



### Leave Administration

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### **Learning Objectives**



- Different types of leave
- Overtime Pay / FLSA Exemptions
- Supervisor's Responsibilities
- Record Keeping



### **Hours Of Duty**



• 80 hours per two week pay period

 Work schedules/changes made by Adjutant General in conjunction with local union(s)

- Typically (but subject to exceptions):
  - ~ Rest breaks Paid; part of workday
  - ~ Lunch breaks Not paid



### **Types of Leave**



- Annual Leave
- Sick Leave
- Court Leave
- Excused Leave
- Leave Without Pay (LWOP)
- Military Leave
- Compensatory Time

- Enforced Leave
- Absence Without Leave (AWOL)
- Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)



### **Annual Leave**



### Accrual Rates: Full-time, permanent employees

• 1-3 years - 4hrs/pay period

• 3-15 years - 6 hrs/pay period

• 15+ years - 8 hrs/pay period

• Entitled to accrue annual leave only after being currently employed for a continuous period of 90 days under successive appointments without a break in service.



### **Annual Leave (cont.)**



### Accrual Rates: Temporary employees

(after 90 days, same as full-time permanent employees)

- 1-3 years 4 hrs/pay period
- 3-15 years 6 hrs/pay period
- 15 + years 8 hrs/pay period

• The employee is entitled to be credited with the leave that would have accrued to him or her during that period.



### **Annual Leave (cont.)**



### Accrual rates: Part-time employees

• 1-3 years - 1 hr/every 20 hrs in pay status

• 3-15 years - 1 hr/every 13 hrs in pay status

• 15+ years

- 1 hr/every 10 hrs in pay status

• Intermittent employee (i.e., a part-time employee who does not have an established regular tour of duty during the administrative workweek) is not entitled to accrue annual leave.



### **Annual Leave (cont.)**



### Some criteria/rules:

- Service computation date (SCD) determines leave category
- Maximum annual carryover 240 hrs (30 days)
- Separated employees may be paid lump sum for unused annual leave
- Advanced Annual Leave not to exceed amount earned in leave for the year.
- Request for annual leave is initiated in ATAAPS.



### **More...Annual Leave**



- May be taken in the pay period earned
- Public Law 93-181 provides for restoration of forfeited annual leave due to administrative error
- Absolute right of employee; subject to approval of the supervisor
- Can be denied based on mission





### Sick Leave



### Accrual rates

• Full-time

- 4 hrs/pay period

• Part-time

- 1 hr/every 20 hrs in pay status

Note: Both categories above include temporary employees



Ref: 5 U.S.C. 6307; 5 CFR part 630(b)(d)(e)



### Sick Leave (cont.)



### Covers

- Medical, dental, optical exams/treatments
- Personal incapacitation
- Health risk
- Family Care
  - Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
  - Sick Leave to Care for Family Member (SLTCFFM)
- Bereavement/Family funeral (Limited FMLA/SLTCFFM)
- Adoption (Limited FMLA/SLTCFFM)



### Sick Leave (cont.)



### Some criteria/rules:

- Unlimited carryover balance
- May be advanced
- Medical certification may be required
- May use while on Annual Leave





### **Court Leave**



Covers an employee who is summoned due to a judicial proceeding, as a...

• Juror

• Witness on behalf of a state or local government





### **Excused Absence**



- Also referred to as Administrative Leave
- Authorized absence for a variety of personal and other non-Technician duty reasons
- Supervisor can excuse absence for a variety of reasons
- TAG may grant up to 3-days per CY for Community Activities



### **Other Excused Absence**



- 5 day excused absence
  - Granted to those returning from Global War on Terrorism
  - Authorized regardless of deployed overseas or stateside
  - Paid time off
  - Used immediately upon return to duty
- Bone marrow
- Organ donor



Ref: 5 U.S.C. 6327



### **Leave Without Pay (LWOP)**



- Temporary non-paid status by OPM Form 71 request by employee and approved by supervisor
- Not an entitlement
- 80 hours accumulated LWOP can affect the employee's Annual and Sick Leave accrual within the leave year
- Service Computation Date (SCD) Must be adjusted by the amount of non-pay time in excess of 6 months in a calendar year



### **Military Leave**



- 15 days 120 hours
- 22 days 176 hours
- 44 days 352 hours

- Charged in hourly increments
- No same-day dual scheduling on Title 32 orders and as technicians
- Military leave is not charged on intervening non-workdays (e.g. holidays, weekends, scheduled days off)



### Military Leave (15 days)



- Paid leave when ordered to active duty, active duty training (ADT) & inactive duty training (IDT)
- 120 hours (15 days) each FY permanent & temporary employees appointed for more than 1 year
- Pro-rated for part-time employees

• Annual Carryover 120 hrs – (30 days) NTE 240 hrs yearly





### Military Leave (22 days)



Also known as "Law Enforcement Leave" (LEL): Paid leave for emergency duty as ordered by the President, the Secretary of Defense, or a State Governor for aid in support of civil authorities in protection of life & property

- Military duty in support of contingency operations.
- Permanent and indefinite employees
- 22 days (176 hours) per calendar year
- Non-workdays/holidays not charged
- No excused absences



### Military Leave (44 days)



- Operations outside the U.S.
- Must be on active duty without pay
- Orders must identify period of leave
- 44 days (352 hrs) per calendar year charged in hours





### **Compensatory Time**



- Time off with pay, in lieu of overtime pay
- Earned at a rate of 1 hour for 1 hour and used in increments determined by local policy
- Advance approval required
- Use within 26 pay periods of earning





### Overtime pay under Title 5 defined as:

- Pay for hours or work "officially ordered or approved" in excess of 8 hours in a day or 40 hours in an administrative workweek. (Compressed work schedules such as 5-4-9 or 4-10 are based on an 80 hour pay period)
- Employees will be compensated for overtime work under Title 5 or Fair Labor Standard Act (FLSA), depending on their exemption status.
- Effective upon conversion to T5, all Overtime and Compensatory Time must be requested by Supervisor in advance and approved by HRO prior to performance. (NGB Form 46-14)



# **FLSA Exemption and Overtime**



**Weekly Pay** 

**Basic Pay** = \$779.60

TOTAL = \$1,130.48

FLSA OT Pay = \$350.88

- Nonexempt employees
  - Entitled to overtime pay under FLSA
  - Compensatory Time Off is paid ILO Overtime Pay only if requested by employee
  - The overtime hourly rate is the employee's hourly rate of basic pay multiplied by 1.5
  - Example: GS-07/01, \$40,684 (\$40,681 / 2087 hrs = \$19.49 hourly rate of basic pay) Computation

Basic Pay (40 hours) \$19.49 x 40 hrs = \$779.60

**Total Hours of Work: 52 Hours** 

**Overtime Work: 12 Hours** 

**Straight Time Pay \$19.49 x 12 hrs = \$233.88** 

FLSA Overtime Pay 0.5 x \$19.49 = \$9.75

0.5 x \$19.49 = \$9.75 \$9.75 x 12 hrs = \$117.00; Total Overtime Pay = \$350.88 (\$233.88 + \$117)

