



NEWS RELEASE

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE
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DFAS prepares March Stop Loss payments for April; ready to process retro payments

ARLINGTON, VA (April 9, 2009) -- The Defense Finance and Accounting Service announced completion of all actions to permit processing of future Stop Loss Special Pay entitlements. The special pay for March 2009 was included in the 1 April paychecks of qualifying service members.

The use of Stop Loss, the involuntary extension of military members scheduled to be separated or retired during periods of national security concerns, is currently being phased out by the military services, which will retain the authority to employ the process during future extraordinary circumstances. (See the Department of Defense press release at <http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=12564>).

The Stop Loss Special Pay was authorized in the 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations Bill (Public Law 110-329) and entitles military members affected by Stop Loss during Fiscal Year 2009 to be paid \$500 per month for each month they are retained on active duty beyond their enlistment retirement date or period of obligated service.

DFAS military pay managers and systems technicians developed procedures to pay with the Defense Joint Military Pay System so the first payments earned in March are in the April 2009 paychecks.. Thereafter, payments will be made each month for members qualifying for this special pay the preceding month.

DFAS is also prepared to process retroactive pay entitlements for the period Oct. 1, 2008, to Feb. 28, 2009, once Stop Loss data is provided by affected branches of the Armed Forces.

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About DFAS

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service provides responsive, professional finance and accounting services to the men and women who defend America. DFAS pays about 6 million people and in the FY 2008 made 7.5 million travel payments, paid 14.4 million commercial invoices, made \$591 billion in disbursements to pay recipients, and managed \$394 billion in military retirement and health benefits funds. For more about DFAS visit <http://www.dfas.mil>.