



Federal Register

**Tuesday,
May 27, 2003**

Part XXXVIII

Office of Personnel Management

Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT (OPM)

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

5 CFR Ch. I

Regulatory Agenda

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Semiannual regulatory agenda.

SUMMARY: The following Office of Personnel Management (OPM) regulations are scheduled for development or review during the six-month period following publication. This agenda carries out OPM's

responsibilities to publish a semiannual agenda under Executive Order 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review," and the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 6). This publication in the **Federal Register** does not impose a binding obligation on the Office of Personnel Management with regard to any specific item on the agenda. Regulatory action in addition to the items listed is not precluded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jacqueline D. Carter, (202) 606-1973.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OPM has begun a comprehensive, systematic review of its Governmentwide

personnel regulations. OPM has undertaken this initiative to make the regulations more readable wherever possible, to eliminate duplication, and to weed out obsolete references. OPM will incorporate any necessary substantive changes as part of this project. OPM has begun publishing these regulations as proposed regulations and will as proposed regulations continue to do so as the project progresses.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Kay Coles James,
Director.

Office of Personnel Management—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3539	Posting Regulations	3206-AJ73
3540	Competitive Service and Competitive Status	3206-AJ75
3541	Strategic Human Capital Management Assessment	3206-AJ92
3542	Employment in the Excepted Service	3206-AH83
3543	Veterans Recruitment Appointments	3206-AJ90
3544	Probation on Initial Appointment to a Competitive Position	3206-AI47
3545	Temporary and Term Employment; Recruitment and Selection for Temporary and Term Appointments Outside the Register; Examining System and Training	3206-AJ93
3546	Amendment to Selective Service Registration Requirements	3206-AI52
3547	Merit Promotion and Internal Placement	3206-AI20
3548	Other Than Full-Time Employment (Part-Time, Seasonal, Intermittent)	3206-AI22
3549	Order of Release from Competitive Level	3206-AI96
3550	Reemployment Rights	3206-AI19
3551	Information Technology Exchange Program	3206-AJ91
3552	Training	3206-AJ19
3553	Performance Management	3206-AJ80
3554	Personnel Management Research Programs and Demonstration Projects	3206-AJ67
3555	Classification Under the General Schedule	3206-AH38
3556	Miscellaneous Changes and Standardization of Pay and Leave Regulations	3206-AJ85
3557	Superior Qualifications Appointments	3206-AI00
3558	Job Grading Reviews and Appeals of Federal Wage System Employees	3206-AI14
3559	Prevailing Rate Systems; Redefinition of the North Dakota and Duluth, Minnesota, Appropriated Fund Wage Areas	3206-AJ78
3560	Prevailing Rate Systems; Change in Federal Wage System Survey Job and Miscellaneous Change	3206-AJ79
3561	Reemployment of Civilian Retirees To Meet Exceptional Employment Needs	3206-AI32
3562	List of Agents Designated to Accept Legal Process	3206-AJ83
3563	Retirement; Credit for Military Service	3206-AG58
3564	Retirement; State Income Tax Withholding Instrumentalities	3206-AH62
3565	Retirement; Court Orders Awarding Survivor Annuities; Correcting or Supplementing the First Order Dividing Marital Property	3206-AG28
3566	Retirement; FERS Elections of Coverage	3206-AG96
3567	Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program: Continuing FEHB Coverage Into Retirement	3206-AI62
3568	Financial Sanctions of Health Care Providers in the Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program	3206-AJ42
3569	Implementation of the Administrative Simplification Provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 for the Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program	3206-AJ45
3570	Employees Responsible for the Management or Use of Federal Computer Systems	3206-AJ84
3571	Federal Employees' Health Benefits Acquisition Regulation: Large Provider Agreements, Subcontracts, and Miscellaneous Changes	3206-AJ20
3572	Implementation of Additional Cost Principles in the Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program	3206-AJ10

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Office of Personnel Management—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3573	OPM Employee Responsibilities and Conduct	3206-AJ69
3574	Excepted Service—Career and Career-Conditional Employment	3206-AJ28
3575	Excepted Service—Temporary Organizations	3206-AJ70
3576	Time-In-Grade Restrictions	3206-AG06
3577	Reasonable Accommodation Language for Vacancy Announcements	3206-AJ11
3578	Recruitment and Selection Through Competitive Examination	3206-AJ52
3579	Promotion and Internal Placement; Accelerated Qualifications	3206-AG19
3580	Certified Performance Appraisal Systems and Aggregate Limitation on Pay	3206-AJ86
3581	Awards	3206-AJ65
3582	Official Duty Station Determinations for Pay Purposes	3206-AH84
3583	Pay Under the General Schedule; Subpart F—Locality-Based Comparability Payments	3206-AJ62
3584	Grade and Pay Retention	3206-AI88
3585	Premium Pay Limitations	3206-AJ56
3586	Pretax Allotments for Flexible Spending Accounts	3206-AJ88
3587	Retention Allowances	3206-AJ48
3588	Extended Assignment Incentives	3206-AJ87
3589	Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments (VSIPs)	3206-AJ76
3590	Employee Responsibilities and Conduct	3206-AJ74
3591	Agency Use of Appropriated funds for Child Care Costs for Lower Income Employees	3206-AJ77
3592	Retirement; Coverage—Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities	3206-AH57
3593	Coverage for Certain Employees of the District of Columbia	3206-AI02
3594	Retirement, Health, and Life Insurance Coverage for Certain Employees of the District of Columbia Under the District of Columbia Courts and Justice Technical Corrections Act of 1998	3206-AI55
3595	Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter Retirement	3206-AJ39
3596	Continuation of Eligibility for Certain Civil Service Benefits for Former Federal Employees of the Civilian Marksmanship Program	3206-AJ55
3597	Retirement—Federal Employees Retirement System; Basic Annuity	3206-AJ82
3598	Retirement—Debt Collection	3206-AE72
3599	Retirement—General Administration	3206-AI83
3600	Retirement; FERS Basic Annuity	3206-AE73
3601	Retirement Coverage and Service Credit Elections Available to Current and Former Nonappropriated Fund Employees	3206-AJ72
3602	Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program: Miscellaneous Changes and Clarifications	3206-AG63
3603	Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance: Removal of Premiums and Age Bands from Regulations	3206-AJ46
3604	Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Regulations	3206-AJ71
3605	Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program: Payment of Premiums for Periods of Leave Without Pay or Insufficient Pay	3206-AG66
3606	Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program: Effective Dates	3206-AI37
3607	Implementation of Premium Conversion for Executive Branch Federal Employees Participating in the Federal Employees' Health Benefits (FEHB) Program	3206-AJ17
3608	Federal Employees' Health Benefits Children's Equity	3206-AJ34
3609	Implementation of Flexible Spending Accounts for Executive Branch Federal Employees Participating in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program	3206-AJ66
3610	Federal Executive Boards	3206-AJ68
3611	Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)	3206-AJ31
3612	Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Federal Acquisition Regulation	3206-AI65