• References: 5 USC 5543; 5 CFR 551.501, 5 CFR 551.512; 5 CFR 551.531

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# **FLSA Exemption and Overtime**



- Exempt employees
  - Entitled to overtime under T5 overtime provisions
  - Compensatory Time Off ILO Overtime Pay may be required for employees whose basic rate of pay exceeds GS-10, step 10
  - Different overtime calculations may apply
    - Employees whose basic rate of pay is greater than GS-10, step 1, the hourly overtime rate is the greater of -
      - The hourly rate of basic pay for GS-10, step 1, multiplied by 1.5
      - The employee's hourly rate of basic pay
- References:
  - 5 CFR 550.101; 550.111-114



### **Overtime References**



### **Department of Labor:**

https://www.dol.gov/whd/flsa/

### Office of Personnel Management (T5):

https://www.opm.gov/

### Statutory and Regulatory Provisions:

- 29 USC §213(a); 29 CFR Part 541
- 5 USC 5542 and 5 USC 5547
- 5 CFR 550.101-113
- For wage employees, 5 USC 5544; 5 CFR 532.503



## **Premium Pay**



#### **Entitled to T5 employees**

Premium pay is additional pay provided to employees for working certain types of hours or under certain types of conditions. Premium pay paid under Title 5 is subject to certain biweekly or annual pay limitations.

- <u>Night:</u> 10% differential paid to an employee for regularly scheduled work performed at night 5 USC 5545(a) and 6123(c); 5 CFR 550.103; 5 CFR 550.121-122
- <u>Sunday:</u> Entitled to 25% of basic pay for work performed during a regular scheduled, non-overtime, basic 8 hour tour of duty that begins or ends on a Sunday 5 USC 5546(a) and 6128(c); 5 CFR 550.103; 5 CFR 550.171-172
- <u>Holiday:</u> Equal to an employee's rate of basic pay. Employees who are required to work on a holiday during their tour of duty receive their rate of basic pay, plus holiday premium pay, for each hour of holiday work. 5 USC 5546(b), 5 CFR 550.103; 5 CFR 550.131-132
- Administratively uncontrollable overtime (AUO) pay
- Standby duty
- Availability



### **Enforced Leave**



### Temporary status to document absences for employees...

- Who are not ready, willing and able to perform assigned duties
- Whose continued presence is undesirable or poses a threat



### **Comp Travel Time**



- WS employees when travel is required on and off-duty, only the travel hours are comp time
- GS may earn comp time while traveling outside of normal duty hours
- Technicians are not entitled to receive lump sum payment for compensatory leave. Upon separation, leave is forfeited.



### **Absence without Leave (AWOL)**



- Without supervisor's prior knowledge/approval
- Status can change with explanation
- AWOL status NOT a disciplinary action
- Can become the basis for initiating an adverse action





### **Recordkeeping Requirements**



- Compensatory Time: Documented at unit
  - NGB 46-14: Request, Authorization, and Report of Compensatory Time
- Military Leave: Copy of orders / certificate of performance / LES
- Court Duty: Letter from court / Check/Paystub
- LWOP: Signed OPM Form 71



### Supervisor's Responsibilities





- Approve/Disapprove leave request
- LWOP/AB-US Submit RPA with appropriate attached documents
- Certify ATAAPS
- Certify changes/corrections



### References



- Technician Personnel Regulations and Supplement
  - Absence and Leave Program (TPR 630)
  - Hours of Duty, Pay and Leave (TPR 990-2)
- OPM Pay & Leave Administration
  - https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/leave-administration/
  - <a href="https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/leave-administration/#url=Reference-Materials">https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/leave-administration/#url=Reference-Materials</a>





# Questions







# Employee Assistance Program

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### **Learning Objectives**



- Overview Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- History
- Services
- EAP Website Tour



### **EAP Overview**



Voluntary, confidential program that helps employees (including management) work through various life changes that may adversely affect job performance, health and personal well-being to optimize the organization's success.



#### **History of the NGB EAP**



#### 1940s

- EAPs began as occupational alcohol program
- Yale Center of Alcohol Studies developed the Plan for Business and Industry

#### 1950s

 EAP field expanded to include employees experiencing issues with mental health

#### 1970s

- The "Hughes Act" mandated EAPs in Federal agencies
- •The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism was established, promoting EAPs further
- Private EAP firms began to offer EAP services for companies

#### 1970s to Present

- Several laws, regulations, and Federal initiatives expanded EAPs in Federal agenceies
- Expansion of EAP services for families member grew



## **EAP Services**



#### Services includes...

- Financial & Legal Services
- Health & Wellness
  - Child/Parenting & Elder Care
- Counseling
- Supervisor & Risk Management
- Crisis Response



#### Financial & Legal Services



Federal Occupational Health's (FOH) EAP includes free consultation with financial experts and licensed attorneys.

Services include help with living will and health care power of attorney, housing or real estate matters, estate planning, education funding, retirement planning, and investment strategies.





#### **Health & Wellness**



Health and wellness presentations and EAP orientations support both supervisors and employees.

The employee orientation sessions discuss the features and benefits of the EAP, how the EAP functions, and how to access and use the EAP.

Health and wellness presentations include such topics as civility, change and transition, balancing work and life, time and stress management, and more.



## **Child Care/Parenting**



Whether faced with a specific need for your child or just want to talk through an issue, EAP Parenting experts are available to provide personalized consultations, research and guidance.

- Caring for your child with special needs
- (Day) Care Options
- Adoption
- Stages & Ages
- Parenting
- Coping with Working Parent Guilt





#### **Elder Care**



EAP specialists have years of experience helping seniors and their families.

If you are faced with a specific situation or want to understand the options available to you and your family, EAP Senior Care experts are available to provide personalized consultations, research and guidance.

- Care Options & Costs
- Caregiving
- Health Conditions
- Healthy Mind & Body
- Safety Concerns





## **Counseling**



Licensed or credentialed professional counselors provide face-to-face, short-term counseling to employees and family members.

Counselors can also provide referrals to community resources based on client needs, health insurance coverage, and financial resources.





## **Supervisor & Risk Management**



EAP counselors provide guidance and consultation so that supervisors and managers can effectively identify, interact with, and refer employees with performance or conduct issues to the program.

FOH counselors are available 24/7 to discuss performance concerns and the appropriate EAP intervention.







## **Crisis Response**





Exposure to threats, acts of violence, natural disasters, injury, or death calls for immediate response.

EAP's professionally trained critical incident stress management (CISM) counselors assist in management consultations, CISM services, and follow-up with the organization and individuals are provided as appropriate.





Get Started Benefits & Services Topics & Tools Health & Wellness



#### Body Mass Index Calculator

Check your BMI to help you aim for a healthy weight.



#### Calorie Burner Counter

See how many calories you've burned through exercise and daily activities.







#### **Contact EAP**





We care, just call.

