

Office of Personnel Management

§ 842.304

duty in the service of the United States.

Survivor means a current spouse, a child or a former spouse who is entitled to an annuity in accordance with part 843 of this chapter.

§ 842.303 General.

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, no service credit is allowed for a period of separation from service.

(2) Service credit is allowed for a period of separation of less than 4 days and for a period of separation during which an individual was receiving benefits under subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, provided the individual returns to duty in the Government subject to FERS.

(b) Service credit cannot be granted in excess of actual calendar time from the date of appointment to the date of separation from service.

(c) Any period of time for which service credit under chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, is specifically allowed by a provision of law is creditable under this subpart subject to any applicable deposit requirements.

§ 842.304 Civilian service.

(a) Except as otherwise provided under title III of the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986, an employee or Member is entitled to credit for all purposes under FERS for a period of civilian service with the Government or the U.S. Postal Service—

(1) Performed after December 31, 1986, which is covered service under subpart A of this part and for which deductions required under 5 U.S.C. 8422(a) have not been refunded;

(2) That, other than service under paragraph (a)(1) of this section—

(i) Was performed before 1989;

(ii) Would have been creditable under 5 U.S.C. 8332 if the employee or Member were subject to subchapter III of chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, without regard to any deposit, re-deposit, or coverage requirement under that subchapter; and

(iii) Is covered by deductions or a deposit required by § 842.305 and the deductions or deposit have not been re-

funded after the employee or Member first became subject to FERS;

(3) That was creditable under subchapter II of chapter 8 of title 1 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Foreign Service Pension System), provided—

(i) The employee or Member waives credit for the service under the Foreign Service Pension System; and

(ii) The employee or Member makes the deposit required by § 842.305, and the deposit is not refunded;

(4) While on leave of absence without pay, subject to a limit of 6 months per calendar year, except that the 6-month limit does not apply while—

(i) Performing military service; or

(ii) Receiving benefits under subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code;

(5) While on approved leave without pay granted to serve as a full-time officer or employee of an organization composed primarily of employees, as defined by section 8331(1) or 8401(11) of title 5, United States Code, provided—

(i) The employee elects, within 60 days after the commencing date of leave without pay, to pay to the employing agency the retirement deductions and agency contributions that would be applicable if the employee were in a pay status;

(ii) Payments of the deductions and contributions begin on a regular basis within 60 days after the commencing date of leave without pay; and

(iii) Payments of the required deductions and contributions are completed and not refunded; and

(6) While assigned on detail or leave without pay to a State or local government under 5 U.S.C. 3373, provided—

(i) The normal cost percentage (under subpart D of part 841 of this chapter) for the employee (who is deemed to continue in the same normal cost percentage category as applicable on the date of the assignment) is remitted to OPM for each pay period during the assignment; and

(ii) The employee, or, if he or she dies without making an election, his or her survivor, does not elect to receive benefits under any State or local government retirement law or program, which OPM determines to be similar to FERS.

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(b) *Cadet Nurse Corps.* (1) Service credit is allowed under Pub. L. 99-638 for a period of service performed with the Cadet Nurse Corps provided—

(i) The service totaled 2 years or more;

(ii) The individual submits an application for service credit to OPM no later than January 10, 1988;

(iii) The individual is employed by the Federal Government in a position subject to subchapter III of chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code (other than 5 U.S.C. 8344) or chapter 84 of that title (other than 5 U.S.C. 8468) at the time he or she applies to OPM for service credit under this provision; and

(iv) The individual makes a deposit for the service in accordance with § 842.305(g) before the date of separation from service on which the individual's entitlement to annuity is based.

(c) *National Guard technician service before January 1, 1969*—(1) *Definition.* In this section, *service as a National Guard technician* is service performed under section 709 of title 32, United States Code (or under a prior corresponding provision of law) before January 1, 1969.

(2) *Employees on or after November 6, 1990.* Employees, subject to FERS retirement deductions, whose only service as a National Guard technician was performed prior to January 1, 1969, are entitled to credit under FERS if they—

(i) Submit to OPM an application for service credit in a form prescribed by OPM;

(ii) Are employed by the Federal Government in a position subject to FERS retirement deductions after November 5, 1990; and

(iii) Complete the deposit for the service through normal service credit channels before final adjudication of their application for retirement or have the deposit deemed made when they elect the alternative form of annuity.

(3) *Former Federal employees.* Former Federal employees who were subject to FERS retirement deductions and separated after December 31, 1968, but before November 6, 1990, with title to a deferred annuity, may make a deposit for pre-1969 National Guard technician service provided they—

(i) Submit a written application for the pre-1969 National Guard technician

service to OPM before November 6, 1991; and

(ii) Complete a deposit for the additional service in a lump sum or in installment payments of \$50 or more. Payments must be completed before their retirement claim is finally adjudicated, unless the deposit is deemed made when they elect an alternative form of annuity.