Office of Personnel Management—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3613	Pay Administration; Availability Pay for Criminal Investigators	3206-AJ49
3614	Personnel Security and Related Programs	3206-AC21
3615	Investigations	3206-AB92
3616	Correction of Retirement Coverage Errors Under the Federal Erroneous Retirement Coverage Correction Act	3206-AJ38

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Office of Personnel Management—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3617	Excepted Service—Schedule A Authority for Chinese, Japanese, and Hindi Interpreters	3206-AJ43
3618	Prevailing Rate Systems; Definition of Santa Clara, California, Nonappropriated Fund Wage Area	3206-AJ61
3619	Prevailing Rate Systems; Change in Federal Wage System Survey Job	3206-AJ63
3620	Prevailing Rate Systems; Redefinition of the Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, Appropriated Fund Wage Area	3206-AJ64
3621	Basic Pay for Employees of Temporary Organizations	3206-AJ47
3622	Administratively Uncontrollable Overtime Pay	3206-AJ57
3623	Debarments and Suspensions of Health Care Providers From the Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program	3206-AD76

Office of Personnel Management—Discontinued Entries

Regulation Identification Number	Title	Date	Comments
3206-AG20	Voluntary Separation Incentive Repayment Waivers	02/04/2003	Merged With RIN 3206-AJ76
3206-AI34	Reemployment Priority List	03/04/2003	Withdrawn
3206-AJ59	Miscellaneous Changes in Pay and Leave Regulations	03/03/2003	Withdrawn

Office of Personnel Management (OPM)

Proposed Rule Stage

3539. • POSTING REGULATIONS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 5 USC 1103

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 110

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing proposed regulations to revise the rules relating to notice of new regulations and information collection requirements. The revisions include eliminating one subpart and renaming the remaining subpart, and making plain language modifications.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	03/06/03 68 FR 10667
NPRM Comment Period End	05/05/03
Final Action	07/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert T. Coco, Division for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Office of Personnel Management, Contracting, Facilities, and Administrative Services Group, Publications Management Branch, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415

Phone: 202 606-1822

Fax: 202 606-0909

Email: rtcoco@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ73

3540. • COMPETITIVE SERVICE AND COMPETITIVE STATUS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 3301, 5 USC 3302

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 212

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is rewriting its regulations in plain language to make them more readable. This includes part 212 that contains the definitions of competitive service and competitive status. This is one aspect of a broader review of OPM's regulations. This regulatory rewrite supports the Administration's effort to use "plain language" when disseminating information throughout the Federal community and to the general public.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	06/00/03
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Karen Jacobs, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415

Phone: 202 606-0830

Fax: 202 606-0390

Email: kkjacobs@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ75

3541. • STRATEGIC HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 107-296

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 250

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing proposed regulations to implement the requirement in Public Law 107-296, section 1304 for OPM to design a set of systems for assessing human capital management by Federal agencies. These regulations describe the framework for these systems, including the metrics, that agencies will use.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Diane Tyrrell,
Division for Strategic Human Resources
Policy, Office of Personnel
Management, 1900 E Street NW.,
Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0960
Fax: 202 606-2329
Email: dmtyrrel@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ92**3542. EMPLOYMENT IN THE EXCEPTED SERVICE****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 1302; 5 USC 3301; 5 USC 3302; 5 USC 8151; EO 10577**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 302**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The revised regulations will make it easier for agencies to understand how to run the excepted service employment system, so they can create better and more efficient employment procedures.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	08/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Tina Vay, Division for
Strategic Human Resources Policy,
Office of Personnel Management, 1900
E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: cmvay@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AH83**3543. • VETERANS RECRUITMENT APPOINTMENTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** PL 107-288**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 307**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) proposes to revise its regulations regarding Veterans Readjustment Appointments to implement the provisions of Public Law 107-288, the Jobs for Veterans Act, signed into law on November 7, 2002.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	09/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Michael J. Mahoney,
Division for Strategic Human Resources
Policy, Office of Personnel
Management, 1900 E Street NW.,
Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: mjmahone@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ90**3544. PROBATION ON INITIAL APPOINTMENT TO A COMPETITIVE POSITION****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 3321**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 315, subpart H**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This regulation will permit agencies to use a competitive service probationary period of up to three years, when the work of the position cannot be properly evaluated in only one year. It will also establish one year as the minimum probationary period.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Linda Watson,
Division for Strategic Human Resources
Policy, Office of Personnel
Management, 1900 E Street NW.,
Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: lmwatson@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI47**3545. • TEMPORARY AND TERM EMPLOYMENT; RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION FOR TEMPORARY AND TERM APPOINTMENTS OUTSIDE THE REGISTER; EXAMINING SYSTEM AND TRAINING****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** PL 107-296**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 316, 5 CFR 333, 5 CFR 337 and 5 CFR 410**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing proposed regulations to implement the Governmentwide provisions contained in the Homeland Security Act of 2002. This regulation provides: 1) managers with increased flexibility in assessing applicants using alternative ranking and selection procedures; 2) managers the ability to select qualified candidates for jobs in the competitive service using direct-hire procedures including selections for temporary and term positions; 3) agencies with the authority to pay or reimburse the costs of academic degree training from appropriated or other available funds under specified conditions; and 4) agencies with increased flexibility in the use of academic degree training to address agency-specific human capital needs, goals, and challenges. This proposal will also remove part 333 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, Recruitment and Selection for Temporary and Term Appointments Outside the Register.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Linda Watson,
Division for Strategic Human Resources
Policy, Office of Personnel
Management, 1900 E Street NW.,
Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: lmwatson@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ93**3546. AMENDMENT TO SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 3328**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 300**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management proposes regulations to delegate to agencies the determination whether a Federal job applicant's

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failure to register with the Selective Service was knowing and willful. This change is authorized by an amendment to 5 U.S.C. 3328.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	03/29/99 64 FR 14842
NPRM Comment Period End	04/28/99
NPRM	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Barbara J. Bell, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Email: bjbelle@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI52

3547. MERIT PROMOTION AND INTERNAL PLACEMENT

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 3301; 5 USC 3302

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 316; 5 CFR 335

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: In an effort to streamline selection procedures and provide agencies with greater flexibility, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is proposing to revise the regulations covering merit promotion and internal placement. These regulations will provide a framework within which agencies may develop merit-based programs for internal selections.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Karen Jacobs, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: kkjacobs@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI20

3548. OTHER THAN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT (PART-TIME, SEASONAL, INTERMITTENT)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 3301

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 340; 5 CFR 110

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Grants agencies and employees more flexibility by clarifying agency authority to schedule part-time employees on a pay period, rather than weekly, basis; defines job sharing; and modifies seasonal employment.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	09/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Diane Tyrrell, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0960
Fax: 202 606-2329
Email: dmtyrrel@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI22

3549. ORDER OF RELEASE FROM COMPETITIVE LEVEL

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 1302; 5 USC 3502; 5 USC 3503

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 351

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is proposing retention regulations covering the order in which agencies release competing employees from their competitive levels in a reduction in force.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	07/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Thomas A. Glennon, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415

Phone: 202 606-0960

Fax: 202 606-2329

Email: taglenno@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI96

3550. REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 3582; 5 USC 3301; PL 103-296

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 352

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management proposes regulations to update provisions to conform to law allowing employees assigned to international organizations under certain conditions to maintain FERS and FICA retirement coverage. The current regulations require updates because they mention only CSRS retirement.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	09/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Michael J. Mahoney, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: mjmahone@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI19

3551. • INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 107-347

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 370

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing proposed regulations to implement Governmentwide provisions contained in the E-Government Act (Pub. L. 107-347). This law authorizes the temporary assignment of employees in the field of information technology (IT) management between the Federal Government and private sector organizations. It also authorizes Federal agencies to accept, on a volunteer basis, the services of non-Federal IT employees.

