



DECIPHERING THE DD-214

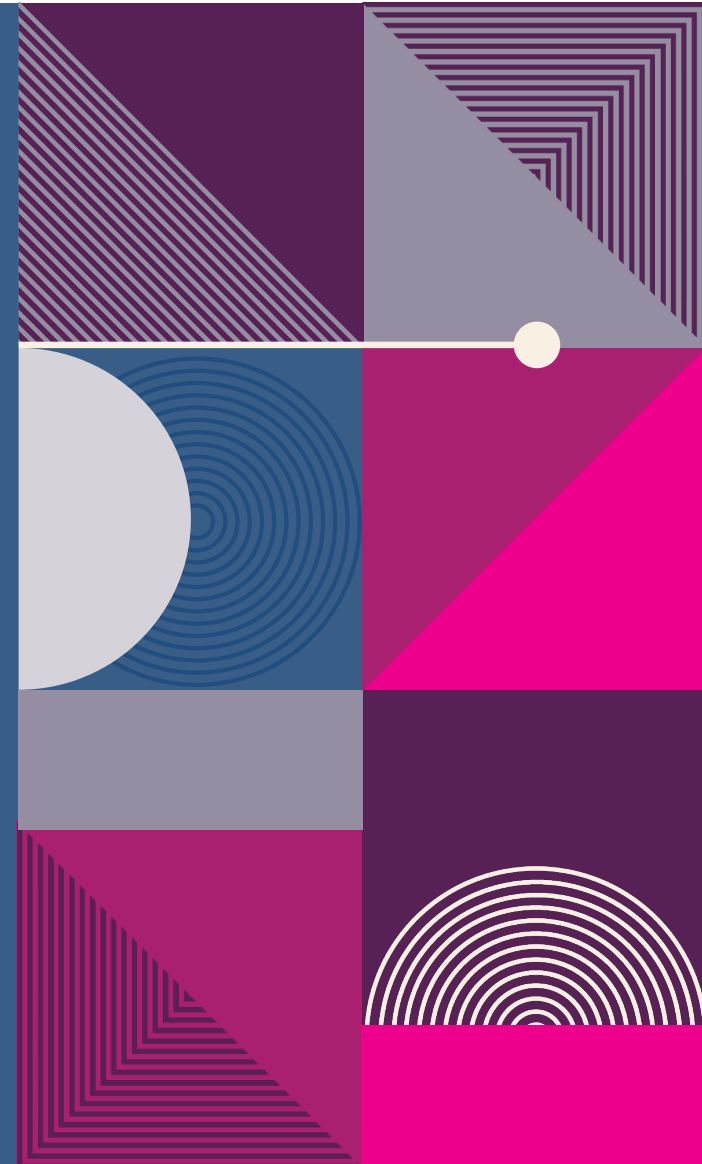


WHAT IS A DD-214?

A DD214, also known as a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, is a form provided by the Department of Defense to all veterans, when they leave the military. It serves as proof of military service and is used by all branches.

INFORMATION FOUND ON A DD-214

- Date veteran entered active duty
- Mailing address at time of separation from active duty
- Place veteran was stationed at time of separation from active duty
- Veteran's rank at time of separation from active duty
- Veteran's MOS (their job) in the military
- Military education completed during time in service
- Decorations and awards earned during time in service
- Total time served
- Any foreign service
- Separation information (why they separated, was their service honorable, are they eligible to re-enlist)




WHAT IS A DD-214 REQUIRED FOR?

Generally, a DD214 is needed for the following:

- VA Home Loan
- Hiring Preference
- Membership for Veteran Service Organizations (VFW, American Legion...)
- Veteran Specific Burial Options
- Financial Aid/VA Education Benefits
- Access to Veteran Specific Services
- VA Health Care





TYPES OF DD-214 FORMS THAT YOU MIGHT ENCOUNTER

- Member 1 Copy - This version is also called the short form, or deleted copy - it omits a large amount of information, such as character of service and reason for separation
- Member 4 Copy - This version is also called the long form, or undeleted copy - it contains the most robust amount of information, and typically would be the version used to verify a veteran's service because most veteran entitlements hinge on honorable service
- Service 2 Copy - If a veteran loses their DD-214 and orders a copy from the National Archives, they will receive a Service 2 version. It holds all the relevant information housed in the Member 4 copy

