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ARC Monthly Bulletin – January 2011

Valuable information for ARC's customers
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FULL STORIES

1. TSP to Launch "Lifecycle" (L) 2050 Fund

The Thrift Savings Plan offers several Lifecycle (L) investment funds that use professionally determined investment mixes designed to meet financial goals based on when TSP monies are expected to be withdrawn after separation from Federal service. Each L Fund's investment mix becomes more conservative as the fund's target date approaches.

The TSP will launch a new L 2050 Fund on January 31, 2011. The L 2050 Fund will focus more on growth than on the preservation of assets since it has the most distant time horizon of all L Funds. Like all L Funds, as the L 2050 Fund ages, its investment mix will gradually shift to a more conservative focus. TSP participants can begin making contribution allocations and interfund transfers into the new L 2050 Fund at 12 noon Eastern Time on January 28, 2011 (effective January 31, 2011).

To make a contribution allocation or an interfund transfer, or to view more specific information about the L 2050 Fund, visit www.tsp.gov. You may also contact Jennifer Baldwin at 304-480-8275 or benefits@bpd.treas.gov if you have TSP questions.

2. OPM Announces Changes to Leave Regulations

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has issued final regulations to address the use of sick leave for exposure to a communicable disease, the purposes for and limitations on the use of advanced sick leave, and the substitution of up to 26 weeks of sick leave for unpaid Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave to care for a covered service member.

Below is a brief summary of the final regulations. A more detailed summary can be found at OPM's website http://www.chcoc.gov/Transmittals/TransmittalDetails.aspx?TransmittalID=3237.

Sick leave for exposure to a communicable disease – The final regulations allow an employee to use up to 104 hours of sick leave to provide care for a family member who would, as determined by the authorities, jeopardize the health of others because of exposure to a communicable disease. In addition, the regulations allow an employee exposed to a communicable disease to be advanced sick leave.

Advanced sick leave – While advancing sick leave remains at the agency's discretion, the final regulations clarify what the purposes and limitations are for advancing sick leave up to 240 and 104 hours under certain circumstances.

Substitution of sick leave for unpaid FMLA leave to care for a covered service member – The law permits the substitution of up to 26 weeks of sick leave during a single 12-month period for unpaid FMLA leave when an employee invokes FMLA to provide care for a spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin who is a covered service member with a serious injury or illness.

The regulations, effective January 3, 2011, are available at http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-12-03/pdf/2010-30371.pdf.

For more information on these or any other leave-related issues, please contact ARC's Pay and Leave Services Branch at 304-480-8400 or payroll@bpd.treas.gov.

3. IT Service to Support FinCen IT Modernization Project

We will provide additional hosting services to FinCEN as part of its IT Modernization initiative. IT Modernization is a significant, high priority effort for Treasury to refresh and redesign the infrastructure, and update applications. FinCEN estimates up to 100,000 law enforcement and financial community users of the impacted systems. A phased implementation approach will be used, with the first release planned for March 2011. In addition to hosting for IT Modernization, We will provide Security Assessment & Authorization (aka Certification & Accreditation) services for the effort.

For more information, contact Linda Lang at 304.480.7324, or Linda.Lang@bpd.treas.gov.

4. BPD CIO interview on "Ask the CIO" radio show

Our CIO, Kim McCoy, appeared recently on the Federal News Radio show "Ask the CIO". Every week, Jason Miller, the host of the show interviews CIO's of federal agencies about the latest directives, IT challenges, and successes. An audio recording of the show and a brief summary of its content is located at: http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=43&sid=2200782.

For more information, please contact Robin Miller, at 304.480.6565, or Robin.Miller@bpd.treas.gov.

5. PRISM Training Scheduled for February

We provide quarterly PRISM refresher training to assist our customers in their efforts to effectively transition newly hired staff and meet other potential training needs. This training is provided to our customers at no additional charge. We will conduct Requisitioner and Buyer training February 8 through February 11, 2010, in Silver Spring, MD. Primary PRISM contacts have received training details via email. For more information, please contact PRISM Support at 304-480-8000 (Option 2) or prismsupport@bpd.treas.gov.

Dates:	Class Title:	Time:	Place:	Length of Course:
February 8	Basic Requisitioner	8:30 am - 3:30 pm	EEI Communications	1 Day
February 9	Advanced Requisitioner	8:30 am - 3:30 pm	EEI Communications	1 Day
February 10-11	Buyer	8:30 am - 3:30 pm	EEI Communications	2 Day

6. GovTrip Self Registration Process Now Easier For New Users

In a effort to improve the GovTrip user experience, we have implemented a new self-registration process that travelers must use to gain initial access to GovTrip. Employees that expect to travel and need access to GovTrip must create their user name and password in GovTrip then request an account token by emailing the Travel Services Help Desk. The Help Desk will send the employee the direct deposit form for completion. The Travel Services Help Desk staff will create the traveler's profile as soon as this information is received. The new process minimizes the steps travelers must take to gain access to GOvTrip, reduces the time it takes for a traveler to self-register, and eliminates the possibility that a traveler profile will be rejected and have to be recreated.

Travelers can find the new self-registration procedure posted on their customer access page. For more information, please contact the Travel Services Help Desk at (304) 480-8000. option 1 or travel@bpd.treas.gov.

ARC Websites: Homepage I Customer Access Pages I Bulletin Archives

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