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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

5 CFR Part 890

RIN 3206-A105

Federal Employees Health Benefits Program: Removal of Minimum Salary Requirement

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing a final rule to remove an obsolete provision that prohibits an employee whose annual salary is \$350 or less from enrolling in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 26, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth A. Lease, 202-606-0004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 6, 1998, OPM published a proposed rule in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 446) to remove an obsolete provision that prohibits an employee earning \$350 or less per year from enrolling in the FEHB Program. This provision was based on the fact that, until they were amended in 1982, FEHB regulations required that employee contributions to premiums could only be made by salary withholding while an employee was in a pay status. (\$350 is the amount which, when the Program began in 1960, was sufficient to cover the appropriate employee contributions for the least costly FEHB plan.) As amended in August 1982, however, the regulations now require enrollee contributions, by direct payment if necessary, for all periods during which coverage continues, even periods during which an employee does not receive pay (such as a leave without pay situation).

We also proposed to amend the reference in the definition of *letter of*

credit under § 890.101 to conform to a recent reference change in Chapter 16 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations (FEHBAR).

We received no comments.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify that this regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because it primarily affects Federal employees.

List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 890

Administrative practice and procedure, Government employees, Health facilities, Health insurance, Health professions, Hostages, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Retirement.

Office of Personnel Management.

Janice R. Lachance,

Director.

Accordingly, OPM is amending 5 CFR part 890 as follows:

PART 890—FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM

1. The authority citation for part 890 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 8913; § 890.803 also issued under 50 U.S.C. 403p, 22 U.S.C. 4069c and 4069c-1; subpart L also issued under sec. 599C of Pub. L. 101-513, 104 Stat. 2064, as amended, § 890.102 also issued under sections 11202(f), 11232(e), and 11246(b) and (c) of Pub. L. 105-33, 111 Stat. 251.

2. In § 890.101, paragraph (a), the definition of *Letter of Credit* is revised to read as follows:

§ 890.101 Definitions; time computations.

(a) * * *
Letter of credit is defined in 48 CFR 1602.170-10.

§ 890.102 [Amended]

3. In § 890.102, paragraph (c)(4) is removed and paragraphs (c)(5), (c)(6), (c)(7), and (c)(8) are redesignated as paragraphs (c)(4), (c)(5), (c)(6), and (c)(7) respectively.

4. In § 890.303, paragraph (b) is revised to read as follows:

§ 890.303 Continuation of enrollment.

* * * * *
(b) *Change of enrolled employees to certain excluded positions.* Employees and annuitants enrolled under this part

who move, without a break in service or after a separation of 3 days or less, to an employment in which they are excluded by § 890.102(c), continue to be enrolled unless excluded by paragraphs (c) (4), (5), (6), or (7) of § 890.102.

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[FR Doc. 98-13922 Filed 5-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Airspace Docket No. 98-ACE-12]

Amendment to Class E Airspace; Knoxville, IA

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Direct final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This action amends the Class E airspace area at Knoxville Municipal Airport, Knoxville, IA. The FAA has developed Global Positioning System (GPS) Runway (RWY) 15 and RWY 33 Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPs) to serve Knoxville Municipal Airport. Additional controlled airspace extending upward from 700 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) is needed to accommodate these SIAPs and for Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations at this airport. The enlarged area will contain the new GPS RWY 15 and GPS RWY 33 SIAPs in controlled airspace. The intended effect of this rule is to provide controlled Class E airspace for aircraft executing the GPS RWY 15 and GPS RWY 33 SIAPs and to segregate aircraft using instrument approach procedures in instrument conditions from aircraft operating in visual conditions.

DATES: This direct final rule is effective on 0901 UTC, August 13, 1998.

Comments for inclusion in the Rules Docket must be received on or before June 15, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the rule in triplicate to: Manager, Airspace Branch, Air Traffic Division, ACE-520, Federal Aviation Administration, Docket Number 98-ACE-12, 601 East 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106.