THE DD-214 AND FINANCIAL AID

CAUTION: NOT TO BE USED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES		THIS IS AN IMPORTANT RECORD. SAFEGUARD IT.		ANY ALTERATIONS IN SHADED AREAS RENDER FORM VOID	
CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE DUTY					
1. NAME (Last, First, Middle) [REDACTED]		2. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH ARMY/ARNGUS		3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]	
4a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK SSG	b. PAY GRADE SSG	5. DATE OF BIRTH (YYYYMMDD) 19731229	6. RESERVE OBLIGATION TERMINATION DATE (YYYYMMDD) 00000000		
7a. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE DUTY PITTLAND, CALIFORNIA		b. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY (City and state, or complete address if known) 744 HILLMONT ST SANTA ROSA CALIFORNIA 95409-0000			
8a. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND 0235ENHAPPER FC		b. STATION WHERE SEPARATED CAMP SHELBY, MS 39407			
9. COMMAND TO WHICH TRANSFERRED CA ARNG		10. SOLI COVERAGE AMOUNT: \$400,000.00		NONE	
11. PRIMARY SPECIALTY (List number, title and years and months in specialty. List additional specialty numbers and titles involving periods of one or more years.) 21E3G COMBAT ENGINEER - 17 YRS 5 MOS//NOTHING FOLLOWS		12. RECORD OF SERVICE			
		a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD 2008 11 28			
		b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD 2009 12 27			
		c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD 0001 01 00			
		d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE 0001 00 00			
		e. TOTAL PRIOR INACTIVE SERVICE SEE BLOCK #18			
		f. FOREIGN SERVICE 0000 09 20			
		g. SEA SERVICE 0000 00 00			
		h. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE 2007 10 11			
13. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED (All periods of service (year is omitted)) BRONZE STAR MEDAL//ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL//ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL (3RD AWARD)//ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (2ND AWARD)//NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL WITH BRONZE STAR//ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL (2ND AWARD)//AFGHANISTAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/ TWO CAMPAIGN STARS//GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM SERVICE//CONT IN BLOCK 18		14. MILITARY EDUCATION (Course title, number of weeks, and month and year is omitted) COMBAT LIFESAVER COURSE, 1 WEEK, 2008//NOTHING FOLLOWS			
15a. MEMBER CONTRIBUTED TO POST-VIETNAM ERA VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM		YES		X NO	
b. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR EQUIVALENT		X YES		NO	
16. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID ()	17. MEMBER WAS PROVIDED COMPLETE DENTAL EXAMINATION AND ALL APPROPRIATE DENTAL SERVICES AND TREATMENT WITHIN 90 DAYS PRIOR TO SEPARATION				
	YES NO X				
18. REMARKS DO FORM 215 WILL BE ISSUED TO PROVIDE MISSING INFORMATION//SERVED IN A DESIGNATED IMMINENT DANGER PAY AREA//SERVICE IN AFGHANISTAN 20090201-20091120//ITEM 12D ABOVE DOES NOT ACCOUNT FOR ANNUAL AND/OR WEEKEND TRAINING THIS SOLDIER MAY HAVE ACCOMPLISHED PRIOR TO DATE ENTERED IN ITEM 12A//INDIVIDUAL COMPLETED PERIOD FOR WHICH ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR PURPOSE OF POST SERVICE BENEFITS AND ENTITLEMENTS//ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM IAW 10 USC 12302//MEMBER HAS COMPLETED FIRST FULL TERM OF SERVICE//DUMRA TAKEN = 6 DAYS//CONT FROM BLOCK 13: MEDAL//NON COMMISSIONED OFFICER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RIBBON//ARMY SERVICE RIBBON//OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON//ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL W/ M DEVICE (2ND AWARD)//NATO MEDAL//COMBAT ACTION BADGE//DRIVER AND MCH BADGE WITH DRIVER - TRACKED VEHICLE(S) CLASS//NOTHING FOLLOWS					
This information contained herein is subject to computer matching within the Department of Defense or with any other affected Federal or non-Federal agency for verification purposes and to determine eligibility for, and/or continued compliance with, the requirements of a Federal benefit program.					
19a. MAILING ADDRESS AFTER SEPARATION (Include ZIP Code) 744 HILLMONT ST SANTA ROSA CALIFORNIA 95409-0000		b. NEAREST RELATIVE (Name and address - include ZIP Code) MANUELA AD HALL 744 HILLMONT ST SANTA ROSA CALIFORNIA 95409-0000			
20. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4 BE SENT TO CA		DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS		X YES NO	
21. SIGNATURE OF MEMBER BEING SEPARATED DIGITALLY SIGNED BY: HILL.ERIC.WAYNE.1169145195		22. OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN (Typed name, grade, title and signature) DIGITALLY SIGNED BY: SSSUMS.LAURIS.GROGAN.1185475081 LAURIS G SSSUMS, SFC, QUALITY CONTROL OFFICER			
SPECIAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (For use by authorized agencies only)					
23. TYPE OF SEPARATION RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY		24. CHARACTER OF SERVICE (include upgrades) SEPARABLE			
25. SEPARATION AUTHORITY AR 635-200, CHAP 4		26. SEPARATION CODE MEK		27. REENTRY CODE N/A	
28. NARRATIVE REASON FOR SEPARATION COMPLETION OF REQUIRED ACTIVE SERVICE					
29. DATES OF TIME LOST DURING THIS PERIOD (YYYYMMDD) NONE		30. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4 (N/A) YES			
DD FORM 214-AUTOMATED, FEB 2000 PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE SERVICE-2					



