

§ 3.64

these cases, deduction will be by installments, as set forth in § 3.64.

§ 3.64 Procedures for salary offset: Methods of collection.

(a) *General.* A debt will be collected by deductions at officially-established pay intervals from an employee's current pay account, unless the employee and the Secretary agree to alternative arrangements for repayment under § 3.61.

(b) *Installment deductions.* Installment deductions will be made over a period not greater than the anticipated period of employment. The size and frequency of installment deductions will bear a reasonable relation to the size of the debt and the employee's ability to pay. However, the amount deducted for any period will not exceed 15 percent of the disposable pay from which the deduction is made, unless the employee has agreed in writing to the deduction of a greater amount. If possible, the installment payment will be sufficient in size and frequency to liquidate the debt in no more than three years. Installment payments of less than \$25 per pay period or \$50 a month will be accepted only in the most unusual circumstances.

(c) *Sources of deductions.* The Department will make deductions only from basic pay, special pay, incentive pay, retired pay, retainer pay, or in the case of an employee not entitled to basic pay, other authorized pay.

§ 3.65 Procedures for salary offset: Imposition of interest, penalties and administrative costs.

Interest, penalties and administrative costs will be charged in accordance with 4 CFR 102.13.

§ 3.66 Nonwaiver of rights.

So long as there are no statutory or contractual provisions to the contrary, no employee payment (or all or portion of a debt) collected under these regulations will be interpreted as a waiver of any rights that the employee may have under 5 U.S.C. 5514.

§ 3.67 Refunds.

The Department will refund promptly to the appropriate individual

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amounts offset under these regulations when:

(a) A debt is waived or otherwise found not owing the United States (unless expressly prohibited by statute or regulation); or

(b) The Department is directed by an administrative or judicial order to refund deducted from the employee's current pay.

§ 3.68 Agency regulations.

The Head of each USDA agency is delegated the authority to act for the Secretary under these regulations and may issue regulations or policies not inconsistent with Office of Personnel Management regulations (5 CFR part 550, subpart K) and regulations in this subpart governing the collection of a debt by salary offset.

Subpart D—Cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service

AUTHORITY: 26 U.S.C. 61, 31 U.S.C. 3720A, 1 TFRM 4055.50.

§ 3.81 Reporting discharged debts to the Internal Revenue Service.

When the Department discharges a debt for less than the full value of the indebtedness it will report the outstanding balance discharged, not including interest, to the Internal Revenue Service, using IRS Form 1099-G or any other form prescribed by the Service, when:

(a) The principal amount of the debt not in dispute is \$600 or more; and

(b) The obligation has not been discharged in a bankruptcy proceeding; and

(c) The obligation is no longer collectible either because the time limit in the applicable statute for enforcing collection expired during the tax year, or because during the year a formal compromise agreement was reached in which the debtor was legally discharged of all or a portion of the obligation.

[50 FR 7726, Feb. 26, 1985]

§ 3.82 Offset against tax refunds.

The Department will take action to effect administrative offset against tax refunds due to debtors under 26 U.S.C.