

## Office of Personnel Management

§ 317.501

(4) In lieu of action under paragraph (b) (1), (2), or (3) of this section, the agency may separate the employee from the civil service.

### Subpart D—Qualifications Standards

SOURCE: 54 FR 9758, Mar. 8, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 317.401 General.

(a) The head of each agency is responsible for establishing qualifications standards for Senior Executive Service (SES) positions in accordance with the procedures described in this subpart.

(b) A written qualification standard must be established for a position before any appointment is made to the position. If a position is being filled competitively, the standard must be established before the position is announced.

[54 FR 9758, Mar. 8, 1989, as amended at 60 FR 6385, Feb. 2, 1995]

#### § 317.402 Career reserved positions.

(a) The qualifications standard must be in writing and identify the breadth and depth of the professional/technical and executive/managerial knowledges, skills, and abilities, or other qualifications, required for successful performance in the position.

(b) The standard must be specific enough to enable applicants to be rated and ranked according to their degree of qualifications when the position is being filled on a competitive basis.

(c) Each qualifications criterion in the standard must be job related. The standard may not emphasize agency-related experience, however, to the extent that it precludes otherwise well-qualified candidates from outside the agency from appointment consideration.

(d) The standard may not include—

(1) A minimum length of experience requirement beyond that authorized for similar positions in the General Schedule;

(2) A minimum education requirement beyond that authorized for similar positions in the General Schedule; or

(3) Any criterion prohibited by law or regulation.

#### § 317.403 General positions.

An agency may apply the criteria in § 317.402 when developing qualifications standards for general positions. If it does not, OPM must be consulted before the agency develops the standard.

#### § 317.404 Retention of qualifications standards.

If a qualifications standard is changed, or a position is cancelled, the former standard shall be retained for 2 years.

### Subpart E—Career Appointments

SOURCE: 54 FR 9758, Mar. 8, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 317.501 Recruitment and selection for initial SEC career appointment be achieved from the brightest and most diverse pool possible.

(a) *Executive Resources Board (ERB)*. The head of each agency shall appoint one or more ERBs from among employees of the agency or commissioned officers of the uniformed services serving on active duty in the agency. The ERB shall, in accordance with the requirements of this section, conduct the merit staffing process for initial SES career appointment.

(b) *Recruitment*. (1) As a minimum, the source of recruitment to fill a SES position by career appointment must include all groups of qualified individuals within the civil service (as defined by 5 U.S.C. 2101). It may also include qualified individuals outside the civil service.

(2) Announcements of SES vacancies to be filled by initial career appointment must be included in the OPM SES vacancy announcement system for at least 14 calendar days, including the date of publication.

(c) *Merit staffing requirements*. As a minimum, agencies must—

(1) Provide that competition be fair and open, that all candidates compete and be rated and ranked on the same basis, and that selection be based solely on qualifications and not on political or other non-job-related factors. If