

which penalties and assessments may be imposed.

(d) *Final decision without further proceedings.* If the debarring official determines that paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section both apply, a final decision may be issued, imposing financial sanctions in amounts not exceeding those proposed in the notice to the provider described in § 890.1066.

(e) *Insufficient evidence.* If the debarring official determines that a preponderance of the evidence does not demonstrate that the provider committed a sanctionable violation described in § 890.1061, the notice of proposed sanctions described in § 890.1066 must be withdrawn.

(f) *Disputed material facts.* If the debarring official determines that the administrative record contains a *bona fide* dispute about any fact material to the proposed sanction, he must refer the case for a fact-finding hearing to resolve the disputed fact or facts. The provisions of § 890.1027(b) and (c), 890.1028, and 890.1029(a) and (b) will govern such a hearing.

(g) *Final decision after fact-finding hearing.* After receiving the report of the fact-finding hearing, the debarring official must apply the provisions of paragraphs (c), (d), and (e) of this section to reach a final decision on the provider's contest.

**§ 890.1071 Further appeal rights after final decision to impose penalties and assessments.**

If the debarring official's final decision imposes any penalties and assessments, the affected provider may appeal it to the appropriate United States district court under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 8902a(h)(2).

**§ 890.1072 Collecting penalties and assessments.**

(a) *Agreed-upon payment schedule.* At the time OPM imposes penalties and assessments, or the amounts are settled or compromised, the provider must be afforded the opportunity to arrange an agreed-upon payment schedule.

(b) *No agreed-upon payment schedule.* In the absence of an agreed-upon payment schedule, OPM must collect penalties and assessments under its regular procedures for resolving debts

owed to the Employees Health Benefits Fund.

(c) *Offsets.* As part of its debt collection efforts, OPM may request other Federal agencies to offset the penalties and assessments against amounts that the agencies may owe to the provider, including Federal income tax refunds.

(d) *Civil lawsuit.* If necessary to obtain payment of penalties and assessments, the United States may file a civil lawsuit as set forth in 5 U.S.C. 8902(i).

(e) *Crediting payments.* OPM must deposit payments of penalties and assessments into the Employees Health Benefits Fund.

**Subpart K—Temporary Continuation of Coverage**

SOURCE: 54 FR 52339, Dec. 21, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 890.1101 Purpose.**

This subpart identifies the individuals who may temporarily continue coverage after the coverage would otherwise terminate under this part and sets forth the circumstances of their enrollment.

**§ 890.1102 Definitions.**

In this subpart—

*Gross misconduct* means a flagrant and extreme transgression of law or established rule of action for which an employee is separated and concerning which a judicial or administrative finding of gross misconduct has been made.

*Qualifying event* means any of the following events that qualify an individual for temporary continuation of coverage under subpart K of this part:

(1) A separation from Government service.

(2) A divorce or annulment.

(3) A change in circumstances that causes an individual to become ineligible to be considered an unmarried dependent child under this part.

**§ 890.1103 Eligibility.**

(a) Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this section, individuals described by this section are eligible to