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Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	09/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Michael J. Mahoney, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: mjmahone@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ91**3552. TRAINING****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 4118**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 410**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Section 410.309 of title 5, CFR (continued service agreements) and 5 CFR 410.404 (expenses of training and meetings) need clarification. 5 CFR 410.309, as written, omits allowance for agency heads to delegate authority to define requirements for continued service. It also omits circumstances when the requirement for continued service can be waived, which has caused confusion for agencies in developing their continued service agreements. Amending 5 CFR 410.309 returns to the regulation language removed in 1996. The deletion had the unintended effect of limiting agency head authority in the area of continued service agreements for training. With increasing interest in academic education and service agreements, agencies have expressed concern about their legal authority with regard to these agreements.

As written, 5 CFR 410.404 does not sufficiently clarify distinctions between training and meetings. 5 U.S.C. 4109 provides agencies authority to pay the expenses of training. 5 U.S.C. 4110 provides them authority to pay the expenses of meetings. However, 5 CFR 410.404 blurs the distinctions between these two; amending it would make clear the distinctions and clarify conditions under which a meeting may be considered training.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	09/00/03
Final Action	03/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: LaVeen Ponds, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-1394
Email: lmponds@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ19**3553. ● PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 4305**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 430, subpart A; 5 CFR 430, subpart B**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Part 430, subparts A and B, are being revised to improve the readability of the existing regulatory language and to codify existing policies and procedures that are not currently in the regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Barbara Colchao, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7412, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2720
Fax: 202 606-2395
Email: perform-mgmt@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ80**3554. PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT RESEARCH PROGRAMS AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 4703**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 470**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Personnel Management Research Programs and Demonstration Projects regulations require revision to increase understanding, clarify interpretation, and ease implementation. Such revisions will enhance the freedom to manage within the Federal Government by providing clarity and eliminating ambiguities in the language of the regulations and making clear the intent and requirements of the law. The revisions will also serve to streamline the current provisions for research programs and demonstration projects, and provide more flexibility to agencies for testing and establishing alternatives to recruit, retain, and manage a high quality workforce.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Nancy H. Kichak, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0722
Email: nhkichak@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ67**3555. CLASSIFICATION UNDER THE GENERAL SCHEDULE****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 5112**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 511, subpart A; 5 CFR 511, subpart B; 5 CFR 511, subpart F; 5 CFR 511, subpart G**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The general schedule classification regulations require updating to reflect current organizational nomenclature following a reorganization within OPM.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Leslie J. Pollack, Division for Strategic Human Resources

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Proposed Rule Stage

Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-1426
 Email: ljpollac@opm.gov
 RIN: 3206-AH38

3556. • MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES AND STANDARDIZATION OF PAY AND LEAVE REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5304; 5 USC 5305; 5 USC 5548; 5 USC 5550a; 5 USC 6124; 5 USC 6133(a); 5 USC 6304(d)(3); PL 102-484; PL 103-337; PL 103-329; EO 11228; 5 USC 6305; 5 USC 6306; 5 USC 6311; PL 103-356; 5 USC 6326; 5 USC 6332; 5 USC 6362; PL 100-566; PL 103-103; PL 105-18; 5 USC 6387; PL 103-3; 5 USC 6391; PL 102-25

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 530; 5 CFR 531; 5 CFR 550, subpart J; 5 CFR 610; 5 CFR 630

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing proposed regulations to clarify and standardize the rules governing the pay and leave of Federal employees. The proposed regulations are being issued to aid and support the standardization of payroll processes under the e-Payroll initiative and enhance understanding of the administration of pay and leave policies and procedures.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	08/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jo Ann Perrini, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-2858
 Fax: 202 606-0824
 Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ85

3557. SUPERIOR QUALIFICATIONS APPOINTMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5333

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 531

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management proposes to revise regulations concerning the appointment of superior candidates above the minimum rate of pay for General Schedule positions. The proposed changes clarify and modify what agencies should consider when making these superior qualifications appointments.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	09/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jeanne D. Jacobson, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-2858
 Fax: 202 606-0824
 Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI00

3558. JOB GRADING REVIEWS AND APPEALS OF FEDERAL WAGE SYSTEM EMPLOYEES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5346

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 532, subpart G

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The job grading reviews and appeals regulations require updating to reflect current organizational nomenclature following a reorganization within OPM.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Leslie J. Pollack, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-1426
 Email: ljpollac@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI14

3559. • PREVAILING RATE SYSTEMS; REDEFINITION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA AND DULUTH, MINNESOTA, APPROPRIATED FUND WAGE AREAS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5343

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 532

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing a proposed rule to redefine the White Earth Indian Reservation portion of Becker County, Clearwater County, and Mahnonen County, Minnesota, from the North Dakota to the Duluth, Minnesota, Federal Wage System Wage Area.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Mark Allen, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-2848
 Fax: 202 606-4264
 Email: maallen@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ78

3560. • PREVAILING RATE SYSTEMS; CHANGE IN FEDERAL WAGE SYSTEM SURVEY JOB AND MISCELLANEOUS CHANGE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5343

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 532

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing a proposed rule to change the grade level of the Industrial Electronic Controls Repairer Federal Wage System survey job description.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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Proposed Rule Stage

Agency Contact: Mark Allen, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2848
Fax: 202 606-4264
Email: maallen@opm.gov
RIN: 3206-AJ79

3561. REEMPLOYMENT OF CIVILIAN RETIREES TO MEET EXCEPTIONAL EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8344; 5 USC 8468

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 553

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management proposes regulations to establish new criteria for granting exceptions for key positions in temporary organizations established by law or Executive order. This rule will also expand and clarify the criteria used in exercising this authority.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Larry Lorenz, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Email: ltlorenz@opm.gov
RIN: 3206-AI32

3562. • LIST OF AGENTS DESIGNATED TO ACCEPT LEGAL PROCESS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 42 USC 659; 15 USC 1673; EO 12105; 3 CFR 262

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 581, app

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Appendix A to 5 CFR part 581 is being amended to update the addresses and telephone numbers for agents designated to receive legal process. This appendix is also being amended to add a new agency and designated agents.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	08/00/03
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Darlene M. Carr, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415-1300
Phone: 202 606-1700
Fax: 202 606-2609
Email: dmcarr@opm.gov
RIN: 3206-AJ83

3563. RETIREMENT; CREDIT FOR MILITARY SERVICE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8347(a); 5 USC 8461(g); 38 USC 4331

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 8347(a); 5 CFR 8461(g); 5 CFR 842.306; 5 CFR 842.307

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations implement changes in the treatment of certain military service under CSRS and FERS required under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA).

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	10/00/03
Final Action	04/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Christopher H. Ziebarth, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov
RIN: 3206-AG58

3564. RETIREMENT; STATE INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING INSTRUMENTALITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8345; 5 USC 8347; 5 USC 8461; 5 USC 8469

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 831, subpart S; 5 CFR 841, subpart J

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations modify existing regulations to reflect changes designed to expand and streamline the process of withholding State income tax from CSRS and FERS annuities.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	06/23/99 64 FR 33429
Second NPRM	10/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Patricia A. Rochester, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov
RIN: 3206-AH62

3565. RETIREMENT; COURT ORDERS AWARDING SURVIVOR ANNUITIES; CORRECTING OR SUPPLEMENTING THE FIRST ORDER DIVIDING MARITAL PROPERTY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8347; 5 USC 8461

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 838

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations would establish standards for determining which supplemental or correcting court orders are not "modifications" and the procedures applicable to such orders. They also provide for the continuation of the former spouse's survivor coverage and the reduction in the retiree's annuity until the State court decides the extent of the former spouse's rights to retirement benefits.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	09/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: John Panagakos, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov
RIN: 3206-AG28

OPM

Proposed Rule Stage

3566. RETIREMENT; FERS ELECTIONS OF COVERAGE**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 8347(a); 5 USC 8461(g); PL 99-335, sec 301(d)(3)**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 846**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: These regulations implement title III of the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) Act of 1986, as amended, dealing with the election of FERS coverage by employees under the Civil Service Retirement System and certain other employees. The regulations contain regulatory and interpretative rules concerning employees' eligibility to elect FERS coverage, procedures for electing FERS coverage, and basic benefits based on the service for employees who elect FERS coverage.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/21/87 52 FR 19235
Interim Final Rule	09/13/93 58 FR 47821
Interim Final Rule	06/18/98 63 FR 33231
NPRM	12/00/03
Final Action	03/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Cynthia Reinhold, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AG96**3567. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM: CONTINUING FEHB COVERAGE INTO RETIREMENT****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 8913**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 890**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This proposed regulation would increase OPM's ability to waive requirements for continuing health benefits coverage into retirement when it is to the advantage of the Government to do so.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Barbara Myers, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0004

RIN: 3206-AI62**3568. FINANCIAL SANCTIONS OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 8902a**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 890, subpart J**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: These regulations will implement the financial sanctions provisions of the Federal Employees' Health Care Protection Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-266). In cases where a health care provider knowingly: (1) submitted false, fraudulent, or misleading claims; (2) failed to provide claims-related information requested by OPM or a FEHBP carrier; or (3) submitted claims while debarred, the statute authorizes OPM to effectuate civil monetary penalties. These financial sanctions may be imposed in addition to suspension or debarment, which are the other forms of sanctions authorized by the statute. The regulatory provisions for suspension and debarment are being implemented in an earlier amendment to 5 CFR 890, subpart J.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	02/10/03 68 FR 6649
NPRM Comment Period End	04/11/03
Final Action	11/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: J. David Cope, Debarring Official, Office of the

Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2851
Fax: 202 606-2153
Email: jdcope@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ42**3569. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SIMPLIFICATION PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996 FOR THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** PL 104-191**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 890**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The administrative simplification provisions on the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) requires covered entities (providers, health plans, and clearinghouses) to ensure the privacy of individually identifiable personal health information. The Federal Employees' Health Benefits (FEHB) Program has been deemed a health plan, and as such must comply with the security, privacy, and transaction standards that are part of the administrative simplification provisions of HIPAA.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Abby L. Block, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0770

RIN: 3206-AJ45**3570. • EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OR USE OF FEDERAL COMPUTER SYSTEMS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** PL 100-235**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 930, subpart C**Legal Deadline:** None

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Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing proposed regulations to delete 5 CFR 930 subpart C and to move appropriate information concerning Computer Security training to 5 CFR 410. The proposal streamlines the regulation and refers the user to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Web site, which contains the most current information on computer security training guidelines.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	07/00/03
Final Action	09/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: LaVeen Ponds, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-1394
Email: lmponds@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ84

3571. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS ACQUISITION REGULATION: LARGE PROVIDER AGREEMENTS, SUBCONTRACTS, AND MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 8913; 40 USC 486(c); 48 CFR 1.301

CFR Citation: 48 CFR 1602; 48 CFR 1604; 48 CFR 1615; 48 CFR 1632; 48 CFR 1644; 48 CFR 1652; 48 CFR 1602; ...

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is proposing a new policy that establishes notification and information requirements, including audits, for Federal Employees' Health Benefits (FEHB) experience-rated carrier large provider agreements. The proposed regulation also revises the threshold for advance approval of carrier subcontracts.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Mike Kaszynski, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0004
Email: mwkaszyn@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ20

3572. IMPLEMENTATION OF ADDITIONAL COST PRINCIPLES IN THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 8913; 40 USC 486(c); 48 CFR 1.301**CFR Citation:** 48 CFR 1630; 48 CFR 1631; 48 CFR 1652**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is proposing a regulation that would inform experience-rated carriers in the Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program how it intends to implement additional cost principles.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Anne Easton, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0004
Email: aseaston@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ10

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3573. OPM EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONDUCT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 552a; 5 USC 7301**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 1001**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is proposing a plain language rewrite of its regulations regarding the standards that govern OPM employee responsibilities and conduct as part of a broader review of OPM's regulations. The purpose of the revisions is to make the regulations more readable.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	11/20/02 67 FR 70029
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Wade Plunkett, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-1700

RIN: 3206-AJ69

3574. EXCEPTED SERVICE—CAREER AND CAREER-CONDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Priority: Other Significant**Legal Authority:** EO 13162**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 213; 5 CFR 315**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: These regulations implement Executive Order 13162, which establishes the Federal Career Intern Program. This program will be used to attract exceptional men and women to the Federal workforce who have diverse professional experiences, academic training, or competencies and prepare

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them for careers in analyzing and implementing public programs.

