know. You have a common bond. You share a common purpose. You enjoy a camaraderie that only exists among those who serve.

You, too, can experience this unique culture and the many benefits of military life. You can actively contribute to the mission of America's Navy part-time while maintaining the life and career you now have.

Serve Your Country and Your Own Cause

Experience the satisfaction that comes from ensuring the safety of your family, friends, community and country. In uniform. In the Navy Reserve. Every month and every year.

Those around you will respect your service. Your future will be enhanced by the rewards you gain. The goals you reach. The people you meet. And the difference you make.

Potential sign-on bonuses now available

Depending upon your interest area and whether you qualify to be an Enlisted Sailor or an Officer, you could be earning a bonus from \$5,000 to \$20,000 when you join the Navy Reserve. Contact a Navy Reserve Recruiter for details

Careers & Jobs

There are hundreds of different Navy jobs, and many are available as careers in the Navy Reserve. You can find rewarding work in fields ranging from Health Care to Chaplaincy. Electronics to Cryptology. Law Enforcement to Computer Science. And whatever your skills and interests, you can apply them to the benefit of your family, your career and your country – serving part-time as a Navy Reservist.

Find Your Place

Take a look at the Navy Reserve opportunities in the career and job categories below and know that:

- Most are open to those who have never served before as well as to those who have served before or are serving now
- There are some positions reserved only for those with prior military experience – including work in special operations, as a pilot or as an attorney
- In general, Reservists serve in both Enlisted (non-degreed) and Officer (degreed) capacities – check career and job categories to see which type(s) of roles are offered

Potential affiliation or sign-on bonuses now available

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Opportunities Requiring a Military Background



Surface Warfare

Currently, these opportunities are available only to prior-service or currently serving (NAVET) Navy SWOs. Your technical know-how and management experience are in high demand.



Special Warfare/Special Operations

Currently, the Navy Reserve is seeking only men and women who are serving now or have previously served in a position within the NSW/NSO community.



Naval Aviator

Positions in the Navy Reserve – which involve flying a variety of strategic missions – are open only to prior or current military aviators and Naval Flight Officers.



Attorney

The Reserve component of the JAG Corps is open only to those who have previously served or are currently serving as a Navy JAG Corps Officer.



Recruiter

Recruiter opportunities are available to Enlisted Sailors and Officers who are serving Active Duty, are in the Selected Reserve or are in the Individual Ready Reserve.



Health Care

Doctors and dentists. Nurses and medics. Administrators and scientists. There's important work to do in the world of Navy Health Care – whatever your specialty.



Chaplain & Support

Whether conducting worship ceremonies on a ship at sea or assisting clergy with religious activities on a base, you can impact lives in new and exciting ways.



Information & Technology

From generating intelligence to safeguarding communications, those who deal with information in the Navy Reserve are key to ongoing operations and missions.



Engineering & Applied Science

Your next project could involve constructing a runway. Troubleshooting a weapons guidance system. Or analyzing ocean currents for the military.



Service & Safety

Help the people around you to be prepared and protected by providing anything from nourishing meals to personal security to emergency medical treatment.



Business & Legal

Apply your strong business sensibilities and people skills to everything from supply chain management to public affairs to the military legal system.



Aviation

Naval Aviation is the standard for excellence in its field – and you could be making your contributions from the hangar to the flight deck to the control tower.

Benefits

The Navy Reserve benefits package is impressive by any standard. As a Reservist, you can look forward to rewards like paid training, a generous monthly income, health-care coverage and retirement incentives. Plus, you can take advantage of a number of additional perks – everything from a potential starting bonus to ongoing Navy-funded educational assistance.

Learn more about the many benefits that part-time service offers. Benefits that you can expect whether you're an Enlisted Sailor or an Officer. Benefits that are available whether you enter the Navy Reserve from Active Duty service, with a prior military background or with no prior military experience.



Pay

The paycheck you can earn is a key benefit of serving in the Navy Reserve. Find out where your qualifications and experience fall on the Navy Reserve pay scale. Estimate your annual income as a Reservist. Learn about potential monetary bonuses and special pay. Plus, understand the process for advancement.

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Income Enhancements

In addition to competitive pay, there are many other important financial incentives that you can take advantage of as a Reservist. Everything from home loans to tax breaks to travel perks. Get details on the various income enhancements that also factor into overall compensation.



Insurance

Having adequate health insurance and life insurance for you and your family is important. Being a member of the Navy Reserve can allow you to take advantage of supplemental coverage at extremely affordable rates. Find out about Navy insurance options and offerings.



Training & Education

Reserve training goes beyond the kind of experience that can be gained in the civilian sector and can give you a distinct advantage as a professional. There are also programs in place to help you to get a college degree, earn college credit, expand your credentials and advance your education as a member of the Navy Reserve.



Retirement

Whether drilling, attending Annual Training or spending time in an Active Duty role, your time served as a Navy Reservist counts toward Navy Reserve retirement. Learn how you accumulate retirement points, how duty status factors in and how much retirement income you may expect to receive.