1-800-222-0364 1-888-262-7848 (TTY) www.FOH4You.com







(800) 342-9647

http://www.militaryonesource.mil/





# Questions







# Occupational Workers' Compensation Program

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#### **Agenda**

- What is Workers Compensation
- FECA Overview
- Privacy Act
- Responsibilities
- Traumatic Injury
- Occupational Disease/Illness
- Conditions of Coverage
  - Timely Filing of Claim
  - Federal Civilian Employee
  - Fact of Injury
  - Performance of Duty
  - Causal Relationship

- ECOMP
  - **OSHA-306**
  - CA-1/CA-2
- OWCP Benefits
- Continuation of Pay
- Timekeeping Codes
- Light Duty
- Appeal Rights
- References



## **Learning Objectives**

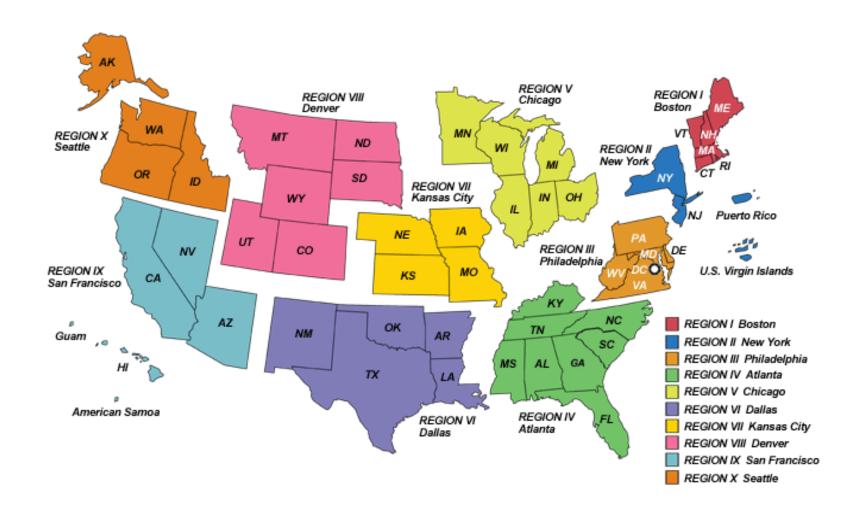


- What is FECA?
- What are my responsibilities?
- How to navigate in ECOMP
- What does benefits do OWCP provides?
- When to take action?



## Department of Labor District Office Locations







### **Workers' Compensation**



- Covered under the...
  - -Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)
- Administered by the...
  - -Department of Labor (DOL)
  - -Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP)





#### **FECA Overview**



• Provides compensation benefits to civilian employees of the U.S. federal government for disability due to traumatic injury or disease or illness in performance of duties

• Provides payment of benefits to dependents for work-related death of an employee as a result of traumatic injury or occupational disease/illness

Note: FECA provides exclusive remedy for work-related injury, disease, or death



## **Privacy Act**



• Claims are covered by The Privacy Act of 1974 "Need to know" is determined by OWCP, <u>not</u> employing agency

- HIPAA
  - Does not apply to OWCP claims
  - Does not affect employing agencies



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#### **Responsibilities**



## Employees:

- Observe health and safety regulations
- Report potential and actual health, safety and fire hazards
- Report all injuries to supervisor
- Obtain medical status reports from physician(s)
- Provide care providers with correct IC-D 9 Codes and Claim Number
- Cooperate with light duty placement
- It is the claimants responsibility to monitor his/her own claim, just as he/she would if it were an insurance claim



## **Responsibilities**



## Supervisors:

- Encourage safe work habits and conditions and enforce safety regulations
- Advise employees on rights and responsibilities
- Encourage reporting of incidents ASAP
- Publicize the OWCP and employees' responsibilities under it
- Represent the agency's interest
- Ensure the P.T. Policy is adhered to & the "buddy system" is in place





#### Responsibilities (cont.)



## Supervisors:

- Investigate incidents; obtain statements; controvert questionable claims
- Complete and submit forms in timely manner through ECOMP
  - <sup>o</sup> CA-1 or CA-2 within three days of receipt
  - <sup>o</sup> CA-7 within three days of receipt
- Keep in contact with employee
- Coordinate personnel actions with HRO
- Coordinate return to work with doctor and accommodate "light duty" work when able (CA17)
- Assist employees in returning to work

PROPER **EYE** 

PROTECTION REQUIRED



## **Responsibilities**



## HRO-M (ICPAs):

- Assists in submission of claims
- Acts as the liaison between employee, supervisor, treating physicians and the DOL
- Informs employees and supervisors of program benefits and requirements



## **Responsibilities**



## The Department of Labor (DOL)...

- Administers the program for all federal agencies
- Accepts or denies claim
- Adjudicates all claims
- Provides payment of claims



## **Traumatic Injury CA-1**

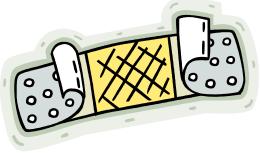


## A traumatic injury is...

• A wound or other condition of the body caused by external force, including stress or strain

#### <u>AND</u>

• Caused by a specific event or incident within a single day or work shift





## Occupational Disease/Illness <u>CA-2</u>



## Occupational Disease/Illness is...

- Condition produced over a period longer than one workday or shift,
   i.e.
  - systemic infections
  - continued or repeated stress or strain
  - Exposure to toxins, poisons, fumes, etc
  - other exposure to conditions of the work environment for two or more work shifts
- Continuation of Pay is <u>not</u> provided for Occupational Diseases



## **5 Conditions of Coverage**



- Timely Filing of Claim
- Federal Civilian Employee
- Fact of Injury
- Performance of Duty
- Causal Relationship





## **Timely Filing**



- Traumatic Injuries:
  - 3 years from date of injury (DOI) to file a claim
  - 30 days from the DOI for Continuation of Pay (COP) eligibility
- Occupational Disease:
  - Date of Injury
  - Date of First Awareness
  - Date of Last Exposure





## Federal Civilian Employee



- FECA covers all civilian employees except for non-appropriated fund employees (NAF)
- Temporary employees covered on the same basis as permanent employees
- FECA does NOT cover:
  - State employees
  - Employees in a military status
  - Line of Duty injuries (to include drill)



## **Fact of Injury**



#### **Factual**

 actual occurrence of an accident, incident, or exposure in time, place, and manner alleged

#### Medical

medical condition diagnosed in connection with that accident, incident, or exposure. A medical diagnosis is required



## **Performance of Duty**



- Injury occurred
  - while performing assigned duties of engaging in an activity reasonably associated with the employment
  - on work premises (assigned work areas)
  - off the premises while engaging in work activity as it relates to the P.D.