This regulation supports the Administration's effort to recruit the highest caliber people to the Federal Government, develop their professional abilities, and retain them in Federal departments and agencies.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	12/14/00 65 FR 78077
Interim Final Rule Effective	12/14/00
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Karen Jacobs, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: kkjacobs@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ28

3575. • EXCEPTED SERVICE—TEMPORARY ORGANIZATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 3161

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 213

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Since the new law on temporary organizations provides new limitations on temporary organizations, we are amending excepted service appointing authority for hiring persons in temporary organizations to reflect these changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/08/03 68 FR 24605
Interim Final Rule Effective	05/08/03
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	07/07/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tina Vay, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415

Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: cmvay@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ70

3576. TIME-IN-GRADE RESTRICTIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 3301; 5 USC 3302; EO 10577

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 300

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management will eliminate the requirement that employees serve one year in-grade to be eligible for promotion above the GS-5 level. The requirement to be eliminated is separate from the qualifications requirement for one year's experience at the next lowest grade or equivalent for promotion.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	06/15/94 59 FR 30717
NPRM Comment Period End	01/10/95 60 FR 2546
Final Action	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tina Vay, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: cmvay@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AG06

3577. REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION LANGUAGE FOR VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 1302; 5 USC 3301; 5 USC 3302; 5 USC 3304(f); 5 USC 3327; ...

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 302; 5 CFR 317; 5 CFR 330; 5 CFR 333; 5 CFR 335

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is publishing interim regulations requiring a reasonable accommodation statement in agency vacancy announcements.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	12/11/01 66 FR 63905
Interim Final Rule Effective	01/10/02
Final Action	10/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Linda Watson, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830
Fax: 202 606-0390
Email: lmwatson@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ11

3578. RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION THROUGH COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 3301; 5 USC 3302

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 332

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: OPM is issuing an interim regulation to allow agencies to decide how candidates are referred for competitive appointment when agencies fill multiple vacancies simultaneously. We are codifying a long-standing practice (5 U.S.C. 3301 and 3302) of providing agencies with the option of either certifying a candidate for only one vacancy at a time, or certifying a candidate simultaneously for all vacancies for which that candidate expresses an interest, is eligible, and is within reach.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	02/15/02 67 FR 7055
Interim Final Rule Effective	02/15/02
Final Action	10/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Suzy Barker, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Employment Service, Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0830

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Fax: 202 606-0390
 Email: smbarker@opm.gov
 RIN: 3206-AJ52

3579. PROMOTION AND INTERNAL PLACEMENT; ACCELERATED QUALIFICATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 3301; 5 USC 3302; 5 USC 3304

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 316; 5 CFR 335; 5 CFR 338

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: OPM will issue final regulations on accelerated qualifications only to authorize agencies to establish intensive training programs for acquiring qualifications at an accelerated rate.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	02/20/96 61 FR 6324
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Karen Jacobs, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-0830
 Fax: 202 606-0390
 Email: kkjacobs@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AG19

3580. • CERTIFIED PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL SYSTEMS AND AGGREGATE LIMITATION ON PAY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 107-296; 5 USC 5305; 5 USC 5307; EO 12748, 3 CFR, 1991 Comp, PL 101-509; PL 103-89

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 430

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM), jointly with the Office of Management and Budget, is issuing interim regulations to implement a recent statutory amendment increasing the aggregate limitation on pay for employees in Senior Executive Service (SES) and scientific or professional (ST) positions to the total annual compensation payable to the Vice President. The

interim regulations establish the performance appraisal systems certification requirements that must be met to use the higher aggregate limitation on pay.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Barbara Colchao, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7412, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-2720
 Fax: 202 606-2395
 Email: perform-mgmt@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ86

3581. AWARDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 4506

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 450, subpart C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulations at 5 CFR 450, subpart C (new), implement provisions of Public Law 107-67 (5 U.S.C. 4507a) that extend eligibility for Presidential Rank Awards to certain senior level employees.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	08/13/02 67 FR 52595
Interim Final Rule Effective	09/12/02
Final Action	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Delores Everett, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-1050
 Email: dxeveret@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ65

3582. OFFICIAL DUTY STATION DETERMINATIONS FOR PAY PURPOSES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5305; 5 USC 5304; 5 USC 5941; EO 10000; PL 101-509, sec 404

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 530; 5 CFR 531; 5 CFR 591

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These proposed regulations would clarify the location-based pay entitlements of Federal employees who are detailed or temporarily assigned to work at a new location, including telework situations. Location-based pay entitlements include locality payments, special salary rates, and nonforeign area cost-of-living allowances.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/09/97 62 FR 25423
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	07/08/97
Final Action	06/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jeanne D. Jacobson, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-2858
 Fax: 202 606-0824
 Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AH84

3583. PAY UNDER THE GENERAL SCHEDULE; SUBPART F—LOCALITY-BASED COMPARABILITY PAYMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5304

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 531

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Under current regulations, locality pay area boundaries change automatically whenever the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) modifies the geographic coverage of a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or a consolidated metropolitan statistical area. OMB plans wholesale modifications in metropolitan area definitions in 2003 based on new

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criteria and 2000 census data. We plan to tie our locality pay area definitions to the geographic coverage of MSAs as defined in OMB Bulletin 99-4 so that locality pay area boundaries will not automatically change when OMB revises its metropolitan area definitions. This will allow the President's Pay Agent and the Federal Salary Council the opportunity to review the new metropolitan area definitions to see if they are appropriate for use in the locality pay program.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	09/11/02 67 FR 57536
Final Action	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Allan G. Hearne, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2838
Fax: 202 606-4264
Email: aghearne@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ62

3584. GRADE AND PAY RETENTION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5361; 5 USC 5366

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 536

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing final regulations giving agencies discretionary authority to grant pay retention to certain employees moving to positions under pay systems other than the General Schedule or the Federal Wage System. This new flexibility would allow agencies to prevent eligible employees from suffering a reduction in pay that would otherwise result from a management action.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	05/25/00 65 FR 33785
Final Action	06/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sharon Herzberg, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., 7H31, Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2858
Fax: 202 606-0824
Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI88

3585. PREMIUM PAY LIMITATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5547; 5 USC 5548

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 550

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing interim regulations to implement recent statutory amendments dealing with the premium pay limitations for Federal employees. Those amendments raise the premium pay caps for most employees, provide authority to use an annual cap instead of a biweekly cap in additional circumstances, and make certain other changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	04/19/02 67 FR 19319
Interim Final Rule Effective	04/29/02
Final Action	08/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Bryce Baker, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2858
Fax: 202 606-0824
Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ56

3586. • PRETAX ALLOTMENTS FOR FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5527; EO 10982; 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp, p.263

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 550

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing interim

regulations to enable employees to contribute to pre-tax flexible spending accounts (FSAs) through two new allotments from the employee's pay to the employing agency. One of the new allotments will be available for a health care FSA and the other for a dependent care FSA. Flexible spending accounts become effective on July 1, 2003.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sharon Herzberg, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., 7H31, Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2858
Fax: 202 606-0824
Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ88

