



# RRB News

## U.S. Railroad Retirement Board

844 North Rush Street Chicago, Illinois 60611-1275

[www.rrb.gov](http://www.rrb.gov)  
877-772-5772 general information

Public Affairs  
312-751-4777  
[opa@rrb.gov](mailto:opa@rrb.gov) media inquiries

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### RRB Issues Statements of Service

Each year, the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) prepares a Form BA-6, “Certificate of Service Months and Compensation,” for every railroad employee with creditable railroad compensation in the previous calendar year. The RRB will mail the forms to employees during the first half of June. Anyone with compensation reported in 2020 who has not received Form BA-6 by July 1, or who needs a replacement, should contact the RRB field office by calling toll-free at 1-877-772-5772.

Form BA-6 provides employees with a record of their railroad retirement service and compensation. The information shown is used to determine whether an employee qualifies for benefits and the amount of those benefits; therefore, it is important that employees review their Form BA-6 to see whether their own records of service months and creditable compensation agree with the form.

When reviewing the 2020 compensation total, employees should be aware that only annual earnings up to \$137,700 are creditable for railroad retirement purposes in that year, and that \$137,700 is the maximum amount shown on the form. The form also shows service credited on a month-by-month basis for 2019, 2018, and 2017, when the maximum creditable compensation was \$132,900, \$128,400, and \$127,200 respectively. The employer(s) reporting the employee’s 2020 service and compensation is identified on the BA-6.

Besides the months of service reported by employers, Form BA-6 shows the number of any additional service months deemed by the RRB. Deemed service months may be credited under certain conditions to an employee who did not work in all 12 months of the year, but had creditable tier II earnings exceeding the monthly proration of the creditable tier II earnings maximum for the year. However, the total reported and deemed service months may never exceed 12 in a calendar year, and no service months (reported or deemed), can be credited after retirement, severance, resignation, discharge, or death.

The BA-6 form also indicates the number of months of verified military service creditable as service under the Railroad Retirement Act, if the service was previously reported to the RRB. Employees are encouraged to submit proofs of age and/or military service in advance of their actual retirement. Filing these proofs with the RRB in advance will streamline the benefit application process and help prevent payment delays.

*(More)*

For employees who received separation or severance payments, the section of the form designated “Taxable Amount” shows the amounts of separation allowance or severance payments that were subject to railroad retirement tier II taxes. This information is shown on the form because a lump sum, approximating part or all of the tier II taxes deducted from such payments made after 1984, which did not provide additional tier II credits, may be payable by the RRB upon retirement to qualified employees or to survivors if the employee dies before retirement. The amount of an allowance included in an employee’s regular compensation is shown under “Compensation Amount.”

Form BA-6 also shows, in the section designated “Employee Contributions”, the cumulative amount of tier II railroad retirement payroll taxes paid by the employee over and above tier I social security equivalent payroll taxes. While the RRB does not collect or maintain payroll tax information, the agency computes this amount from its compensation records in order to advise retired employees of their payroll tax contributions for Federal income tax purposes.

A new addition to the form is a field in the lower-right corner of the form that indicates if the employee is eligible to claim unemployment or sickness benefits. At the same time, the RRB streamlined the form and explanatory information on the reverse, largely by providing detailed instructions for reviewing the form on the agency website at **RRB.gov/BA-6**.

There are instructions on the back of the form and the web page on how to file a protest if service and compensation totals are incorrect. The law limits, to four years, the period during which corrections to service and compensation amounts can be made. If personal information is incorrect or incomplete, such as the name, birthdate or address, the employee should contact an RRB field office to have it corrected. For most employees, the address of the RRB office serving their area is provided on the form along with the RRB’s nationwide toll-free number (1-877-772-5772).

**(Sample BA-6 next page)**

# # #



**U.S. RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD**  
**ERHARD CHORLÉ, JOHN BRAGG, THOMAS JAYNE**  
**MEMBERS**

CERTIFIED 01-08-2021

BA 9999 8282

KC JONES  
 123 MAIN ST  
 CENTRAL CITY, IL

**2020 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**  
**MONTHS AND COMPENSATION**  
 SERVICE AND COMPENSATION REPORTED  
 FOR PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020

BIRTH DATE	SEX
07-1970	F

**SERVICE AND COMPENSATION ON RECORD FOR REVIEW PERIOD**

YEAR	CREDITABLE COMPENSATION	SEPARATION ALLOWANCE/ SEVERANCE PAYMENT		SERVICE MONTHS PROFILE*												TOTAL		
		TAXABLE AMOUNT	COMPENSATION AMOUNT	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D			
2020	100,300.00			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
2019	96,500.00			1	1	1	1	1	1	D	D	1	1	1	1	1	12	
2018	87,250.00			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	
2017	24,800.00			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	04	

\*1 - A reported month; 0 - A month not reported; D - A "deemed" month

**CAREER TOTAL RETIREMENT RECORD**

CREDITABLE COMPENSATION	SEPARATION ALLOWANCE/ SEVERANCE PAYMENT		SERVICE MONTHS				EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS
	TAXABLE AMOUNT	COMPENSATION AMOUNT	REPORTED	DEEMED	MILITARY	TOTAL	
923,700.00			204	2	12	218	38,100.00

**YOUR 2020 REPORTING EMPLOYER(S)**

The service and compensation shown on this form for 2020 were gathered from a report(s) received from the following employer(s): **MIDWESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY**

**RRB OFFICE SERVING YOUR AREA**

123 CENTRAL AVENUE  
 WINDY CITY, IL 60000

PHONE (877) 772-5772

**2020 RUIA EARNINGS**

QUALIFIED	QUALIFYING EARNINGS
Y	\$19,860