• PT injuries incurred during technician status as part of an approved program ARE considered if adhering to the policy



## **Causal Relationship**



- Link between work-related exposure/injury and any medical condition found
- Based entirely on medical evidence provided by physicians who have examined and treated the employee
- Opinions of employee, supervisor, or witnesses not considered



#### **Statutory Exclusions**



• Willful misconduct

- deliberate and intentional disobedience of rules/orders (not

carelessness)

• Drug or Alcohol intoxication

- proximately caused the injury

- Intent to injure self or others
  - intent must be established

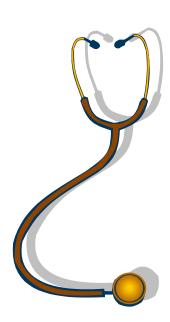




#### **OWCP Benefits**



- Medical expenses (fee schedule)
- First aid expenses
- Rehabilitation
- Travel expenses to care provider
- Chiropractic care (limited)
- Early nurse intervention
- Assisted Reemployment Program
- Continuation of Pay (COP)
- Compensation for lost wages
- Scheduled benefits
- Permanent total disability
- Death benefits





## **Continuation of Pay (COP)**



- Continuation of an employee's regular pay by the employing agency with no charge to sick or annual leave
  - Traumatic injury claims *only*
  - Maximum of 45 calendar days per injury
  - Written notice of injury must be submitted within 30 days of the date of injury
  - Medical evidence is required



## **Terminating COP**



- Employee returns to work with no loss of pay
  - Employee's period of employment expires
  - OWCP directs the employer to stop
  - COP has been paid for 45 days
- However, the agency may controvert the employee's COP entitlement pending a final determination by OWCP
- NOTE: OWCP has the exclusive authority to determine questions of entitlement and all other issues relating to COP



## **Timekeeping Codes**



- LU
  - Used in conjunction with Traumatic injuries on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of injury
  - Also enter the "injury number" with the leave code
  - Injury Number = month and day on which the first day of absence occurred

ex: Injury occurring on 15 February = LU# 0215

- LT
  - Continuation of pay
- KD
  - LWOP code for Workers Comp.



## **Light Duty**



## Responsibility of...

The supervisor to try to accommodate the return of an employee on light duty

- The HRO to officially reassign an employee to another position if

necessary

- The employee to cooperate





## **Appeal Rights**



- Oral Hearing within 30 Days
- Reconsideration within 1 year
- ECAB Appeal Board within 180 Days From date of Decision



## **References**

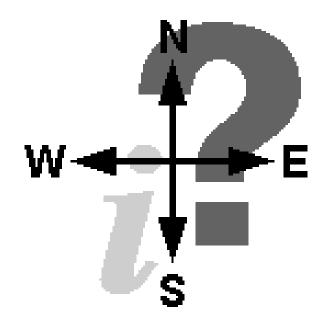


- 5 U.S.C. 8101
- Code of Federal Regulations, 20 CFR part 10
- FECA Procedure Manual Part 2
- Publication CA-810
- OWCP Directive
- ECAB Decisions



## Questions









# Uniformed Service Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 USERRA

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## **Agenda**



- What is USERRA?
- Who does USERRA affect?
- How does it affect benefits?
- USERRA Election Packet Overview
- Supervisory and Technician Responsibilities
- Great to know References



## **Objectives**



- Gain knowledge on the agency process for USERRA
- Know websites to use and assist employees
- Be the link between the employee and HRO
- Prevent or minimize personnel issues and backlog



## What is USERRA?



- Effective October 13, 1994, a federal law that establishes certain rights and benefits for employees and duties for employers
- Protecting veteran's employment and reemployment rights against discrimination and retaliation
- Service in the "Uniformed Services" covers all military training and service, whether in a voluntary or involuntary basis, in time of peace or war
- Employee is entitled to non-seniority rights and benefits (within grade increases, general adjustments, health insurance)



## Who does this affect?



- USERRA applies to persons serving in the active components of the Armed Forces
- USERRA applies to virtually all employers, public or private in the United States, regardless of size, including the Federal Government
- Two choices: Employee may be placed on Absent-US or Separation-US status. Both status affords the technician reemployment rights



## Who does this affect?



- Limits reemployment rights to <u>five cumulative years</u> with the same employer
- Military deposit required to be paid prior to separation or retirement
- Reemployments rights if military service as follows:
  - Less than 31 days, report back to work on the <u>next</u> scheduled work day
  - More than 31 days but less than 180 days, must apply to <u>return within 14 days</u> following release from military service
  - More than 181 days, must apply to <u>return within 90 days</u> following the release from military service



## Who does this affect?



## What is Reservist Differential?

- Department of Defense must pay a reservist differential payment to *eligible* technicians who are orders to active duty under provisions of law defined in 10 USC 101(a)(13)(b)
- The purpose of the reservist differential is to ensure no loss of pay while serving on military orders. Civilian pay exceeds military pay
- Titles performed under these nine qualifying for reservist differential:
  - 10 USC 331, 10 USC 332, 10 USC 333, 10 USC 688, 10 USC 12301(a), 10 USC 12302, 10 USC 12304 10 USC 12305, 10 USC 12406





Can I use my accrued leave when I go on orders?

- Annual Leave Code: "LA" (5 USC 6304)
- Military Leave Code: "LM" (5 USC 6323)
- Compensatory Time Off for Travel Code: "CF" (5 USC 5550b)
- Sick Leave Code: "LS" (5 USC 6307), if appropriate, must be approved by HRO
- NGB Exception: Regular Compensatory Time (CT), if your employee has CT, it must be used <u>prior</u> to any other authorized paid leave. The effective date of the Absent-US will be adjusted accordingly
- Non-pay status Code: "KG"
  UNCLASSIFIED



## Who does this affect?



Are there other leave I can use?

- 44-Day Military Leave Code: "LV"
- 22-Day Law Enforcement Leave Code: "LL"
- 5-Day Presidential Leave Code: "LV" Upon returning to duty from a contingency operation. Must have completed at least <u>42 consecutive days</u> on active duty. May only be used <u>once</u> for a 12 month period



## Who does this affect?



What counts against my 5-year limit for reemployment rights?

## **Exemptions**

- Involuntary active duty in wartime
- Involuntary active duty for national emergency up to 24 months
- Ordered to active duty in support, as determined by the Secretary of the military departments, or critical mission requirement
- Active duty in support of a war and national emergency

https://www.dol.gov/vets/vms/userra/ex43.doc



## How does it affect benefits?



## Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB):

- Employee is eligible for continued coverage for up to 24 months when called to active duty. (P.L. 108-375)
- Non-contingency: Employee pays for premium for the first 12 months and the second 12 months pays for agency and employee premiums (102%)
- Contingency: Agency pays for premiums

## Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI):

• Employee is eligible for coverage continues until the technician's times in a non-pay status totals 12 months at no cost of the technician



## How does it affect benefits?



## **Thrift Savings Plan (TSP):**

- Returning employees have the opportunity to make up missed contributions. Agency matching and automatic 1%.
- TSP-41 Loan (if applicable)
- Thriftline: 1-877-968-3778

## **HOT TIP:**

Technician can continue to pay their TSP Loan while on military orders by completing TSP-26 Coupon

PREVENT TAXABLE DISTRIBUTIONS



## How does it affect benefits?



# Federal Dental and Vision Insurance Program (BENEFEDS/FEDVIP)

- Technician must call and notify BENEFEDS of their status (if applicable)
- Must keep up with payments current to avoid lapse in coverage
- 1-877-888-3337

## Flexible Spending Account (FSAFEDS)

- Technician must call and notify FSAFEDS of their status to Absent-US and when returning to duty
- 1-877-372-3337

# Federal Long Term Care Insurance (FLTCIP)

- Technician must call and notify FLTCIP and keep premium payments up to date to prevent a cancellation of coverage
- 1-800-582-3337



## **How does it affect benefits?**



## National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)

- Disability/Supplemental Insurance Exclusively for the Air and Army National Guard federal technicians.
- Protection when you are unable to work due to a disability.
- Payroll deductions
- Contact Information:

ReliaStar Life Insurance Company
Route Number 8947
20 Washington Ave South Minneapolis, MN 55401
1-800-955-7736 Ext. 342-3155 FAX: 1-612-372-5301



## **How does it affect benefits?**



## **Retirement**

- Reminder: Military deposit will need to be paid prior to retirement or separation to be creditable for retirement.
- Processing time for military deposits requires approximately, at the least, 120 days.



