

U. S. Coast Guard Reserve Fact Sheet

Active Duty for Operational Support (ADOS)

Background:

Active Duty for Operational Support (ADOS) is a type of active duty that provides a means for commands to augment regular forces with Reserve Component members on voluntary active duty under 10 U.S.C. 12301(d). Under ADOS orders, reservists provide the necessary skilled manpower to support existing or emerging requirements. The demand for ADOS has increased dramatically since 2001 (9/11), most notably for contingencies, including Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, Hurricane Katrina, Deepwater Horizon, and others. ADOS has also been used to augment Active forces for the Port Security Grant Program, Border Security Initiative, Maritime Force Protection Units (MFPU) stand-up and other events and initiatives. During the past 10 years, there have been drastic changes in benefits and entitlements as well as data and personnel management systems. The new ADOS Instruction provides updated policy and guidance to workforce managers, operational commanders, and individual reservists to support Coast Guard readiness through a flexible, scalable, deliberate system of resource allocation, tracking, and consequence management.

Today's operating environment is highly dynamic and requires a flexible and adaptive workforce.

The Office of Reserve Affairs (CG-131) is responsible for Coast Guard policy governing ADOS and its alignment with applicable statutes, Department of Defense (DoD) policies and guidance, and specific Coast Guard authorities. The new ADOS Instruction (COMDTINST 1330.1D) documents and updates policy, organizational responsibilities, and individual expectations for ADOS utilization by the Coast Guard. This policy is a replacement for COMDTINST 1330.1C, which was promulgated in 1989.

Key Points:

- ADOS may be used for situations requiring special skills that cannot be satisfied by onboard resources; when supplemental resources are necessary to meet temporary, peak, new, or one-time requirements; or when surge requirements in support of operations or domestic disaster response exceed the capacity of the unit or program.
- Reservists are limited to not more than 1,095 days of any type of ADOS out of the previous 1,460 days. The 1,460-day window is a rolling period calculated on a day-for-day basis.
- Short-Term ADOS is limited to not more than 180 consecutive days whether as a single set of orders or multiple sets of orders. Short-term ADOS orders that total 180 days in any 365 day period shall have a break of 31 days or more between subsequent sets of orders.
- ADOS orders require PSC-rpm pre-approval if the performance of ADOS will result in a reservist accumulating 16 years or more of combined active duty.
- A reservist, who accumulates 20 or more years total active duty, shall normally request retirement no later than six months prior to the end of the orders under which a regular retirement was earned.
- Reservists must meet all participation and personal readiness requirements to be eligible to perform ADOS.
- Reservists who have not completed Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) are not eligible to perform ADOS.
- Long Term ADOS is allocated annually as Full Time Equivalent (FTE) and distributed to Coast Guard programs or commands. Sponsoring programs or commands shall not exceed their annual allocation.
- Long term non-contingency non-reimbursable ADOS requirements that will exist (or have existed) for three consecutive years or more will not be authorized annual FTE. This limitation does not apply to ADOS performed in support of a contingency operation or a reimbursable agreement.