

1971—Pub. L. 92-168, §3(2), Nov. 24, 1971, 85 Stat. 489, struck out item 8692 “Pilot rating in time of peace: qualifications”.

1968—Pub. L. 90-235, §§6(a)(5), 7(a)(6), (b)(6), Jan. 2, 1968, 81 Stat. 762, 763, struck out items 8682 “Service credit: officers; service as cadet not counted”, 8685 “Regular Air Force; Air Force Reserve: female members; definition of ‘dependents’”, 8690 “Exemption from arrest for debt: enlisted members”, and 8693 “Replacement of certificates of discharge”.

1958—Pub. L. 85-861, §1(189), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1534, struck out items 8681 “Air Force Register: Regular Air Force officers; service to be listed” and 8688 “Death gratuity”.

**§ 9251. Presentation of United States flag upon retirement**

(a) PRESENTATION OF FLAG.—Upon the release of a member of the Air Force or the Space Force from active duty for retirement, the Secretary of the Air Force shall present a United States flag to the member.

(b) MULTIPLE PRESENTATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED.—A member is not eligible for a presentation of a flag under subsection (a) if the member has previously been presented a flag under this section or any other provision of law providing for the presentation of a United States flag incident to release from active service for retirement.

(c) NO COST TO RECIPIENT.—The presentation of a flag under this section shall be at no cost to the recipient.

(Added Pub. L. 105-261, div. A, title VI, §644(c)(1), Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 2049, §8681; amended Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title VI, §652(e), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 666; renumbered §9251, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §806(b)(9), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, §923(c)(9), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3811.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-283 inserted “or the Space Force” after “member of the Air Force”.

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 8681 of this title as this section.

1999—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106-65 substituted “under this section or any other provision of law providing for the presentation of a United States flag incident to release from active service for retirement.” for “under this section or section 3681 or 6141 of this title or section 516 of title 14.”

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable with respect to releases from active duty described in this section, sections 7251 and 8261 of this title, and section 2748 of Title 14, Coast Guard, on or after Oct. 1, 1998, see section 644(e) of Pub. L. 105-261, set out as a note under section 7251 of this title.

**§ 9252. Service credit: regular enlisted members; service as an officer to be counted as enlisted service**

An enlisted member of the Regular Air Force or the Space Force is entitled to count active service as an officer in the Air Force, in the Space Force, and in the Army, as enlisted service for all purposes.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 535, §8684; renumbered §9252, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §806(b)(9), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, §923(c)(10), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3811; Pub. L. 118-31, div. A, title XVII, §1721(a)(4), Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 665.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
8684 .....	10:631a (last proviso).	July 14, 1939, ch. 267, §1 (last proviso); restated May 29, 1954, ch. 249, §19(b) (last proviso), 68 Stat. 166.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2023—Pub. L. 118-31 struck out “Regular” before “Space Force is entitled”.

2021—Pub. L. 116-283 inserted “or the Regular Space Force” after “Regular Air Force” and “in the Space Force,” after “in the Air Force.”

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 8684 of this title as this section.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

**§ 9253. Flying officer rating: qualifications**

Only officers of the Air Force in the following categories may be rated as flying officers:

- (1) Officers who have aeronautical ratings as pilots of service types of aircraft or as aircraft observers.
- (2) Flight surgeons.
- (3) Officers undergoing flight training.
- (4) Officers who are members of combat crews, other than pilots of service types of aircraft, aircraft observers, and observers.
- (5) In time of war, officers who have aeronautical ratings as observers.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 538, §8691; renumbered §9253, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §806(b)(9), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
8691 .....	10:291c. 10:291c-1. 10:291e.	June 3, 1916, ch. 134, §13a (8th, 9th, and 11th provisos); added July 2, 1926, ch. 721, §2 (4th sentence, less 2d proviso), 44 Stat. 781; June 16, 1936, ch. 587, §3, 49 Stat. 1524; Oct. 4, 1940, ch. 742 (last proviso), 54 Stat. 963.