## **USERRA Election Packet Overview**

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## <u>USERRA Election Forms – Absent – Uniformed Service</u>



				FEGLI Notice and Election Form
	60.	Purpose of This	I have read the info (please initial one	Г.,
	ORDERS:	This form is used to ele automatic. You do not basis, or you previousl	[ ] I el 31- the a Fl	THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN TSP-41 NOTIFICATION TO TSP OF NONPAY STATUS (AGENCY USE) This form is for agency use only. Full instructions are on the back
	You are ordered to indicated unless so	I. PARTICIPANT IN  Last Name  Mailing Address	[ ] I el 12 i pre	INFORMATION ABOUT THE TSP PARTICIPANT     The nonpay status applies to the participant's:
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records : Full nan	Additional instruct (a) Sure pay is mai requirement to	□ This is my initia □ I am making thi □ I wish to waive	the in r tim	Reason for Nonpay: Military Service Other Nonpay End Date:     /     /
Home A	(b) Early reportin (c) Unaccompanied (d) Movement of ho (e) Travel will be and includes t	My QLE is	con and <i>ou</i> 12	6. Correct the reason for nonpay or start date previously submitted for this participant:  7. Cancel a nonpay start date previously submitted for this participant.
Date of	location and r Soldiers whose one time trave will be provid as transportat	I elect to have my F FEHB premium ded instructions for acc	Upon return of th information to in	Reason for Nonpay: Military Service Other Complete Item 8.  New Start Date: Modellyyyd Military Service Other Complete Item 8.
Note: T advance	This means tot transportation	Signature	remittance form, your premiums a changes to age g	Complete Item 8.  8. Enter the Nonpay Start Date previously submitted: [mmd6/www]
I want to	<ul><li>(g) Special Storage</li><li>(h) Excess accompanies</li><li>(i) Bring with you</li><li>(j) Soldier will he</li></ul>	□ I am making th □ I wish to partic	to duty, your FEG placed in a nonpa Civilian Payroll O	III. AGENCY CERTIFICATION — Please complete this entire section.
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S LEAVE	Soldiers (but days). It is a Active Duty de visit web site Dependents are	Authorized agend	(Employee's Signati	12
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	the Army (Manp demobilization day for OCONUS DFAS-IN while	Privacy Act Statem to waive or restore routine uses promi	(HRO use only) For and/or ( <i>email</i> )	Agency Telsphone (Area Code and Number)  Do Not Write Below This Line
d)		this information is	. , ,	FORM TSP-41 (8/2012) PREVIOUS EDITIONS OBSOLETE Reproduce Locally

## **USERRA Absent-US Checklist**

- USERRA Absent-US Election Form (October 2017)
- Military Orders
- Premium Conversion
- FEGLI Notice and Election Form
- TSP-41 (If Applicable)



## <u>USERRA Election Forms – Return to Duty</u>

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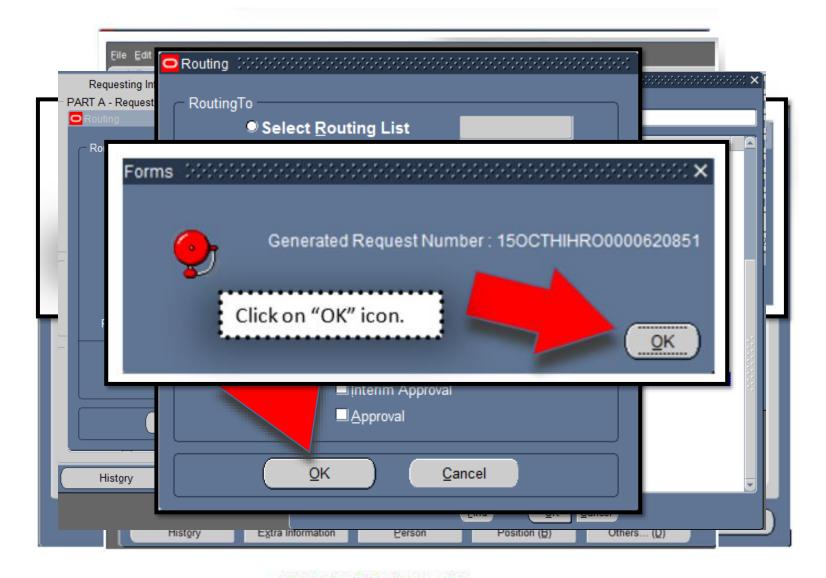
Welcome Back! Please	Purpose of This F	THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN TSP-41
taken prior to your retu provided below (you on	This form is used to elect	NOTIFICATION TO TSP OF NONPAY STATUS (AGENCY USE)
any other relative docur could have an interre	automatic. You do not ne	The first of the second of the first of the
	basis, or you previously w	I. INFORMATION ABOUT THE TSP PARTICIPANT     1. The nonpay status applies to the participant's:
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POSITION TITLE/GRAD	Mailing Address	2. Last Name First Name Middle Name
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<ol> <li>Reemployment/R must apply for reemploy</li> </ol>	II. ELECTION TO WAIN	II. TYPE OF NONPAY NOTIFICATION
The length of my n	l elect to waive partici have my FEHB premiu	4. Beginning of nonpay — Complete when the participant enters nonpay status.  5. End of nonpay — Complete only after the participant returns to pay status.
<u>Length of Milita</u>	Signature	Reason for Nonpay: Military Service Other Nonpay End Date: // // //
[ ]		Nonpay Start Date: // // // // // // // // // // // // //
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[ ]	□ I wish to waive pa	<ul> <li>6. Correct the reason for nonpay or start date previously submitted for this participant:</li> <li>7. Cancel a nonpay start date previously submitted for this participant.</li> </ul>
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	instructions for accep	8. Enter the Nonpay Start Date previously submitted:
[ ]	Signature	III. AGENCY CERTIFICATION — Please complete this entire section.
	□ I am making this □ I wish to participa	9
[ ]	u i wish to participa	Signature of Agency Official  Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
	IV. TO BE COMPLETE	11. Last Name First Name Middle Name
	Approved	12. Agency Name
[ ]	Approved	Foreign address? 1/
r 1	Authorized agency	Check here.  14-  Street Address or Box Number for Agency Official (For a foreign address, see instructions on back.)
3. Reservist Differen		Street Address Line 2
5. <u>Reservist Differen</u>	Name and address o	15
L J		City State Zip Code
4. <u>Federal Employee</u>		18 19
[ ]		
	Privacy Act Statemer to waive or restore th routine uses promulg this information is no	FORM TSP-41 [8/2012] PREVIOUS EDITIONS OBSOLETE  Reproduce Locally

