

the group policy must be reinstated retroactively, and the premiums already paid on the conversion policy must be refunded to the individual.

(c) An individual who meets the requirements under paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section or § 870.706 for continuation or reinstatement of life insurance must complete an election, in a manner designated by OPM, at the time entitlement is established. For the election to be valid, OPM must receive the election before OPM has made a final decision on the individual's application for annuity or supplemental annuity or an individual's request to continue life insurance as a compensationner. If there is no valid election, OPM considers the individual to have chosen the option described in paragraph (a)(2) of § 870.702.

(d) If the annuity or compensation of an insured individual is terminated, or if the Department of Labor finds that an insured compensationner is able to return to duty, his/her Basic life insurance held as an annuitant or compensationner stops on the date of the termination or finding. There is no 31-day extension of coverage or conversion right.

(e)(1) An annuitant or compensationner who is eligible to continue or have reinstated Basic insurance is also eligible to continue or have reinstated Optional insurance if he/she meets the same coverage requirements for Optional insurance as those stated in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section for Basic insurance.

(2) For the purpose of continuing insurance as an annuitant or compensationner, an employee is not considered to have been eligible for Option C during any period when the employee had no eligible family members.

**§ 870.702 Amount of Basic insurance.**

(a) The amount of Basic insurance an annuitant or compensationner can continue is the BIA on the date insurance would otherwise have stopped because of the individual's separation from service or completion of 12 months in nonpay status. The amount of Basic insurance in force is the BIA minus any reductions applicable under § 870.703(a).

(b)(1) For the purpose of paying benefits upon the death of an insured individual under age 45 who is retired or re-

ceiving compensation, the BIA will be multiplied by the appropriate age factor shown in § 870.202(c) of this part. Exceptions:

(i) If the insured individual retired or became insured as a compensationner before October 10, 1980, or

(ii) If the insured individual elected a partial Living Benefit as an employee under subpart K of this part.

(2)(i) For an annuitant or compensationner who elected a partial Living Benefit as an employee, the amount of Basic insurance he/she can continue is the post-election BIA, as shown in § 870.203(a)(2) of this part.

(ii) For the purpose of paying benefits upon the death of an insured annuitant or compensationner under age 45 who elected a partial Living Benefit as an employee, the BIA will be multiplied by the age factor in effect on the date OFEGLI received the completed Living Benefit application.

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**§ 870.703 Election of Basic insurance.**

(a) Unless he/she has elected a Living Benefit, an individual who makes an election under § 870.701(c) must select one of the following options:

(1) Termination of the insurance. The individual's insurance stops upon conversion to an individual policy as provided under § 870.603. If the individual doesn't convert to an individual policy, insurance stops at the end of the month in which OPM or the employing office receives the election;

(2) Continuation or reinstatement of Basic insurance with a maximum reduction of 75 percent during retirement. Premiums are withheld from annuity or compensation (except as provided under 870.401(d)(1)). The amount of Basic Life insurance in force reduces by 2 percent of the BIA each month until the maximum reduction is reached. This reduction starts at the beginning of the 2nd month after the date the insurance would otherwise have stopped or the date of the insured's 65th birthday, whichever is later;

(3) Continuation or reinstatement of Basic insurance with a maximum reduction of 50 percent during retirement. Premiums are withheld from annuity or compensation. The amount of