FOR DEPENDENCY PURPOSES

The student is a veteran if:

- Has engaged in active duty, including basic training in the U.S. Armed Forces;
- Was a National Guard/Reserves enlistee who was called to active duty for other than state or training purposes;
- Was a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, or
- Is not a veteran at the time of FAFSA filing but will be a veteran before June 30 of the award year covered by the FAFSA.

Keeping in mind, except for point #4, to qualify to apply for aid as an independent, the student must first be released or discharged from military service.



FOR DEPENDENCY PURPOSES

The student is **not** a veteran if:

- Currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and will continue to serve through the end of the award year covered by the FAFSA;
- Has never engaged in active-duty training (including basic training);
- Is currently a Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) student or cadet, or a midshipman at a service academy;
- Is a National Guard/Reserves enlistee activated only for state or training purposes; or
- Was engaged in active duty in the U.S. armed forces but released under **dishonorable** conditions.

Keeping in mind, only “dishonorable” means dishonorable. All other statuses, including “other than honorable,” means the student is independent if they meet the other criteria for veteran status for Title IV purposes.



FOR DEPENDENCY PURPOSES

Basic Training/Bootcamp Counts as active duty service for members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and for those who attended a U.S. military academy, or military academy preparatory school, if the condition of discharge is characterized as **anything** other than “dishonorable.”

There is **no minimum** amount of time the student must have served to be a veteran – **even one day counts**, including for basic training/bootcamp, if it was for active service.

Basic training does **not count** as active duty service for members of the U.S. National Guard or Reserves. To be considered a veteran for dependency purposes, the actual service must include being called up to active duty service. This means these applicants will need to have completed basic training **and** served some period of active duty service, regardless of how long, to qualify as an independent student.

CAUTION: NOT TO BE USED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES THIS IS AN IMPORTANT RECORD. SAFEGUARD IT. ANY ALTERATIONS IN SHADED AREAS RENDER FORM VOID

CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE DUTY

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle) [REDACTED]		2. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH ARMY/ARJCS		3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]																												
4a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK SSG	b. PAY GRADE E05	5. DATE OF BIRTH (YYYYMMDD) 19731220	6. RESERVE OBLIGATION TERMINATION DATE (YYYYMMDD) 00000000																													
7a. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE DUTY DETALUNA, CALIFORNIA		b. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY (City and state, or complete address if known) 744 HILLMONT ST SANTA ROSA CALIFORNIA 95409-0000																														
8a. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND 0235ENSADDER FC		b. STATION WHERE SEPARATED CAMP SHELBY, MS 39407																														
9. COMMAND TO WHICH TRANSFERRED CA ARNG		10. SGLI COVERAGE AMOUNT: \$400,000.00		NONE <input type="checkbox"/>																												
11. PRIMARY SPECIALTY (List number, title and years and months in specialty. List additional specialty numbers and titles involving periods of one or more years.) 21B30 COMBAT ENGINEER - 17 YRS 5 MOS//NOTHING FOLLOWS		12. RECORD OF SERVICE																														
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR(S)</th> <th>MONTH(S)</th> <th>DAYS(S)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD</td> <td>2008</td> <td>11 28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD</td> <td>2009</td> <td>12 27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD</td> <td>0001</td> <td>01 00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE</td> <td>0001</td> <td>00 00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. TOTAL PRIOR INACTIVE SERVICE</td> <td>SEE</td> <td>BLOCK #18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>f. FOREIGN SERVICE</td> <td>0000</td> <td>09 20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>g. SEA SERVICE</td> <td>0000</td> <td>00 00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>h. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE</td> <td>2007</td> <td>10 11</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				YEAR(S)	MONTH(S)	DAYS(S)	a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD	2008	11 28	b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD	2009	12 27	c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD	0001	01 00	d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE	0001	00 00	e. TOTAL PRIOR INACTIVE SERVICE	SEE	BLOCK #18	f. FOREIGN SERVICE	0000	09 20	g. SEA SERVICE	0000	00 00	h. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE	2007	10 11
YEAR(S)	MONTH(S)	DAYS(S)																														
a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD	2008	11 28																														
b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD	2009	12 27																														
c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD	0001	01 00																														
d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE	0001	00 00																														
e. TOTAL PRIOR INACTIVE SERVICE	SEE	BLOCK #18																														
f. FOREIGN SERVICE	0000	09 20																														
g. SEA SERVICE	0000	00 00																														
h. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE	2007	10 11																														
13. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED (All periods of service) BRONZE STAR MEDAL//ARMY COMMEMORATION MEDAL//ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL (3RD AWARD)//ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (2ND AWARD)//NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL WITH KNIGHT STAR//ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL (2ND AWARD)//AFGHANISTAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/ TWO CAMPAIGN STARS//GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM SERVICE//CONT IN BLOCK 18		14. MILITARY EDUCATION (Course title, number of weeks, and month and year completed) COMBAT LIFESAVER COURSE, 1 WEEK, 2008//NOTHING FOLLOWS																														
15a. MEMBER CONTRIBUTED TO POST-VIETNAM ERA VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM		b. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR EQUIVALENT		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>																												
16. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID ()	17. MEMBER WAS PROVIDED COMPLETE DENTAL EXAMINATION AND ALL APPROPRIATE DENTAL SERVICES AND TREATMENT WITHIN 90 DAYS PRIOR TO SEPARATION		YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																													
18. REMARKS DD FORM 215 WILL BE ISSUED TO PROVIDE MISSING INFORMATION//SERVED IN A DESIGNATED IMMINENT DANGER PAY AREA//SERVICE IN AFGHANISTAN 20090201-20091120//ITEM 12D ABOVE DOES NOT ACCOUNT FOR ANNUAL AND/OR WEEKEND TRAINING THIS SOLDIER MAY HAVE ACCOMPLISHED PRIOR TO DATE ENTERED IN ITEM 12A//INDIVIDUAL COMPLETED PERIOD FOR WHICH ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR PURPOSE OF POST SERVICE BENEFITS AND ENTITLEMENTS//ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM IAW 10 USC 12302//MEMBER HAS COMPLETED FIRST FULL TERM OF SERVICE//COMRA TAKEN - 6 DAYS.//CONT FROM BLOCK 13: MEDAL//NON COMMISSIONED OFFICER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RIBBON//ARMY SERVICE RIBBON//OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON//ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL W/ M DEVICE (2ND AWARD)//NAPO MEDAL//COMBAT ACTION BADGE//DRIVER AND MCH BADGE WITH DRIVER - TRACKED VEHICLE(S) CLASS//NOTHING FOLLOWS																																

This information contained herein is subject to computer matching within the Department of Defense or with any other affected Federal or non-Federal agency for verification purposes and to determine eligibility for, and/or continued compliance with, the requirements of a Federal benefit program.

19a. MAILING ADDRESS AFTER SEPARATION (Include ZIP Code) 744 HILLMONT ST SANTA ROSA CALIFORNIA 95409-0000	b. NEAREST RELATIVE (Name and address - include ZIP Code) MANUELA AB HALL 744 HILLMONT ST SANTA ROSA CALIFORNIA 95409-0000
20. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 6 BE SENT TO CA	DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
21. SIGNATURE OF MEMBER BEING SEPARATED DIGITALLY SIGNED BY: HILL, ERIC WAYNE.1169145195	22. OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN (Typed name, grade, title and signature) DIGITALLY SIGNED BY: SESSUMS, LAURIS, GROCAN.1185475081 LAURIS G SESSUMS, SFC, QUALITY CONTROL OFFICER

SPECIAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (For use by authorized agencies only)

23. TYPE OF SEPARATION RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY	24. CHARACTER OF SERVICE (include upgrades) HONORABLE
25. SEPARATION AUTHORITY AR 635-200, CHAP 4	26. SEPARATION CODE NEK
27. REENTRY CODE 23A	28. NARRATIVE REASON FOR SEPARATION COMPLETION OF REQUIRED ACTIVE SERVICE
29. DATES OF TIME LOST DURING THIS PERIOD (YYYYMMDD) NONE	30. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4 (include SSN) NONE

DD FORM 214-AUTOMATED, FEB 2000

PRECEDS EDITION IS OBSOLETE

SERVICE-2

CAUTION: NOT TO BE USED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES THIS IS AN IMPORTANT RECORD. SAFEGUARD IT. ANY ALTERATIONS IN SHADED AREAS RENDER FORM VOID

CERTIFICATE OF UNIFORMED SERVICE

When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, and DoD 5400.11-R, DoD Privacy Program.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle) [REDACTED]		2. BRANCH AND COMPONENT AIR FORCE-REGAF		3. DOD ID NUMBER [REDACTED] 4. SERIAL NUMBER: [REDACTED]																																		
5a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK AB	b. PAY GRADE E1	6. DATE OF BIRTH (YYYYMMDD) 20021015																																				
7a. MILITARY SERVICE OBLIGATION TERMINATION DATE (YYYYMMDD) N/A	b. RESERVE STATUS FOR OBLIGATION (SELRES/AR) N/A	c. CONTACT PHONE NUMBER (Civilian) 707-548-0160	d. CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS (Civilian) BRSR2002@GMAIL.COM																																			
8a. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE DUTY SACRAMENTO CA		b. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY (City and state, or complete address if known) SANTA ROSA CA																																				
9a. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND 737 TRAINING SUPPORT SQ (AETC)		b. STATION WHERE SEPARATED JBSA LACKLAND TX		11. SGLI COVERAGE <input type="checkbox"/> NONE																																		
10. COMMAND TO WHICH TRANSFERRED N/A		AMOUNT: \$500,000																																				
12. SPECIALTY (List number, title, and years and months in specialties involving periods of one or more years.) 9T000, BASIC ENLISTED AIRMAN, 0 YEARS AND 1 MONTH.		13. RECORD OF SERVICE																																				
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR(S)</th> <th>MONTH(S)</th> <th>DAYS(S)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD</td> <td>2024</td> <td>APR 30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD</td> <td>2024</td> <td>JUN 28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD</td> <td>00</td> <td>01 27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE</td> <td>00</td> <td>00 00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE</td> <td>00</td> <td>01 27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>f. TOTAL INACTIVE SERVICE</td> <td>00</td> <td>00 26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>g. FOREIGN SERVICE</td> <td>00</td> <td>00 00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>h. SEA SERVICE</td> <td>00</td> <td>00 00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>i. INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING</td> <td>2024</td> <td>APR 30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>j. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE</td> <td>2024</td> <td>APR 30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				YEAR(S)	MONTH(S)	DAYS(S)	a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD	2024	APR 30	b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD	2024	JUN 28	c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD	00	01 27	d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE	00	00 00	e. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE	00	01 27	f. TOTAL INACTIVE SERVICE	00	00 26	g. FOREIGN SERVICE	00	00 00	h. SEA SERVICE	00	00 00	i. INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING	2024	APR 30	j. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE	2024	APR 30
YEAR(S)	MONTH(S)	DAYS(S)																																				
a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD	2024	APR 30																																				
b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD	2024	JUN 28																																				
c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD	00	01 27																																				
d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE	00	00 00																																				
e. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE	00	01 27																																				
f. TOTAL INACTIVE SERVICE	00	00 26																																				
g. FOREIGN SERVICE	00	00 00																																				
h. SEA SERVICE	00	00 00																																				
i. INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING	2024	APR 30																																				
j. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE	2024	APR 30																																				
14. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED (All periods of service) NONE		15. UNIFORMED SERVICE EDUCATION (Course title, number of weeks, and month and year completed) NONE																																				
16. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID 2.5		17. MEMBER WAS PROVIDED COMPLETE DENTAL EXAMINATION AND ALL APPROPRIATE DENTAL SERVICES AND TREATMENT WITHIN 90 DAYS PRIOR TO SEPARATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO																																				
18. RETIREMENT SYSTEM OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH-3 <input type="checkbox"/> REDUX <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BRS		19. DD214-1 (Accompanies this DD214) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO																																				
20. REMARKS MEMBER HAS NOT COMPLETED BASIC MILITARY TRAINING NOTHING FOLLOWS																																						

