





Civil Service Retirement System And Federal Employees Retirement System

Felicia Walker Griffin Human Resources Specialist Civilian Personnel Advisory Center





Agenda

- Civil Service Retirement
- Federal Employees Retirement System
- Federal Employee Health Benefits
- Federal Employees Group Life Insurance
- Retirement Estimate
- Retirement Procedures



Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS)



- General Eligibility Requirements:
- Have at least 5 years of creditable civilian service with the Federal government
- Have been employed under Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) for at least 1 year out of the last 2 years preceding your final separation from Federal employment.
- Must separate from a position subject to CSRS coverage





Optional Retirement

- Eligibility requirements for Voluntary/Optional retirement:
 - Age 55 with 30 years of service
 - Age 60 with 20 years of service
 - Age 62 with 5 years of service
 - Must have at least 5 years of creditable civilian service
 - Military service or sick leave may not be used to reach the 5 year rule
 - Annuity starts the day after your retirement if





Optional Retirement

Your retirement is effective on the last day of month or the first three days of month.

Annuity starts the first day of following month if your retirement is effective after the third day of month.





Unused Sick Leave

- Must retire on an immediate annuity
- Additional time computed on the basis of a 2087 hour work year
- Added to length of service for computation purposes only
- May increase survivor annuity





Reductions

- Deposit/Redeposit Service
- Election of Survivor Benefits
- Post 56 Military Service (applies to CSRS Employees before 10-01-1982, if eligible for Social Security Known as "Catch 62"





Deposit Service

Deposit service is the period of service during which retirement contributions were not withheld from your salary. An example includes temporary time. As a CSRS employee, paying the deposit is a personal choice and its effect is dependent upon the time of service. If the service is prior to 10-01-1982, your annual annuity will be reduced by 10% of the total deposit owed if you do not pay the deposit before final adjudication of your retirement claim.





Deposit Service

■ If the service is on or after 10-01-1982, the non deduction (temporary) service counts toward eligibility, but is not used for total creditable service for computation purpose.





Redeposit Service

Service in which you contributed to the retirement fund and later received a refund of those contributions. If you received the refund before 10-01-1990 and your non-disability annuity commences after 12-01-1990, and you do not make a redeposit, your annuity is actuarially reduced. If the refund was received on or after 10-10-1990, the service counts toward eligibility. You must pay the redeposit to receive credit for the service in the annuity computation.





Survivor Benefits

- Your spouse will receive a survivor annuity upon your death. The amount and reduction in your annuity depends on the election you make.
- Three options are available:
 - Maximum Survivor Benefit Upon your death your spouse will receive 55% of your annuity.
 - Less than maximum Upon your death your spouse will receive 55% of a dollar amount you specify. This election requires your spouse's consent.
 - No survivor benefit no survivor annuity will be paid to your spouse after your death. Requires your spouse's consent to the decision. Health benefits will cease.



Federal Employees Retirement System



- FERS is a 3-tiered retirement system
 - Social Security Benefits contribute 6.2%
 - Basic Benefits Plan contribute 0.80% (difference between 7% of your basic pay and Social Security's old age, survivor, and disability insurance tax rate)
 - FERS annuity is the smallest component
 - Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) will make up the largest portion of your total retirement.
 - Automatic 1% government contribution regardless of your TSP contribution rate



Federal Employees Retirement System(FERS)



- General Eligibility Requirements:
- Have at least 5 years of creditable civilian service with the Federal government
- Meet Minimum retirement age (MRA)
- Must separate from a position subject to FERS coverage





Unused Sick Leave-FERS

- For individuals covered by FERS:
 - No credit for any sick leave
- For individuals who have transferred to FERS with a CSRS component, the amount of sick leave credited if the <u>lesser</u> of:
 - Sick leave balance on date of transfer to FERSOR
 - Sick leave balance on date of retirement





Optional Retirement

- Minimum Retirement Age (MRA) with 30 years of service
- 60 years of age with 20 years of service
- 62 years of age with 5 years of service
- MRA with at least 10 years but not more than 30 years service:
 - 5% reduction for each year under age 62(permanent)

BEST DAY TO RETIRE: Last day of the month!



Survivor Benefits



- Your spouse will receive a survivor annuity upon your death. The amount and reductions in your annuity depends on the election you make.
- Three Options are available:
 - Maximum Survivor Benefit Upon your death your spouse will receive 50% of your unreduced annuity
 - Less than maximum Upon your death your spouse will receive 25% of your unreduced annuity
 - No survivor benefit no survivor annuity will be paid to your spouse after your death. Requires your spouse's consent to the decision. Health benefits will cease.



Federal Employees Health Benefits& Retirement



- Retire on an immediate annuity
- Be insured on the date of retirement
- Covered for the 5 years of service prior to retirement or since your FIRST opportunity to enroll
- Coverage as a family member under FEHB or CHAMPUS/TRICARE counts towards 5 year requirement (must be enrolled in FEBH prior to retirement)
- Cost of FEHB is the same for retirees and active employees except that premiums are paid on a monthly basis vs. biweekly
- Same Open Season and qualifying life event opportunities as active employees.



Federal Employees Health Benefits & Retirement



- Same FEHB plans available for retirees as active employees
- Once you cancel FEHB coverage in retirement, you can never re-enroll
- At age 65, you must enroll in Medicare and it becomes your primary and your FEHB becomes your secondary provider
- Retirees can suspend FEHB for Tricare or Medicare (if enrolled in Medicare + Choice health plan) and return to FEHB coverage during Open Season or immediately upon involuntarily losing non-FEHB coverage.
- Your spouse is eligible to continue FEHB coverage after your death <u>only</u> if you have Self and Family coverage and elect to provide a survivor benefit at retirement.



Federal Employees Group Life Insurance & Retirement



- Retirement on an immediate annuity
- Insured on date of retirement
- Insured for the 5 years of service prior to retirement <u>OR</u> since your First opportunity to enroll
- Election Form: SF 2818 Continuation of Life
 Insurance Coverage Form requires 4 signature





Retirement Estimate

- Request your retirement estimate no more than 5 years prior to retirement eligibility date
- ABC-C will compute one retirement estimate per calendar year
- Retirement estimate includes:
 - Verification of military & civilian service documented in your Official Personnel Folder (OPF)
 - Calculation of amount of civilian deposit and/or redeposit owed
 - Impact of unpaid civilian deposit/redeposit & military deposit on your retirement annuity
 - Confirmation of your current FEHB & FEGLI enrollment & your eligibility to continue these benefits into retirement



ABC-C Retirement Procedures & Process



- 180 days prior to retirement:
 - Download forms from ABC-C website
 - Call ABC-C for help with the retirement forms
- 120 days:
 - Mail retirement forms to ABC-C
 - Maintain personal copy
 - ABC-C receives your retirement package:
 - Reviews retirement package
 - Sends letter acknowledging receipt and requests missing forms/documents
 - Requests OPF 90 120 days out



ABC-C Retirement Procedures & Process



- □ 30 60 days prior to retirement:
 - Retirement package assigned to counselor
 - ABC-C retirement counselor:
 - Verifies required forms and documents
 - Processes retirement package
 - Provides final retirement counseling
 - Retirement package is forwarded to OPM





Retirement Overview

Questions?????????