

New Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Processing Procedures and Retired Pay Estimates.

Due to the Fiscal Year (FY) 13 manpower reductions and to improve processing efficiency, there has been a change in SBP processing procedures. The Fort Jackson Retirement Services Office (RSO) will no longer provide retirement pay estimates to retiring Soldiers. The Department of the Army Retirement Services Office now requires that Soldiers go to the MyArmyBenefits website at (<http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/>) to calculate their retired Pay and SBP premiums/annuities. The available calculators require a Common Access Card (CAC) and retrieve the Soldier's personal information to populate the information required for the appropriate calculations. As a result, the calculators provide a very good estimate based on each Soldier's personal information.

To further enhance and expedite the process, when the RSO electronically sends the retirement order to the retiring Soldier, the e-mail will include the above MyArmyBenefits website link as well as the link to view the SBP briefing slides (<http://www.armyg1.army.mil/rso/sbp.asp>). These slides must be reviewed by the Soldier and spouse (if applicable). The Soldier and spouse (if applicable) will then need to determine whether he/she will accept or decline to enroll in the SBP. If he/she decides to enroll, the Soldier will need to decide whether to take the full SBP amount or a reduced amount. The

MyArmyBenefits calculators will provide the cost estimates to make an informed decision. If the Soldier has any questions regarding the SBP, he/she may call the RSO at (803) 751-6715/5523 or e-mail: usarmy.jackson.imcom-hq.mbx.dhr-rso@mail.mil. When the Soldier and spouse (if applicable) attend the scheduled SBP appointment with the RSO, the Soldier must have obtained their own estimates and made a decision on their SBP benefits prior to arrival.

Also, if a Soldier arrives for the SBP appointment and has not completed the required on-line estimate, the Soldier will be provided usage of a computer to access the MyArmyBenefits calculators and SBP briefing slides to make the necessary decision. The SBP appointment with the RSO will then be rescheduled until a later date when the required decision regarding SBP has been made.

For more information, please contact the Fort Jackson RSO at (803) 751-6715/5523 or e-mail: usarmy.jackson.imcom-hq.mbx.dhr-rso@mail.mil.