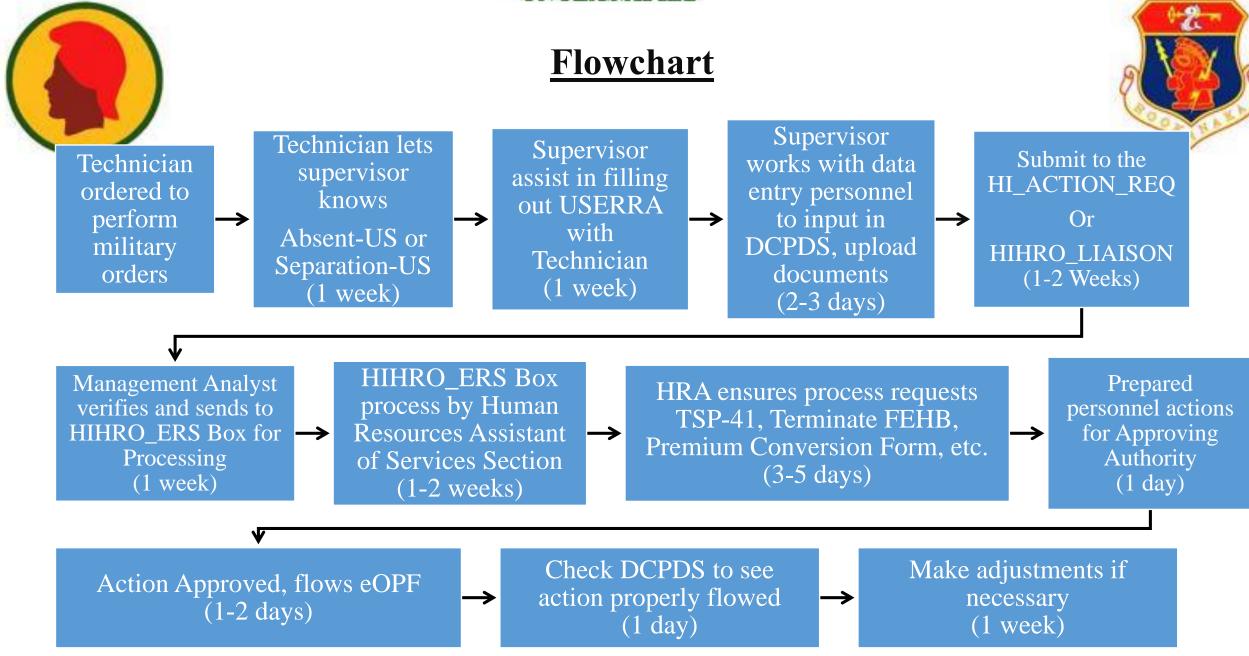
## **USERRA RTD Checklist**

- USERRA RTD Election Form
- Military Orders (All amendments) and DD
   214s
- Premium Conversion
- TSP-41 (If Applicable)



Upload to Defense Civilian Personnel Data System (DCPDS)







## Supervisory and Technician Responsibilities



## Supervisor Responsibilities

- Keep open communication with your employees as you are the key
- Contact HRO for assistance and be the link for a smooth transition

## Technician Responsibilities

- Communicate with supervisor and complete appropriate documents prior to entering uniformed services.
   \*\*Notice may be verbal but paperwork needs to go through the chain.
- Timely notification of intent to exercise restorations rights.



## Supervisory and Technician Responsibilities



## What are OUR responsibilities:

- The Human Resources Office (HRO) responsibilities are advising managers, supervisors, and technicians regarding the rights and provisions of USERRA.
- Human Resources Officer (HRO) The TAG delegated authority responsible for the execution of the rights and provisions of USERRA.
- We are here to support your federal technician career.



## **Great to know - References**



- http://dod.hawaii.gov/hro/technician-resources/benefits/userra/
- <a href="https://www.opm.gov">https://www.opm.gov</a>
- <a href="https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/pay-administration/#url=Reservist-Differential">https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/pay-administration/#url=Reservist-Differential</a>
- <a href="https://www.benefeds.com/">https://www.benefeds.com/</a>
- https://www.ngaus.org/protecting-guard-members-and-their-families/technicians-insurance
- https://www.tsp.gov/
- https://www.esgr.mil/USERRA/What-is-USERRA
- <a href="https://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/">https://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/</a>





## Questions





## Employee Benefits SrA Melanie Marquez

Point of Contact:
Mrs. Noelani M. A. DE Silva
Human Resources Specialist
Employee Benefits
(808) 672-1231
noelani.m.desilva.mil@mail.mil



## **Learning Objectives**



- Federal Employee's Health Insurance (FEHB)
  - Federal Flexible Spending Account (FSA)
  - Federal Long Term Care Insurance (FLTCIP)
- Federal Employee's Dental and Vision Insurance Plan (FEDVIP)
- Federal Employee's Group Life insurance (FEGLI)
- Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)
- Retirement
  - Types of Retirement
  - Retirement Process



## Federal Employee's Health Benefits (FEHB)



## **Basic Provisions**

- There are no waiting periods
- No restrictions on pre-existing conditions
- Government contributes substantially
- Technician must enroll self only, self plus one or self & family within 60 days of eligibility
- Temporary employees with appointments of 90 days





## Federal Employee's Health Benefits (FEHB) (cont.)



## Coverage

- Enrollees may change plans or options during annual Open Season
- In certain cases, may also convert coverage when leaving government
- Can be maintained while on LWOP
- Technician reservist who are placed in a leave without pay status when called to active duty for more than 30 days can keep their FEHB coverage for up to 24 months.



## Federal Flexible Spending Account (FSA)



- Contribution are pre-taxed
- Allows you to save money for health care expenses
- ENROLLMENT: Open Season, 60 days of becoming eligible



## **Health Care (HCFSA)**

- Eligible for medical expenses not paid by FEHB or any other insurance

## **Dependent Care (DCFSA)**

- Eligible dependent care expenses (childcare, eldercare)
- Employee and spouse can work look for work, attend school full-time

## **Limited Expense Health Care (LEX HCFSA)**

- Enrolled or covered under a
   High Deductible Health Plan
   (HDHP) w/ a Health Savings
   Account (HSA)
- Covers eligible dental & vision expenses ONLY!



## Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP)

- Long term care is care that you need if you can no longer perform everyday tasks by yourself due to a chronic illness, injury, disability or the aging process.
- Non-skilled, custodial care
- Help with daily living activities
- Supervision due to cognitive impairment (e.g. Alzheimer's disease)
- No Regularly Scheduled Open Season Apply online

**Contact Information** 

**Long Term Care Partners** 

1-800-582-3557

www.opm.gov/insure/ltc; https://www.ltcfeds.com



## Federal Employee's Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP)



- Supplemental dental and vision benefits
- Available to federal employees
- Provides competitive premiums
- No pre-existing condition limitations
- Separate from FEHB
- ENROLLMENT: During annual Open Season, 60 days of becoming eligible

**Contact Information** 

**BENEFEDS** 

1-877-888-3337

https://www.benefeds.com



## Federal Employee's Group Life Insurance (FEGLI)



**Basic Life:** annual basic salary rounded to next highest \$1,000 plus \$2,000 – automatic unless waived

- Technician pays 2/3 Government pays 1/3
- If originally waived, a physical exam is required (at the employee's expense) in order to enroll later



## Federal Employee's Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) (cont.)



## **Options:**

A: Standard – insures you insurance for \$10,000

B: Additional -1 to 5 x basic pay, rounded up to the next even \$1,000

C: Family -1-5 multiples; each multiple is equal to \$5,000 for a spouse and

\$2,500 for each eligible dependent child



## Federal Employee's Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) (cont.)



## Options:

- A, B & C Any combination with the Basic coverage
- Personnel should conduct a periodic review of beneficiary designation in their eOPFs
- Coverage continues for up to 12 months in a LWOP or non-pay status





## **Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)**



- Tax deferred retirement savings/investment plan (410K)
- Retirement
  - Receive matching contributions
  - Reduce current taxes
- Automatic 3% matching

## Two types of employee contributions:

- Regular
- Catch-Up (for participates 50 and older)

## Two types of tax treatments:

- Traditional (pre-tax)
- Roth (after-tax)



### Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) (cont.)



#### **Contact Information**



**PLAN** 

TSP 1-TSP-YOU-FRST (1-877-968-3778 1-866-817-5023 (fax)

https://www.tsp.gov

Thrift Savings Plan P.O. Box 385021 Birmingham, AL 35238











## Retirement

Mrs. Noelani M. A. DE Silva Human Resources Specialist Employee Benefits (808) 672-1231 noelani.m.desilva.mil@mail.mil









### Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS)



## Applies to...

New employees first hired in a covered position prior to 1-JAN-1984

- Oldest of the retirement systems
- Employees and government each contribute 7% of employee's basic annual pay
- Employees may also contribute an unmatched amount to Thrift Sayings Plan do not get government matching contributions





## <u>Civil Service Retirement System-Interim</u> (<u>CSRS-Interim</u>)



## Applies to...

Employees first hired on/after 1-JAN-1984 and certain rehires

- Reduced CSRS contribution rate of 1.3%
- Contributes to Social Security

#### 1-JAN-1987 CSRS Interim Coverage change...

<b>CSRS</b> -Offset	5 years of civilian service
FERS	Less than 5 years of civilian service



## Civil Service Retirement System - OFFSET (CSRS-OFFSET)



## Applies to...

Employees who were in CSRS-Interim and had 5 years of civilian service as of 31-DEC-1986 OR

Employees who are/became subject to Social Security due to a break in service and have 5 years of civilian service

- Reduced CSRS contribution rate of 0.8%
- Contributes to Social Security

### Federal Employee's Retirement System (FERS)

Only retirement system available to...

- New employees hired after 1 Jan 1987, and
- Prior service employees after a break of over 365 days but not eligible for CSRS-Offset

RETIREMENT SYSTEM	EMPLOYEE	GOVERNMENT
FERS	0.8%; Social Security	16.9%; Social Security
FERS-RAE	3.1%; Social Security	15.0%; Social Security
FERS-FRAE	4.4%; Social Security	15.0%; Social Security

- Employees may contribute up to IRS Limit to TSP; receive agency matching 5% if you contribute at least 5% of your salary. MAXIMIZE your investment!!!
  - First 3% contribution are matched dollar-for-dollar
  - Next 2% will be matched at 50 cents to the dollar
  - Automatic 1% contribution regardless of TSP contribution rate



## Federal Employee's Retirement System (FERS) (cont.)



FERS is a 3-tiered retirement system

FERS Annuity

FERS annuity is the smallest component

**Social Security** 

**Thrift Savings Plan** 

TSP WILL make up the largest portion of your total retirement



## **Types of Retirement**







- Optional Retirement
- Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA)
- Discontinued Service Retirement (DSR)
  - Military Reserve Technician (MRT)
- Deferred Retirement
- Disability Retirement
- Public Law 97-253 (National Guard dual-status disability retirement)



### **General Eligibility Requirements**

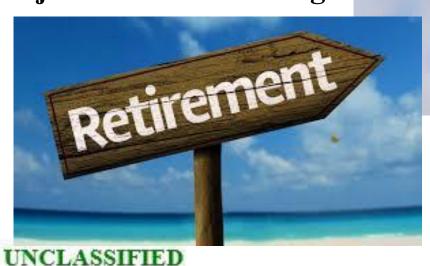


• Have at least 5 years of creditable civilian service with the Federal

government

•Meet Minimum Retirement Age (MRA)

•Must separate from a position subject to FERS coverage





## Minimum Retirement Age (MRA)

If year of birth is	The MRA is
Before 1948	55
1948	55 & 2 Months
1949	55 & 4 Months
1950	55 & 6 Months
1951	55 & 8 Months
1952	55 & 10 Months
1953-1964	56
1965	56 & 2 Months
1966	56 & 4 Months
1967	56 & 6 Months
1968	56 & 8 Months
1969	56 & 10 Months
1970 & After	57





## Optional Retirement (Voluntary)



Age	Service Requirements
MRA	30 years creditable service
60	20 years creditable service
62	5 years creditable service

AGE	Service Requirements
<b>MRA</b> ( <b>MRA</b> +10)	10 years creditable service (5 years civilian)

**✓**NOT entitled to an annuity supplement. Annuity accrues the first day of following month of your retirement.



## **Determining the MRA Age Reduction**



If	Then
FERS employee retires UNDER MRA +10 retirement provision.	Annuity will be reduced by 5/12 of 1% each full month employee is under age 62 at time annuity commences.  (5% reduction for each year)
FERS employee separates at MRA and postpones receiving MRA +10 annuity until future date.	Percentage of the age reduction will be reduced. Amount is determined based on the age of the retiree when application for the benefit is filed.
FERS employee separates with 20 years of service and postpones receiving the MRA +10 annuity to age 60.	Age reduction is not applied when the annuity is received.
Retiree postpones annuity to age 62	Age reduction is not applied when the annuity is received.

