THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-1200

HEALTH AFFAIRS

AUG 29 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (M&RA)

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2006 Medical and Dental Officer Special Pay Plan

In accordance with Title 37, United States Code, and Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6000.13, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Medical Officer Special Pay Plan and the FY 2006 Dental Officer Special Pay Plan are attached.

In determining the FY 2006 rates for Multiyear Special Pay, Incentive Special Pay, and the Dental Officer Multiyear Retention Bonus, the Health Professions Incentives Integration Board considered manning, civilian income data, Military Health System requirements, and Service budget impact.

Medical and dental officer special pays shall be administered in accordance with the policies established herein, in Title 37 U.S.C., and in DoDI 6000.13. I emphasize that possession of a current, unrestricted license (or approved waiver) is a prerequisite to enter into a special pay contract. Please provide this office a copy of your implementing guidance within 30 days of the date of this memorandum.

William Winkenwerder, Jr., MD

Attachments:
As stated

cc:
PDUSD (P&R)
ASD (RA)
Surgeon General of the Army
Surgeon General of the Navy
Surgeon General of the Air Force
Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service
Director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service

HA POLICY: 05-015

FISCAL YEAR 2006 DENTAL OFFICER
SPECIAL PAY PLAN

A. General Eligibility. To be eligible for dental officer incentive pays listed within this policy memorandum, an individual must be a dental corps officer (see B. 3. below)

B. Terms and Definitions.

1. Advanced Clinical Program (ACP). A clinical training program of not less than twelve months duration providing dental officers with formal preparation in General Dentistry, Exodontia, Endodontics, Periodontics, Prosthodontics or other dental disciplines. PGY-1 dental programs (AEGD and GPR) are excluded from this definition.

2. Creditable Service. Includes all periods that the officer has served on active duty as a dental corps officer, and all periods spent in graduate dental education (GDE) training programs while not on active duty.

3. Dental Corps Officer. An officer of the Dental Corps of the Army or the Navy or an officer of the Air Force designated as a dental officer; and be on active duty under a call or order to active duty for a period of not less than one year.

4. Dental Residency. A Graduate Dental Education (GDE) training program 12 months or greater, excluding general practice residency (GPR) or the 12 month Advanced Education General Dentistry (AEGD) and Advanced General Dentistry Program 1 (AGDP-1).

5. Dental Specialty. Dental grouping for which there is an Army area of concentration (AOC) identifier, a Navy subspecialty code greater than 1700 with non-"S" suffix (or additional qualification designator equivalent), or an Air Force specialty code number.

C. Variable Special Pay (VSP). Eligible officers are entitled to VSP, paid monthly, at the following annual rates:

1. $3,000 if undergoing internship training or has less than three years of creditable service.

2. $7,000 with at least three but less than six years of creditable service and not undergoing internship training.

3. $7,000 with at least six but less than 8 years of creditable service.

4. $12,000 with at least 8 but less than 12 years of creditable service.

5. $10,000 with at least 12 but less than 14 years of creditable service.

6. $9,000 with at least 14 but less than 18 years of creditable service.

7. $8,000 with 18 or more years of creditable service.

8. $7,000 for those in pay grades above O-6.

D. Additional Special Pay (ASP). An officer entitled to VSP, and not undergoing dental internship or initial dental residency training, who possesses a current, valid, unrestricted license or approved waiver, is entitled to ASP at the following rates for any 12 month period during which the officer executes a written agreement to remain on active duty for a period of not less than one year beginning on the date the officer accepts the award of ASP. ASP shall be paid annually at the beginning of the 12 month period for which the officer is entitled to such payment.

1. $4,000 with less than three years of creditable service.

2. $6,000 with at least three but less than 10 years of creditable service.

3. $15,000 with at least 10 or more years of creditable service.

Subject to acceptance by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee), a dental officer with an existing ASP agreement may terminate that ASP agreement on or after the anniversary of their credible service date to enter into a new one-year ASP agreement if the new agreement results in a higher ASP rate due to the number of years served.

E. Board Certification Pay (BCP). An officer entitled to VSP who possesses a current, valid, unrestricted license or approved waiver and is board certified is entitled to BCP, paid monthly, at the following annual rates:

1. $2,500 with less than 10 years of creditable service.

2. $3,500 with at least 10 but less than 12 years of creditable service.

3. $4,000 with at least 12 but less than 14 years of creditable service.

4. $5,000 with at least 14 but less than 18 years of creditable service.

5. $6,000 with 18 or more years of creditable service.

F. Dental Officer Multiyear Retention Bonus (DOMRB).

1. Dental Corps officers with a current, valid, unrestricted license or approved waiver shall, upon acceptance of the written service agreement by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (or designee), be paid at the rates indicated for their specialty in the charts below (Table 1 &2). The amounts represent annual bonus payments to be paid on the anniversary date of the agreement.

2. Eligibility. A Dental Corps officer:

a. who is below the grade of 0-7, and

b. who has a current, valid, unrestricted license or approved waiver, and

c. who has at least eight years of creditable service, or has completed any active duty service commitment incurred for dental education and training, and

d. who has completed initial residency training or will complete such training before September 39 of the fiscal year in which the officer enters into an agreement, and

e. who executes a written agreement to remain on active duty for two, three, or four years that is accepted by the Secretary (or designee) of the Military Department concerned.