3587. RETENTION ALLOWANCES

Priority: Other Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5754

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 575, subpart C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These final regulations would provide agencies with greater flexibility in the use of retention allowances by allowing them to pay such allowances to employees who are likely to leave their positions for other Federal employment under certain limited circumstances.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	01/10/01 66 FR 5491
NPRM Comment Period End	03/20/01
Final Action	09/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jeanne D. Jacobson, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2858

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Fax: 202 606-0824
 Email: payleave@opm.gov
 RIN: 3206-AJ48

3588. • EXTENDED ASSIGNMENT INCENTIVES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5757, PL 107-273

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 575

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing interim regulations to implement a recent statutory amendment that authorizes the payment of extended assignment incentives to certain categories of Federal employees in positions located in a territory or possession of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The interim regulations will establish the criteria and procedures for the payment of extended assignment incentives.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Lee Kara, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415

Phone: 202 606-2858

Fax: 202 606-4264

Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ87

3589. • VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS (VSIPS)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 107-296

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 576

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Public Law 106-297, the Homeland Security Act of 2002, requires that most Federal agencies request the authority to offer VSIPs to their employees from the Office of Personnel Management. This change in VSIP procedures has been incorporated into 5 CFR 576 through interim

regulations published February 4, 2003. The law also contains the VSIP repayment waiver provisions that were previously found in the interim regulations published under RIN 3206-AG20.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	02/04/03 68 FR 5529
Interim Final Rule Effective	02/04/03
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Charles Gray, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-0960
 Fax: 202 606-2329
 Email: cwgray@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ76

3590. • EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONDUCT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 7301; EO 12674, 3 CFR, 1989 Comp, p. 215, as modified by EO 12731; EO 12731, 3 CFR, 1989 Comp, p. 306

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 735

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is proposing a plain language rewrite of its regulations regarding the standards that govern employee responsibilities and conduct as part of a broader review of OPM's regulations. The purpose of the revisions is to make the regulations more readable.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	01/15/03 68 FR 1987
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Wade Plunkett, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415

Phone: 202 606-1700

RIN: 3206-AJ74

3591. • AGENCY USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR CHILD CARE COSTS FOR LOWER INCOME EMPLOYEES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 106-58, sec 643; PL 107-76

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 792, subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing interim regulations to revise the final regulations issued March 14, 2000, implementing the child care subsidy program legislation. We are issuing interim regulations because Congress made permanent the law authorizing agencies in the executive branch of the Federal Government to assist lower income employees with their child care costs, thus making child care more affordable for those employees. OPM also is issuing these revisions as part of a broader review of OPM's regulations to make the regulations more readable.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Bonnie Storm, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
 Phone: 202 606-1313

RIN: 3206-AJ77

3592. RETIREMENT; COVERAGE—NONAPPROPRIATED FUND INSTRUMENTALITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8347

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 831; 5 CFR 837; 5 CFR 841 to 844; 5 CFR 847

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, August 9, 1996.

Abstract: These regulations implement the provisions of Public Law 104-106 and Public Law 107-107, which allow

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employees who have been employed by nonappropriated fund instrumentalities under the jurisdiction of the armed forces to obtain retirement credit under limited circumstances.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	08/09/96 61 FR 41714
Final Action	03/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: James Giuseppe, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov

Related RIN: Related To 3206-AJ72

RIN: 3206-AH57

3593. COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8347(a); 5 USC 8361(g); PL 105-33, sec 11202(f), 11232(e), 11246(b); PL 106-522, sec 145

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 831; 5 CFR 837; 5 CFR 842; 5 CFR 846; 5 CFR 870; 5 CFR 890

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations implement provisions of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, which requires that nonjudicial employees of the District of Columbia Courts, and under certain conditions, the District of Columbia Corrections Trustee, and the District of Columbia Pretrial Services, Parole, Adult Probation and Offender Supervision Trustee and their respective employees be considered Federal employees for purposes of Federal retirement, health, and life insurance coverage.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	09/30/97 62 FR 50995
Interim Final Rule	12/01/97
Comment Period End	
Final Action	10/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Girouard, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI02

3594. RETIREMENT, HEALTH, AND LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA UNDER THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS AND JUSTICE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1998

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 105-274

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 831; 5 CFR 837; 5 CFR 842; 5 CFR 846; 5 CFR 870; 5 CFR 890

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These interim regulations implement the District of Columbia Courts and Justice Technical Corrections Act of 1998. The effect of these regulations is to extend Federal retirement, health insurance, and life insurance coverage to employees of the Public Defender Service of the District of Columbia under section 7 of the Act, and to exclude certain former employees of the District of Columbia, who are hired by the Department of Justice or by the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, from Federal retirement coverage if they elect, under section 3 of the Act, to continue their coverage under a retirement system for employees of the District of Columbia.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	03/31/99 64 FR 15286
Interim Final Rule	06/29/99
Comment Period End	
Final Action	10/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Girouard, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299

Email: combox@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI55

3595. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND FIREFIGHTER RETIREMENT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8347; 5 USC 8461

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 831; 5 CFR 842

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing an interim rule that permits certain police officers with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority to elect coverage under the special retirement provisions for law enforcement officers.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	07/25/01 66 FR 38523
Interim Final Rule	07/25/01
Effective	
Final Action	10/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Patrick Jennings, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415-0001
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ39

3596. CONTINUATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS FOR FORMER FEDERAL EMPLOYEES OF THE CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: Sec 1622(b), PL 104-106, 110 Stat 515

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 831; 5 CFR 842; 5 CFR 870; 5 CFR 890

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations describe conditions and procedures applicable to continuation of eligibility for certain Civil Service benefits for former Federal employees of the Civilian Marksmanship Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	06/03/02 67 FR 38210

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Action	Date
NPRM Comment Period End	08/02/02
Final Action	10/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Howard T. Newland Jr., Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ55

3597. • RETIREMENT—FEDERAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM; BASIC ANNUITY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 107-296

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 831, 5 CFR 842

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Public Law 107-296 authorized agencies to request voluntary early retirement authority (VERA) based on a need for workforce reshaping. Previously, agencies could only request VERA based on demonstrated need to downsize. Public Law 107-296 also provided workforce reshaping flexibility to agencies requesting the authority to offer voluntary separation incentive payments (VSIP). Interim regulations amending 5 CFR part 576 have already been issued to cover the VSIP flexibility. Interim regulations revising parts 831 and 842 of 5 CFR are urgently needed so that agencies can request both VERA and VSIP based on the need for workforce reshaping. At the moment, they can only request VSIP on this basis—which hampers their ability to accomplish the goals set out in the President's management agenda.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03
Final Action	01/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Charles Gray, Division for Strategic Human Resources

Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0960
Fax: 202 606-2329
Email: cwgray@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ82

