

§ 839.1117

reduce your annuity, as explained in 831.303(d) of this chapter.

§ 839.1117 If I elect to change my retirement coverage under the FERCCA, can I get a refund of the service credit deposit I made and receive the actuarial reduction instead?

No, the FERCCA allows OPM to reduce an annuity by an actuarial reduction only for the deposit amount that remains unpaid.

§ 839.1118 Will my annuity be actuarially reduced because I had Government contributions in my TSP account?

Retirees and survivors of deceased employees who received a Government contribution to their TSP account after being corrected to FERS and who later elect CSRS Offset under the FERCCA are allowed to keep the Government contributions, and earnings on the Government contributions in the TSP account. Instead of adjusting the TSP account, the FERCCA requires that the CSRS-Offset annuity be reduced actuarially.

§ 839.1119 How is the actuarial reduction for TSP computed?

(a) The part of your TSP account on the date you retired that is Government contributions and earnings on those Government contributions forms the basis for the actuarial reduction. OPM will divide the Government contributions and earnings by the present value factor for your age (in full years) at the time you retired. OPM will then round the result to the next highest dollar amount, which will be the monthly actuarial reduction amount.

(b) If a survivor annuity is the only benefit that is payable, the present value factor for the survivor's age at the time of death is used. The survivor benefit is not reduced for TSP if the retiree's rate was reduced.

SURVIVOR BENEFITS

§ 839.1121 What is the Actuarial Reduction for the Basic Employee Death Benefit (BEDB)?

If you received a BEDB under FERS and you elect CSRS Offset under these rules, you do not have to pay back the

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BEDB. Instead, the FERCCA requires that OPM actuarially reduce your survivor annuity. The reduction will be the amount of the BEDB divided by the present value factor for your age at the time of the employee's death. The result is rounded to the next highest dollar amount and is the monthly actuarial reduction amount. If you elected to receive the BEDB in installments rather than a lump sum, the lump-sum amount is used for the purpose of computing the actuarial reduction.

§ 839.1122 Does receipt of a one-time payment of retirement contributions as a death benefit prevent me from electing CSRS Offset?

You may still elect CSRS Offset if otherwise eligible. OPM will collect the amount of the one-time death benefit from any survivor benefits that are payable.

Subpart L—Discretionary Actions by OPM

§ 839.1201 If I took legal action against my employer because of a qualifying retirement coverage error, can OPM reimburse me for expenses related to my legal actions?

(a) The FERCCA allows OPM, in its sole discretion, to reimburse you for necessary and reasonable expenses you actually incurred while pursuing a legal or administrative remedy of your qualifying retirement coverage error.

(b) Necessary and reasonable expenses include actual amounts paid for attorney fees, court costs, expert witness fees, and other litigation expenses.

(c) You may not receive reimbursement under this section if you received a monetary award that compensated you for your litigation expenses.

(d) You must support your request for reimbursement with evidence that supports your claim.

(e) In determining what is a necessary and reasonable expense, OPM will consider:

- (1) The type and amount of the expense;
- (2) The circumstances that gave rise to the expense; and
- (3) Whether the expense is directly related to litigation concerning a retirement coverage error.