

(b) Determination of suitability for assignment to mission critical positions/duties will be made on the basis of the following criteria:

(1) Supervisory nomination (per requirements of §1214.505(c) of this part) and assurance of ability to perform mission critical duties as evidenced by performance during training and while on the job.

(2) Medical evaluation (for cause only) by NASA designated medical/psychiatric authority consistent with:

(i) The guidelines and requirements of the NASA Occupational Health Division as required to ensure adequate health for competent and reliable performance; and

(ii) Information developed by testing, review and other screening regarding an individual's health, drug or alcohol abuse, or other factors which may reflect adversely on his or her cognizance, judgement, and ability to act reliably. Such information shall be considered "cause" within the meaning of this subsection.

(iii) All information obtained by medical or Employee Assistance Program evaluation is subject to federal and state statutes and regulations pertaining to the privacy and confidentiality of patient/client information.

(3) Evaluation by a NASA-designated investigatory authority including a review of the results of any National Agency Check (including a name check of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) fingerprint records) completed within the past 5 years. When the National Agency Check indicates that a more extensive investigation has been completed, the results of that investigation will also be reviewed.

(4) Local agency checks as appropriate.

(5) A review of the PRP candidate's personnel employment records.

(6) A review of the Inspector General case files.

(c) Information acquired during the screening process will be protected in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Privacy Act and other pertinent laws and regulations.

§ 1214.505 Program implementation.

(a) The Director of each NASA Installation will designate mission critical space systems areas.

(b) NASA installations will identify positions/duties subject to this regulation and will identify all civil service and contractor personnel assigned to these positions/duties. The number of persons so identified must be the absolute minimum necessary to meet operational requirements.

(c) Each NASA installation to which this regulation is applicable will establish:

(1) A suitability certification system including a designated certifying official to ensure that the screening requirements of this regulation are met. Adjudication Guidelines (Attachment B of NMI 8610.13)⁵ provides a baseline for each installation to consider in formulating a certification approach. The screening/evaluation plans and procedures formulated at each installation will be approved by Headquarters (Office of Safety and Mission Quality (Code Q) and appropriate Program Associate Administrators) before implementation.

(2) A management review process to validate the objectivity of individual suitability certification determinations and to ensure that reassignments or other personnel actions taken pursuant to this regulation are fair and in consonance with applicable personnel policies and procedures.

(3) An adequate training program for certifying officials, supervisors, adjudicators, and other installation personnel approved by Headquarters Code Q before implementation.

(4) Each NASA installation will maintain a roster of installation adjudicators. Directors of the Installations will approve appointment of adjudicators.

(d) Supervisors will:

(1) Review for reliability and nominate personnel whose duties require certification under the PRP.

(2) Certify that the PRP candidate holds current licenses, skill training certificates, and other documentation issued as required by applicable directives.

⁵See footnote 1 to §1214.502(e).

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(3) Brief PRP candidates and rebrief PRP personnel on the needs and intent of the PRP.

(4) Monitor and continually evaluate personnel for steady reliable performance and notify the certifying official if changes occur which may compromise the safety and reliability of mission critical space systems.

(e) NASA Headquarters Office of Safety and Mission Quality (Code Q) will act as the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) for PRP policy and oversight (periodic review). The certification of Headquarters personnel will be carried out by the Office of Headquarters Operations (Code D) in accordance with §1214.505 of this part.

(f) Foreign representatives requiring access to mission critical space systems or having the need to assume mission critical positions/duties (as defined in §1214.502 of this part) pursuant to international agreements also require certification under this program. NASA will accept certifications from foreign agencies following review under the NASA Headquarters process (§1214.505(e) of this part), if a written agreement has been reached with the foreign sponsoring agency whereby NASA recognizes the foreign agency's process as equivalent to its own. Such agreements will be negotiated by the International Relations Division (Code XI) with the concurrence of the NASA Headquarters Office of Safety and Mission Quality (Code Q) and the Program Office responsible for the program to which such access is sought. The intent of the certification process is that foreign personnel are screened as thoroughly as are U.S. citizens who have access to mission critical space systems areas or who have the need to assume mission critical duties.

(g) NASA will accept certifications from other Federal agencies, departments, and offices following review under the NASA Headquarters process (Section 1214.505(e) of this part), if a written agreement has been reached whereby NASA recognizes that process as equivalent to its own. Such agreements will be negotiated by the NASA Headquarters Office of Safety and Mission Quality (Code Q) and the Program Office responsible for the program to which such access is sought. A security

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clearance to access classified material is not sufficient to meet the certification requirements of this regulation.

Subpart 1214.6—Mementos Aboard Space Shuttle Flights

AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 85-568, 72 Stat. 426 (42 U.S.C. 2473(c)).

SOURCE: 56 FR 31074, July 9, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1214.600 Scope.

This subpart establishes policy, procedures, and responsibilities for selecting, approving, packing, storing, and disposing of mementos carried on Space Shuttle flights.

§ 1214.601 Definitions.

(a) *Mementos*. Flags, patches, insignia, medallions, minor graphics, and similar items of little commercial value, especially suited for display by the individuals or groups to whom they have been presented.

(b) *Official Flight Kit (OFK)*. A container, approximately 0.057 cubic meters (2 cubic feet) in size, reserved for carrying official mementos of NASA and other organizations aboard Space Shuttle flights. No personal items will be carried in the OFK.

(c) *Personal Preference Kit (PPK)*. A container, approximately 12.82 centimeters × 20.51 centimeters × 5.13 centimeters (5"×8"×2") in size, separately assigned to each individual accompanying a Space Shuttle flight for carrying personal mementos during the flight.

§ 1214.602 Policy.

(a) *Premise*. Mementos are welcome aboard Space Shuttle flights. However, they are flown as a courtesy—not as an entitlement. The Associate Administrator for Space Flight is free to make exceptions to this accommodation without explanation. Moreover, mementos are ballast not payload. They can be reduced or eliminated (by the Deputy Director, Space Shuttle Program, Johnson Space Center) for weight, volume, or other technical reasons without reference to higher authority.