Note: Based on Service unique requirements, the Secretary concerned (or designee) may decline to offer DOMRB to any specialty that is otherwise eligible or restrict the length of a DOMRB contract for a specialty to less than four years.

3. Subject to acceptance by the Secretary (or designee) of the Military Department concerned, a dental officer with an existing DOMRB contract may terminate that contract to enter into a new DOMRB contract with an equal or longer obligation at the DOMRB annual rate in effect at the time of execution of the new DOMRB contract. Any unearned portion of the terminated contract shall be recouped.

4. Active duty service obligations for DOMRB will be established as follows:

a. Active duty obligations (ADO) for education and training and previous multiyear pay agreements will be served before serving the ADO for DOMRB. The DOMRB ADO is served after any other existing ADO for education and training has been completed.

b. When no education and training ADO exists at the time of a DOMRB agreement execution, the ADO for DOMRB is served concurrently with the DOMRB agreement period and all non-education and training ADOs. Also, if the DOMRB agreement is executed before the start date of fellowship training and no other education and training ADO exists, the DOMRB ADO is served concurrently with the DOMRB agreement period. However, if the DOMRB agreement is executed on or after the start date of fellowship training, the dental officer is obligated for the full fellowship period and the DOMRB ADO will begin one day after the fellowship ADO is completed. Once a dental officer has begun to serve a DOMRB ADO, it will be served concurrently with any existing ADO including obligations for other special

pay agreements or medical education and training obligations incurred after the execution date for that particular DOMRB agreement.

c. Obligations for Additional Special Pay may be served concurrently with any other service obligation.

5. Subject to acceptance by the Secretary (or designee) of the Military Department concerned, a dental officer with an existing DOMRB service agreement may terminate that agreement to enter into a new DOMRB service agreement at the annual rate in effect at the time of execution of the new agreement. The length of the new DOMRB agreement period must be equal to or longer than the original obligation period specified in the DOMRB agreement being terminated. Any unearned portion of the terminated agreement shall be recouped.

6. The FY 2006 DOMRB shall be administered in accordance with this memorandum and HA policy 98-005. Services are to provide a copy of their implementing guidance to DoD (HA) TMA within 30 days of the date of this memo.

G. Termination of ASP and DOMRB. In accordance with 37 USC 302b, the Secretary of each military department will prescribe regulations to terminate an officer's entitlement to ASP. Reasons for termination may include, but are not necessarily limited to: loss of privileges, Courts Martial convictions, violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, failure to maintain a current unrestricted license, or reasons that are in the best interest of the Military Department concerned. If entitlement to ASP and DOMRB is terminated, the officer shall be paid, on a pro-rata basis, the portion served up to the official date of the ruling of the adverse action that is the reason for termination.

H. Recoupment. An officer who voluntarily terminates service on active duty before the end of the period for which an ASP and DOMRB payment was made shall refund to the United States the unserved portion of that payment.

I. Bankruptcy. A discharge in bankruptcy under title 11 shall not release a person from an obligation to reimburse the United States required under the terms of an agreement for receipt of ASP and DOMRB if the final decree of the discharge in bankruptcy was issued within a period of five years after the last day of a period which such person had agreed to serve on active duty. This subsection applies to a discharge in bankruptcy in any proceeding that begins after September 30, 1985.

J. The Secretary of each Military Department shall establish procedures to make determinations regarding internship or residency training and board certification for purposes of awarding special pay.

K. Special Pay for Reserve Dental Officers

1. Eligible dental officers on active duty under a call or order to active duty for less than one year are entitled to special pay at the rate of $350 a month for each month of active duty,

including active duty in the form of annual training, active duty for training, and active duty for special work. The amount will be prorated for periods less than one month.

2. Under 37 USC 302f, reserve dental officers serving on active duty under conditions prescribed in subsection (b) of section 302f, are entitled to VSP, ASP, and BCP at the rates specified in paragraphs C., D., and E. Payments shall be paid monthly and amounts shall be prorated for periods less than one month. Reserve dental officers receiving ASP under section 302f are not required to execute a written agreement to remain on active duty for at least one year.

3. Reserve dental officers serving on active duty and receiving special pay under the authority of paragraph K.2. and 37 USC 302f, are not entitled to the special pay described in paragraph K.1.

Table 1.

FY 2006 DOMRB Pay Rates				
Length of Agreement	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**
4-year agreement	$50,000	$40,000	$35,000	$15,000
3-year agreement	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000	$8,000
2-year agreement	$8,000	$8,000	$8,000	$6,000

Table 2.

FY 2006 DOMRB Pay Levels	
Eligible Specialties	**FY 2006 Level**
Oral-Maxillofacial Surgeons	1
Comprehensive/Operative Dentistry	2
Endodontics	2
Prosthodontics	2
Orthodontics	3
Oral Pathology/Oral Diagnosis/Oral Medicine	3
Pediatric Dentistry	3
Periodontics	3
Public Health Dentistry	3
Temporomandibular Dysfunction (TMD)	3
Dental Research	3
Exodontia (Advanced Clinical Practice - ACP)	4
Endodontics (ACP)	4
General Dentistry (ACP)	4
Periodontics (ACP)	4
Prosthodontics (ACP)	4