**√5%** reduction for each year under age 62 (permanent reduction)



#### **Early Retirement**



Two types of early retirement options for FERS employees

- Early voluntary retirements (early out)

(Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA))

- Discontinued Service Retirement (DSR) (T5 NOT Eligible)

Age	Service Requirements
50	20 years creditable service*
Any Age	25 years creditable service*

\* Must include 5 years of creditable civilian service



### **Early Retirement (cont.)**

#### **VERA**

<u>DSR</u>

- Agency/Installation must approve
- Eligible for Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay (VSIP) or severance pay
- Must receive a specific written notice of a proposed involuntary separation from your Agency/Installation
- Annuity starts day after separation
- NOT eligible for VSIP or severance pay

- No age reduction under FERS for early retirement
  - CSRS component: portion of annuity will be reduced 2% each full year under the age of 55
- You will receive an annuity supplement if:
  - You retire at or after your MRA
  - If not, you will receive it once you reach your MRA



#### Military Reserve Technician (MRT)

- T5 NOT Eligible
- Involuntary separation is based on loss of military membership (not for cause).
- Eligible to receive immediate FERS annuity supplement regardless of MRA.

First hired on/before 10-FEB-1996		
Age	Service Requirements	
50	25 years of creditable "Federal" service - Title 10 AD/temp service prior to 1-JAN-1989: service deposit used to achieve 25 years of creditable "Federal" service.	

First hired after 10-FEB-1996	
Age	Service Requirements
50	20 years of creditable "military technician" service
Any Age	25 years of creditable "military technician" service

• Military Technician service – time earned while in dual status UNCLASSIFIED





Annuity for which an employee attains eligibility at a future

Age	Service Requirements
62	5 years creditable civilian service
MRA	10 years creditable service
MRA	30 years of service
60	20 years of service

- 5% age reduction for employees with less than 30 years of service and applies for a deferred annuity at MRA
- FEHB and FEGLI will not be reinstated at the time your annuity commences. Your application for retirement is sent directly to OPM.

NOTE: NOT eligible for FERS Annuity Supplement

\*\*\* Defer: Not eligible to retire vs. Post Pone: Eligible to retire but choose to hold off\*\*\*



## **FERS Annuity Supplement**

- An estimated amount of Social Security benefits earned during FERS service
- Benefit paid until age 62 to certain FERS employees who retire before age 62 and are entitled to an immediate annuity
- Eligibility:
  - Has at least 1 calendar year of FERS service
     AND
  - Retires with an immediate annuity
  - At or after MRA with 30 years
  - At age 60 with 20 years of service
  - At or after MRA under Early/DSR retirement provisions
  - Under Special Provisions (i.e., FF, LEO, etc.)

- Individuals **NOT** eligible for annuity supplement:
  - Disability Retiree
  - MRA +10 provision
  - Deferred Annuity
  - Retiring at age 62 or older
  - CSRS Employees
- Duration of annuity supplement:

Payable through the earlier of the following dates:

- Last day of the month you become age 62 OR;
- Last day of the month before the first month you are entitled to Social



### **FERS Annuity Supplement (cont.)**



Supplement is tested for earnings above the Social Security exempt amount (\$17,040 for 2018)

- Earnings include wages and self-employment income
- Income from severance pay (including VSIP), pensions, savings and investments are NOT subject to the earnings test.

• Annuity supplement will be offset by \$1 for every \$2 over this amount that

is earned in 2017





## **High-3 Average Salary**



• Weighted average of highest 3 years of basic pay (including locality

pay/local market supplement)

• Must be 3 consecutive years (Usually the last 3 years)

• Is the highest salary, not the highest grade

• Normally, the beginning date of the 3rd year period is determined by subtracting 3 years from the date of retirement



## **Disability Retirement**



• Disability – Unable to render useful & efficient service because of disease or injury

AGE	Service Requirements
Any Age	18 months creditable civilian service

- Must be in a position covered by FERS
- Disability annuity IS subject to Federal tax



# Special NG Disability Retirement Provision Public Law 97-253 T5 NOT Eligible



## NG technician may be eligible if:

- Involuntarily separated due to medical disqualification
- Not found by OPM as meeting criteria for a "regular" disability retirement
- Not appointed to another Federal position
- Not declined a reasonable job offer

\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE for the FERS NG technician regarding the special provisions of PL 97-253

OPM disapproves the disability application under FERS "regular" provisions, then the technician is NOT eligible for a disability retirement under the special provisions of PL 97-253.



## **Designation of Beneficiary**



## **Beneficiary Forms:**

- SF 1152 (Unpaid Comp)
- SF 2823 (FEGLI)
- SF 3102 (FERS)
- TSP 3 (TSP)

#### **Order of Precedence:**

- Court Order
- Designation of Beneficiary
- Widow or Widower
- Children (and/or descendants of deceased children)
- Parents
- Executor or Administrator of Estate
- Next of Kin



#### **Retirement Process**



#### 5 years prior to retirement eligibility:

- Contact the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) for retirement estimate & information
- Call HRO/ABC-C with questions on retirement estimate

#### 180 days prior to retirement:

- Complete the eRetirement forms on EBIS website
- Call HRO/ABC-C for help with the retirement forms

#### 90-120 days prior to retirement:

- HRO conduct retirement review
- Mail original retirement forms to ABC-C
- Maintain personal copy
- Provide good retirement address & contact information



## **Retirement Process (Cont.)**



### 30-60 days prior to retirement:

Retirement package assigned to specialist

### **ABC-C** retirement specialist:

- Verifies required forms and documents
- Processes retirement package
- Provides final retirement counseling
- Retirement package is forwarded to DFAS

#### 2 -4 weeks after retirement:

- Final paycheck is received
- Lump sum annual leave is paid
- VSIP payments if applicable

#### **Approx. 8 weeks after retirement:**

- Receive 1st INTERIM payment
- Receive letter from OPM with CSA\* number

\*CSA: Civil Service Annuitant Number

- CSA & password -> log on to OPM.gov
  - Print monthly statement
    - "retired MyPay"



### **Additional Information**

#### **CONTACT THE ABC-C**



• Toll Free 1-877-276-9287 FAX 1-785-240-6153 Select:

1= Army Civilian

2= DCMA Civilian

3= National Guard

**4= Non-Appropriated Fund or Uniformed Service Member** 

Specialists are available from 6 am –5 pm CT
 (Monday through Friday except National Holidays)

• Website: <a href="https://www.abc.army.mil">https://www.abc.army.mil</a>

• Mailing Address: 305 Marshall Avenue

Ft. Riley, KS 66442



### **References**



5 CFR 890 (FEHB)

5 CFR Part 894 (FEDVIP)

5 CFR Part 875 (FLTCIP)

**FEHB Handbook** 

5 USC Chapter 89A & 89B (FEHB)

5 USC Chapter 90

**5 USC 87 (FEGLI)** 

**5 CFR 870 (FEGLI)** 

**DODI 1400.25 Vol 870 (FEGLI)** 

Benefits Administration Letters (BALs) - OPM

www.opm.gov/insure/dentalvision/index.asp

https://www.opm.gov/retirement-services/

https://www.tsp.gov/

**CSRS/FERS Handbook** 

5 CFR, Chapter 1 (CSRS/FERS)

5 USC Chapter 84 (CSRS/FERS)





# Questions