The information contained herein is subject to computer matching within the Department of Defense or with any other affected Federal or non-Federal agency for verification purposes and to determine eligibility for, and/or continued compliance with, the requirements of a Federal benefit program.

21a. MAILING ADDRESS AFTER SEPARATION (Include ZIP Code) 2027 BEDFORD ST SANTA ROSA CA 95404	21b. NEAREST RELATIVE (Name and address - include ZIP Code) SANTOS CHAVEZ SANCHEZ 1505 16TH STREET HONOLULU HI 96811
22. MEMBER REQUESTS DATA SHARE WITH (Specify state/facility) OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
23a. MEMBER SIGNATURE MEMBER NOT AVAILABLE TO SIGN	23b. DATE (YYYYMMDD) N/A
24. OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN	
a. NAME, GRADE AND TITLE GS-05, USAF, HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT	b. SIGNATURE CACPH signed by LUNA YOLANDA E. 1130513382 on Jun 25 2024 7:23:50 PM UTC. CAC Serial Number: 07338A; Issued On: DOD ID-CA42
c. DATE (YYYYMMDD) 20240625	

SPECIAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (For use by authorized agencies only)

25. TYPE OF SEPARATION ENTRY LEVEL SEPARATION	26. CHARACTER OF SERVICE UNCHARACTERIZED
27. SEPARATION AUTHORITY DAFI 36-3211	28. SEPARATION CODE JFC
29. REENTRY CODE 2C	30. NARRATIVE REASON FOR SEPARATION ERRONEOUS ENTRY
31. DATES OF TIME LOST DURING THIS PERIOD (YYYYMMDD) NONE	

DD FORM 214, FEB 2022

PRECEDS EDITION IS OBSOLETE

SERVICE

Page 1 of 1

WHAT ABOUT THE DISCHARGE CHARACTER?

There are 6 types of discharge character that can be found on a DD-214, which understandably can lead to confusion over whether a veteran qualifies for specific services, and in the case of FA, qualifies as an independent.

To avoid confusion, go back to what was outlined earlier:

“only ‘dishonorable’ means dishonorable. All other statuses, including “other than honorable,” means the student is independent if they meet the other criteria for veteran status for Title IV purposes.”

- Honorable (✓)
- Under honorable conditions (✓)
- General under Honorable Conditions (✓)
- Other than Honorable (✓)
- Bad Conduct (✓)
- Dishonorable (✗)
- Entry Level or Non-Characterized (✓)



ON THE HORIZON FOR NATIONAL GUARD & RESERVES MEMBERS

- Up to this point, Guard and Reserves members only received a DD-214 if they had accumulated more than 90 days of active duty service.
- In 2022, DoD notified all service branches they would have until 2025 to implement the DD-214-1 for separating/retiring Guard & Reserves members.
- If a Guard or Reserves member serves more than 90 days on active duty, they will continue to receive the standard DD-214, rather than the new DD-214-1.
- In the interim, there are alternate forms available to Guard/Reserves members to verify their time on active duty.

HOW TO HELP A VETERAN WHO HAS LOST THEIR DD-214

If a financial aid professional encounters a student who completed their FAFSA as an independent, under the provision of veteran status, who has lost their DD-214, they can assist the student by pointing them to the following resources:

- The National Archives:

<https://vetrecs.archives.gov/VeteranRequest/home.html>

- Sonoma County Veterans Service Office:

3725 Westwind Blvd, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

(707) 565-5960



SOURCES USED

Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), as amended, [20 USC 1087VV]

38 USC 101(21)-(23)

National Archives:

<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/about-service-records>

<https://vetrecs.archives.gov/VeteranRequest/home.html>

Wikipedia:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DD_Form_214#:~:text=A%20DD%20Form%20214/215,See%20also

National Guard Association of the United States:

<https://www.ngaus.org/newsroom/new-policy-provides-dd-214-guardsmen-end-service>