3598. RETIREMENT—DEBT COLLECTION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8347; 5 USC 8461

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 835, subpart E

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations will amend the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) regulations by consolidating and updating existing regulations in three different subparts of the CSRS regulations, and 5 CFR 845 in the FERS regulations to eliminate duplication of the provisions governing debt collection. This item is for subpart E of the new part 835, which will address collections of Government claims from payments made by OPM.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	10/05/92 57 FR 45753
Final Action	10/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Patricia A. Rochester, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AE72

3599. RETIREMENT—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8347

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 841

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations would allow an agency to retain the individual retirement record when an employee transfers within the same agency even though the employee would be serviced by another intra-agency payroll.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	04/20/00 65 FR 21119
Interim Final Rule Effective	04/20/00
Final Action	03/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: John Panagakos, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI83

3600. RETIREMENT; FERS BASIC ANNUITY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8461

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 842, subparts B to G

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These final regulations will amend FERS Basic Annuity regulations governing Eligibility (subpart B), Credit for Service (subpart C), Computations (subpart F), and Alternative Forms of Annuity (subpart G). These regulations have been published at various times in interim final form, and have been affected by statutory changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	01/16/87 52 FR 2061
Interim Final Rule	01/16/87 52 FR 2067
Interim Final Rule	02/11/87 52 FR 4473
Interim Final Rule	02/11/87 52 FR 4479
Interim Final Rule	05/14/87 52 FR 18193
Interim Final Rule	04/08/88 53 FR 11635
Interim Final Rule	02/09/90 55 FR 4598
Final Rule	12/27/90 55 FR 53136
Interim Final Rule	02/19/91 56 FR 6549
Final Action	04/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Patrick Jennings, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415-0001
Phone: 202 606-0299

OPM

Final Rule Stage

Email: combox@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AE73

3601. • RETIREMENT COVERAGE AND SERVICE CREDIT ELECTIONS AVAILABLE TO CURRENT AND FORMER NONAPPROPRIATED FUND EMPLOYEES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8347; 5 USC 8461; PL 107-107, sec 1131; PL 107-107, sec 1132

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 847, subpart H; 5 CFR 847, subpart I

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations amend the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) regulations to establish procedures for employees who want to elect to use service they performed for a Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentality (NAFI) of the Department of Defense or Coast Guard to qualify for immediate retirement under CSRS or FERS annuity when employees elect to use NAFI service to qualify for immediate CSRS or FERS retirement.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule Effective	12/28/01
Interim Final Rule	01/16/03 68 FR 2175
Final Action	03/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: James Giuseppe, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: combox@opm.gov

Related RIN: Related To 3206-AH57

RIN: 3206-AJ72

3602. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM: MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES AND CLARIFICATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8716

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 870

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations include changes to FEGLI regulations that clarify procedures for signing and witnessing designations of beneficiary, accepting designations of beneficiary by facsimile, accepting DNA evidence to establish paternity, etc. They also change the time frame for electing optional insurance when first eligible from 31 days to 60 days and add information on Basic insurance for certain Department of Defense employees under Public Law 106-398.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	10/27/00 65 FR 64530
Final Action	03/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Karen Leibach, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0004
Email: kjleibac@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AG63

3603. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE: REMOVAL OF PREMIUMS AND AGE BANDS FROM REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8716; PL 106-398

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 870

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Public Law 105-311 allowed retiring employees to elect to continue their option B and/or option C coverage on an unreduced basis. Since this means that more people over age 65 will have these coverages and will continue to pay premiums, the previous age band structure (with the top age band being 60 and over) needed to be expanded. OPM previously added additional age bands to option C; we now need to expand these further and to add age bands to option B. In addition, the actuaries have determined that changes in mortality rates warrant further changes to the FEGLI premiums. Since the current regulatory process does not allow OPM the flexibility to

change premiums quickly and in an efficient and timely manner, we are removing the premiums from regulations. We will announce future premium changes in a public notice in the Federal Register.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03
Final Action	12/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kathleen Healy Sheridan, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0004
Email: khsherid@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ46

3604. • FEDERAL LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE REGULATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 9008

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 875

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: On September 19, 2000, the Long-Term Care Security Act became law. As directed by the Act, OPM published interim regulations on February 4, 2003, which establish the basic rules under which the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program operates. The public comment period ends on April 7, 2003.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	02/04/03 68 FR 5531
Interim Final Rule Effective	02/04/03
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	04/07/03
Final Action	08/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Terry L. Schleicher, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415

OPM

Final Rule Stage

Phone: 202 606-0004
Email: tlschlei@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ71

3605. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM: PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS FOR PERIODS OF LEAVE WITHOUT PAY OR INSUFFICIENT PAY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8913

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 890

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations establish a requirement that Federal agencies counsel employees entering nonpay status, or whose pay is insufficient to cover their FEHB premium payments, of the options of continuing or terminating their FEHB coverage, and if continuing, of paying premiums directly on a current basis or incurring a debt to be withheld from future salary. These regulations are intended to ensure employees are fully aware of these alternatives. We have received comments on the interim final rule, which are under review.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	07/22/96 61 FR 37807
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Barbara Myers, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0004

RIN: 3206-AG66

3606. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM: EFFECTIVE DATES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8913

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 890

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed regulation would adopt January 1 as the effective date for all open season enrollment changes and new enrollment in the Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	08/31/98 63 FR 46180
NPRM Comment Period End	09/30/98
Final Action	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Barbara Myers, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0004

RIN: 3206-AI37

3607. IMPLEMENTATION OF PREMIUM CONVERSION FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATING IN THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS (FEHB) PROGRAM

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Legal Authority: 26 USC 125

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 890

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued regulations under the Federal Employees' Health Benefits (FEHB) Program to enable employees of all executive branch agencies to pay their share of FEHB premiums with pre-tax dollars in accordance with section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code. OPM simultaneously amended salary allotment regulations at 5 CFR 550, because employees participating in premium conversion must allot a portion of salary to their employing agency, which agencies then use to pay the employee share of FEHB premiums.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	07/19/00 65 FR 44644
Interim Final Rule Effective	09/18/00
Final Action	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Laurie Bodenheimer, Division for Strategic Human Resources

Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0770

RIN: 3206-AJ17

3608. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS CHILDREN'S EQUITY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 106-394

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 890; 5 CFR 892

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Public Law 106-394 requires mandatory self and family coverage for Federal Employees' Health Benefits (FEHB) eligible employees who do not comply with a court or administrative order to provide health benefits for their children. This regulation requires that employees subject to such an order be enrolled in self and family coverage in a plan that provides full benefits to his/her child(ren) in the area where they live or provide documentation to his/her employing office that he/she has other health coverage for the children. If the employee does not enroll in an appropriate health plan or provide documentation of other coverage for the children, the employing office will enroll the employee for self and family coverage in the option of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan that provides the lower level of coverage. This type of mandatory coverage has been in effect for several years in the private sector. This regulation defines how this requirement will be implemented in the FEHB Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03
Final Action	06/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Nataya Battle, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202 606-1874
Email: nbattle@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ34

