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5 CFR Ch. I (1-1-03 Edition)

Subpart D—Payments During Evacuation

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 5527; E.O. 10982, 3 CFR 1959-1963, p. 502.

SOURCE: 59 FR 66332, Dec. 28, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 550.401 Purpose, applicability, authority, and administration.

(a) *Purpose.* This subpart provides regulations to administer subchapter III (except sections 5524a and 5525) of chapter 55 of title 5, United States Code. The regulations provide for Governmentwide uniformity in making payments during an evacuation to employees or their dependents, or both, who are evacuated in the United States because of natural disasters or for military or other reasons that create imminent danger to their lives.

(b) *Applicability.* This subpart applies to—

(1) Executive agencies, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) Employees of an agency who are U.S. citizens or who are U.S. nationals;

(3) Employees of an agency who are not citizens or nationals of the United States, but who were recruited with a transportation agreement that provides return transportation to the area from which recruited; and

(4) Alien employees of an agency hired within the United States.

(c) *Authority.* The head of an agency may make advance payments and evacuation payments and pay special allowances as provided by this subpart. If the head of an agency proposes to issue regulations that deviate from the provisions of this subpart, prior approval of the agency regulations, as required by section 4(b) of Executive Order 10982 of December 25, 1961, must be secured from the Office of Personnel Management.

(d) *Administration.* The head of an agency having employees subject to this subpart is responsible for the proper administration of this subpart. Payment of advance payments and evacuation payments and any required adjustments shall be made in accordance

with procedures established by the agency.

[59 FR 66332, Dec. 28, 1994, as amended at 65 FR 41869, July 7, 2000]

§ 550.402 Definitions.

Agency means an Executive agency, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

Day means a calendar day, except when otherwise specified by the head of an agency.

Dependent means a relative of the employee residing with the employee and dependent on the employee for support.

Designated representative means a person 16 years of age or over who is named by an employee for the purpose of caring for a dependent.

Evacuated employee means an employee of an agency who has received an order to evacuate.

Order to evacuate means an oral or written order to evacuate an employee from an assigned area.

Safe haven means a designated area to which an employee or dependent will be or has been evacuated.

United States means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and any territory or possession of the United States.

[59 FR 66332, Dec. 28, 1994, as amended at 65 FR 41869, July 7, 2000]

§ 550.403 Advance payments; evacuation payments; special allowances.

(a) An advance payment of pay, allowances, and differentials may be made to an employee who has received an order to evacuate, provided that, in the opinion of the agency head or designated official, payment in advance of the date on which an employee otherwise would be entitled to be paid is required to help the employee defray immediate expenses incidental to the evacuation.

(b) Evacuation payments of pay, allowances, and differentials may be made to an employee during an evacuation and shall be paid on the employee's regular pay days when feasible.

(c) Special allowances, including travel expenses and per diem, may be paid to evacuated employees to offset

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any direct added expenses that are incurred by the employee as a result of his or her evacuation or the evacuation of his or her dependents.

(d) An advance payment or an evacuation payment may be paid to the employee, a dependent 16 years of age or over, or a designated representative. When payment is made to someone other than the employee, prior written authorization by the employee must have been provided to the authorizing agency official.

(e) Any agency may make payments in an evacuation situation to an employee of another Federal agency (or his or her dependent(s) or personal representative) who has received an order to evacuate. When a payment is made under this subpart by an agency other than the employee's agency, the agency making the payment shall immediately report the amount and date of the payment to the employee's agency in order that prompt reimbursement may be made.

§ 550.404 Computation of advance payments and evacuation payments; time periods.

(a) Payments shall be based on the rate of pay (including allowances, differentials, or other authorized payments) to which the employee was entitled immediately before the issuance of the order of evacuation. All deductions authorized by law, such as retirement or social security deductions, authorized allotments, Federal withholding taxes, and others, when applicable, shall be made before advance payments or evacuation payments are made.

(b)(1) The amount of advance payments shall cover a time period not to exceed 30 days or a lesser number of days, as determined by the authorizing agency official.

(2) Evacuation payments shall cover the period of time during which the order to evacuate remains in effect, unless terminated earlier, but shall not exceed 180 days. When feasible, evacuation payments shall be paid on the employee's regular pay days.

(c) When an advance payment has been made to or for the account of an employee, the amount of the advance payment shall not diminish the

amount of the evacuation payments that would otherwise be due the employee.

(d)(1) For full-time and part-time employees, the amount of an advance payment or an evacuation payment shall be computed on the basis of the number of regularly scheduled workdays for the time period covered.

(2) For intermittent employees, the amount of an advance payment or evacuation payment shall be computed on the basis of the number of days on which the employee would be expected to work during the time period covered. The number of days shall be determined, whenever possible, by approximating the number of days per week normally worked by the employee during an average 6-week period, as determined by the agency.

[59 FR 66633, Dec. 28, 1994; 60 FR 3303, Jan. 13, 1995]

§ 550.405 Determination of special allowances.

In determining the direct added expenses that may be payable as special allowances, the following shall be considered:

(a) An agency must determine the travel expenses and per diem for an evacuated employee and the travel expenses for his or her dependents in accordance with the Federal Travel Regulation (FTR) and any applicable implementing agency regulations, whether or not the employee or dependents are actually covered by or subject to the FTR. In addition, an agency may authorize per diem for dependents of an evacuated employee at a rate equal to the rate payable to the employee, as determined in accordance with the FTR (except that the rate for dependents under 12 years of age is one-half this rate), whether or not the employee or dependents are actually covered by or subject to the FTR. Per diem for an employee and his or her dependents is payable from the date of departure from the evacuated area through the date of arrival at the safe haven, including any period of delay en route that is beyond an evacuee's control or that may result from evacuation travel arrangements.