

FY22 Aviation Bonus Update

12 January 2022

Fellow Airmen,

The Air Force values its Airmen through the entirety of their service and designs opportunities such as the Aviation Bonus (AvB) Program to retain the proper inventory of aviators to preserve mission readiness and meet Air Force rated requirements.

The FY22 program is expected to be rolled out early 2022, with timing largely contingent on availability of funding for the program. AvB authority in NDAA was granted 5 January 2022, but funding for the program is not yet appropriated. Some areas being examined for possible improvements are contract lengths and monetary incentives. Per NDAA Title 37 Section 334, the program is capped at \$35,000 annually, and is restricted to Airmen within 365 days of UFT ADSC expiration.

The AvB is a talent management tool that is tailored annually to meet the needs of the Air Force. Retention targets are not based on manning percentages alone, but rather multiple career health stressors such as: crew qualification imbalances; absorption challenges brought on by increased production; aircraft modifications, divestiture, and onboarding; increasing institutional requirements for more experienced pilots to serve outside of the cockpit; and economic trends.

Additionally, the Air Force is working diligently to further improve the AvB program to meet the needs of both the Air Force and those of its Airmen as the defense and civilian aviation environments continue to evolve. Some significant and positive changes are on the table starting in FY23.

The Air Force will provide eligible Airmen accurate and timely information on the FY22 and the future of the program as it becomes available.

Please direct questions to Lt Col Andrew J. Stewart, Chief, Rated Force Policy at andrew.stewart.2@us.af.mil or Col Alexander B. Fafinski, Chief, Total Force Aircrew Management at alexander.fafinski@us.af.mil.

Thank you for all you do for our Air Force.

ALBERT G. MILLER, Maj Gen, USAF
Director of the Aircrew Task Force (HAF/ACTF)

TROY E. DUNN, Maj Gen, USAF
Director of Military Force Management Policy
(HAF/A1P)

