

As the December 3 deadline to apply for special retroactive stop-loss pay approaches, Gus is encouraging eligible service members and veterans to [contact the Department of Defense](#) for information about receiving benefits.

Military members whose service was involuntarily extended under stop-loss between September 11, 2001, and September 30, 2009, are eligible for additional benefits.

Stop-loss allows the military to extend servicemembers whose end-of-term of service, retirement or end-of-service obligation date falls during a deployment. They may be involuntarily extended until the end of their unit's deployment.

Eligible members or their beneficiaries are required to submit a claim to their respective military service in order to receive the benefit of \$500 for each full or partial month served in a stop-loss status.

“These service members were asked go to above and beyond their original plans for serving our country and I want to make sure they receive all the benefits they're entitled to,” Gus said. “We must continue supporting and helping our nation's heroes.”

An estimated 80,000 eligible service members, veterans and beneficiaries have yet to apply. The program was due to expire on October 21, but was extended until December 3.

For more information, and to apply, [click here](#) .