(4) *Annuitants and survivors.* (i) Individuals who were entitled to receive an immediate annuity (or survivor annuity benefits) as of November 6, 1990, may make a deposit for pre-1969 National Guard technician service provided they—

(A) Submit a written application for service credit to OPM before November 6, 1991; and

(B) Complete a deposit for the additional service in a lump sum or in equal monthly annuity installments to be completed within 24 months of the date of the written application.

(ii) To determine the commencing date of the deposit installment payment period for annuitants and survivors, the “date of application” will be considered to be the first day of the second month beginning after OPM receives a complete written application from the individual.

(iii) To be a complete application, the individual's written request for pre-1969 National Guard technician service credit must also include a certification of the dates of employment and the rates of pay received by the individual during the employment period. The individual may obtain certification of service from the Adjutant General of the State in which the service was performed.

(d) *Credit for service performed as an employee of a nonappropriated fund instrumentality.* (1) Credit for service with a nonappropriated fund instrumentality is allowed in accordance with an election under part 847 of this chapter.

(2) Service under FERS for which the employee withdrew all deductions is creditable in accordance with an election made under part 847 of this chapter.

(3) An annuity that includes credit for service with a nonappropriated fund instrumentality or refunded service under paragraph (d)(2) of this section is

computed under part 847 of this chapter.

[52 FR 18193, May 14, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 6554, Feb. 19, 1991; 56 FR 55596, Oct. 29, 1991; 61 FR 41720, Aug. 9, 1996]

§ 842.305 Deposits for civilian service.

(a) *Eligibility—current and former employees or Members.* An employee or Member subject to FERS and a former employee or Member who is entitled to an annuity may make a deposit for civilian service described under paragraphs (a)(2) and (a)(3) of § 842.304 upon application to OPM in a form prescribed by OPM. A deposit for civilian service cannot be made later than 30 days after the first regular monthly payment as defined in § 842.602.

(b) *Eligibility—survivors.* If an employee or Member was, at the time of death, eligible to make a deposit, the employee's survivor may make the deposit for civilian service. A deposit under this paragraph cannot be made after adjudication of the survivor's application for benefits becomes final, which is 30 days after the date of OPM's notice to the survivor of the annuity rates with and without making the deposit.

(c) *Distinct period of service.* A deposit is not considered to have been made for any distinct period of service unless the total amount due for the period is paid in full. A distinct period of civilian service for this purpose is a period of civilian service that is not interrupted by a break in service of more than 3 days.

(d) *Amount of deposits.* The amount of a deposit for a period of service under § 842.304(a)(2) equals 1.3 percent of the basic pay for the service, plus interest. The amount of a deposit for a period of service under § 842.304(a)(3) equals the amount that would have been deducted from pay under 5 U.S.C. 8422(a) had the employee been subject to FERS during the service, plus interest.

(e) *Interest.* (1) Interest is charged at the rate of 4 percent a year through December 31, 1947; 3 percent a year beginning January 1, 1948, through December 31, 1984; and thereafter at a rate as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury for each calendar year that equals the overall average yield to the Civil Service Retirement and Dis-

ability Fund (the Fund) during the preceding fiscal year from all obligations purchased by the Secretary during such fiscal year under 5 U.S.C. 8348 (c), (d), and (e).

(2) The computation of interest is on the basis of 30 days to the month. Interest is computed for the actual calendar time involved in each case; but, whenever applicable, the rule of average applies.

(3) Interest is computed from the midpoint of each service period included in the computation. The interest accrues annually on the outstanding portion, and is compounded annually, until the portion is deposited. Interest is not charged after the commencing date of annuity or for a period of separation from the service that began before October 1, 1956.

(f) *Forms of deposit.* Deposits may be made in a single lump sum or in installments not smaller than \$50 each.

(g) *Cadet Nurse Corps.* (1) Upon receiving an application for service credit with the Cadet Nurse Corps, OPM will determine whether all the conditions for creditability (§ 842.304(b)) have been met; compute the deposit, including interest; and advise the employing agency and the employee of the total amount of the deposit due. The rate of basic pay for this purpose is deemed to be \$15 per month for the first 9 months of study; \$20 per month for the 10th through the 21st months of study; and \$30 per month for any month in excess of 21 months. Interest is computed in accordance with paragraph (e) of this section.

(2) The employing agency must establish a deposit account showing the total amount due and a payment schedule (unless deposit is made in one lump sum) to record the date and amount of each payment.

(3) If the individual cannot make payment in one lump sum, the employing agency must accept installment payments (by allotments or otherwise). The employing agency, however, is not required to accept individual checks in amounts less than \$50.

(4) Payments received by the employing agency must be remitted to OPM immediately for deposit to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund.