Office of Personnel Management

Minimum retirement age

1968	56 years and 8 months.
1969	56 years and 10 months.
1970 and after	57 years.

Qualifying court order means a court order that awards a former spouse annuity and that satisfies the requirements of section 8445 of title 5, United States Code, for awarding a former spouse annuity.

Retiree means a former employee or Member who is receiving recurring payments under FERS based on service by the employee or Member. Retiree, as used in this subpart, does not include a current spouse, former spouse, child, or person with an insurable interest receiving a survivor annuity. Retiree for purposes of determining a person's status at the time of death means that the person had been separated from the service and had met all the requirements to receive an annuity including having filed an application for the annuity prior to his or her death.

Separated employee means a former employee who has been separated from the service but who has not met all the requirements for retirement under FERS or who has not filed an application for retirement under FERS.

Step-child means a child who is the issue of a current or former spouse of the employee or retiree but is not the issue of the employee or retiree. A child is not a step-child unless the relationship between the employee or retire and the child's parent is a marriage.

Supplementary annuity means the recurring payment under section 8442(f) of title 5, United States Code.

Unexpended balance means the unrefunded amount consisting of—

(a) Retirement deductions made from the basic pay of an employee under subpart E of part 841 of this chapter;

(b) Amount deposited by an employee for periods of service (including military service) for which—

(1) No retirement deductions were made; or

(2) Deductions were refunded to the employee; and

(c) Interest compounded annually on the deductions and deposits at a rate which, for any calendar year, will be equal to the overall average yield to the Civil Service Retirement Fund during the preceding fiscal year from all obligations purchased by the Secretary of the Treasury during that fiscal year under section 8348 (c), (d), and (e) of title 5, United States Code, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury. Interest on deductions and deposits does not include interest—

(1) If the service covered by the contributions totals 1 year or less; or

(2) For a fractional part of a month in the total service.

[52 FR 2074, Jan. 16, 1987; 52 FR 2352, Jan. 21, 1987, and 52 FR 23014, June 17, 1987; 53 FR 16536, May 10, 1988; 57 FR 29784, July 7, 1992; 57 FR 33599, July 29, 1992; 60 FR 13035, Mar. 10, 1995]

§843.103 Application required.

(a) No person is entitled to benefits under this part unless an application on behalf of that person is filed with OPM no later than 30 years after the death of the employee, separated employee, or retiree on whose service the benefit is based.

(b) Applications for benefits under this part must be filed on the form provided by OPM for that purpose.

Subpart B—One-time Payments

§843.201 Purpose.

This subpart explains the requirements under FERS—

(a) For payment of employee contributions to the Civil Service Retirement Fund—

(1) As a refund of contribution, to separated employees; or

(2) As a death benefit, to survivors of employees, separated employees, and retirees; and

(b) For payment of any accrued, but unpaid, annuity to survivors of retirees.

§843.202 Eligibility for payment of the unexpended balance to a separated employee.

(a) Except as provided in §§ 843.208 and 843.209 or in section 3716 of title 31, United States Code, on administrative offset for Government claims, a separated employee who has been separated from a covered position for at least 31 days and who is ineligible for an annuity commencing within 31 days after