OPM

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3609. IMPLEMENTATION OF FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATING IN THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 26 USC 125; 26 USC 129; 26 USC 152

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 892

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) plans to issue regulations to enable employees of all executive branch agencies to elect a Health Care Flexible Spending Account (HCFSA) and/or a Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (DCFSA) in accordance with sections 125, 129, and 152 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Laurie Bodenheimer, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0770

RIN: 3206-AJ66

3610. ● FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARDS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 5 CFR 960, Memorandum of the President for Heads of Departments and Agencies

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 960

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management proposes regulations

designed to make plain language updates, and general or routine modifications with no cost implications. These regulations also will clarify language based on modifications to OPM programs.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	11/25/02 67 FR 70559
Final Action	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

URL For More Information: <http://www.feb.gov>

Agency Contact: Paula L. Bridgham, Division for Human Capital Leadership and Merit System Accountability, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-1000
Fax: 202 606-3350
Email: plbridgh@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ68

3611. GOVERNMENTWIDE DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION (NONPROCUREMENT)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: EO 12549

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 970

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations will implement within OPM the provisions of the Governmentwide nonprocurement suspension and debarment common rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date
NPRM	01/23/02 67 FR 3266
NPRM Comment Period End	03/25/02
Final Action	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: J. David Cope, Debarring Official, Office of the Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2851
Fax: 202 606-2153
Email: jdcope@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ31

3612. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 8716; 40 USC 486(C)

CFR Citation: 48 CFR 1.301

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed regulation would revise the existing Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Federal Acquisition Regulation (LIFAR) by updating and revising policy regulations with respect to the acquisition and administration of life insurance contracts for Federal employees.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Final Action	05/00/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Anne Easton, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0004
Email: aseaston@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AI65

Office of Personnel Management (OPM)

Long-Term Actions

3613. PAY ADMINISTRATION; AVAILABILITY PAY FOR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 5545(h); 5 USC 5548**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 550**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: These final regulations will clarify a number of issues relating to the administration of availability pay, a form of premium pay for criminal investigators who are required to work, or be available to work, substantial amounts of unscheduled overtime duty based on the needs of the employing agency.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	12/23/94 59 FR 66149
Second Interim Final Rule	01/29/99 64 FR 4517
Final Action	09/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kevin Kitchelt, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-2858
Fax: 202 606-0824
Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ49**3614. PERSONNEL SECURITY AND RELATED PROGRAMS****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 3301; 5 USC 3302; 5 USC 7312; 50 USC 403; EO 10450; EO 10577**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 732**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: With the abolishment of the Federal Personnel Manual (FPM),

certain policies and procedures enunciated in the FPM are being considered for publication in another format.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	04/23/91 56 FR 18650
Interim Final Rule	09/16/94 59 FR 47527
Interim Final Rule	10/17/94
Effective Date	
Next Action	Undetermined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kathy Dillaman, Associate Director, Investigations Service, Office of Personnel Management, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415-4000
Phone: 202 606-1042

RIN: 3206-AC21**3615. INVESTIGATIONS****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** PL 93-579; 5 USC 552a**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 736**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: With the abolishment of the Federal Personnel Manual (FPM), certain policies and procedures enunciated in the FPM are being considered for publication in another format.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	04/23/91 56 FR 18650
Begin Review	10/01/93
Interim Final Rule	09/16/94 59 FR 47527
Next Action	Undetermined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kathy Dillaman, Associate Director, Investigations Service, Office of Personnel Management, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415-4000
Phone: 202 606-1042

RIN: 3206-AB92**3616. CORRECTION OF RETIREMENT COVERAGE ERRORS UNDER THE FEDERAL ERRONEOUS RETIREMENT COVERAGE CORRECTION ACT****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** PL 106-265**CFR Citation:** 5 CFR 839**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Office of Personnel Management is amending its regulations to include new rules for correcting certain retirement coverage errors. We are amending the regulations to implement the provisions of the Federal Erroneous Retirement Coverage Corrections Act (FERCCA), title II of Public Law 106-265. The regulations will allow agencies to correct affected coverage errors.

Timetable:

Action	Date
Interim Final Rule	03/19/01 66 FR 15605
Interim Final Rule	03/19/01
Effective	
Final Action	05/00/04

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Cynthia Reinhold, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415
Phone: 202 606-0299
Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ38

Office of Personnel Management (OPM)

Completed Actions

**3617. EXCEPTED SERVICE—
SCHEDULE A AUTHORITY FOR
CHINESE, JAPANESE, AND HINDI
INTERPRETERS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 213

Completed:

Reason	Date
Final Action	11/21/02 67 FR 70119
Final Action Effective	11/21/02

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tina Vay

Phone: 202 606-0830

Fax: 202 606-0390

Email: cmvay@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ43

**3618. PREVAILING RATE SYSTEMS;
DEFINITION OF SANTA CLARA,
CALIFORNIA, NONAPPROPRIATED
FUND WAGE AREA**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 532

Completed:

Reason	Date
Final Action	01/13/03 68 FR 1515
Final Action Effective	02/12/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Mark Allen

Phone: 202 606-2848

Fax: 202 606-4264

Email: maallen@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ61

**3619. PREVAILING RATE SYSTEMS;
CHANGE IN FEDERAL WAGE SYSTEM
SURVEY JOB**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 532

Completed:

Reason	Date
Final Action	01/06/03 68 FR 460
Final Action Effective	02/05/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Mark Allen

Phone: 202 606-2848

Fax: 202 606-4264

Email: maallen@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ63

**3620. PREVAILING RATE SYSTEMS;
REDEFINITION OF THE SCRANTON-
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA,
APPROPRIATED FUND WAGE AREA**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 532

Completed:

Reason	Date
Final Action	01/06/03 68 FR 459
Final Action Effective	02/05/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Chenty Carpenter

Phone: 202 606-2848

Fax: 202 606-4264

Email: cola@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ64

**3621. BASIC PAY FOR EMPLOYEES
OF TEMPORARY ORGANIZATIONS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 534

Completed:

Reason	Date
Final Action	10/10/02 67 FR 63049
Final Action Effective	11/12/02

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jeanne D. Jacobson

Phone: 202 606-2858

Fax: 202 606-0824

Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ47

**3622. ADMINISTRATIVELY
UNCONTROLLABLE OVERTIME PAY**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 550.151

Completed:

Reason	Date
Final Action	01/30/03 68 FR 4681

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kevin Kitchelt

Phone: 202 606-2858

Fax: 202 606-0824

Email: payleave@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AJ57

**3623. DEBARMENTS AND
SUSPENSIONS OF HEALTH CARE
PROVIDERS FROM THE FEDERAL
EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS
PROGRAM**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 5 CFR 890, subpart J

Completed:

Reason	Date
Final Action	02/03/03 68 FR 5470
Final Action Effective	02/03/03

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: J. David Cope

Phone: 202 606-2851

Fax: 202 606-2153

Email: jdcope@opm.gov

RIN: 3206-AD76

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