

agencies excepted by section 4102(a) of Title 5, United States Code).

§ 410.306 Selecting and assigning employees to training.

(a) Each agency shall establish criteria for the fair and equitable selection and assignment of employees to training consistent with merit system principles specified in 5 U.S.C. 2301(b)(1) and (2).

(b) Persons on Intergovernmental Personnel Act mobility assignments may be assigned to training if that training is in the interest of the Government.

(1) A State or local government employee given an appointment in a Federal agency under the authority of section 3374(b) of title 5 of the United States Code, is deemed an employee of the Federal agency. The agency may provide training for the State or local government employee as it does for other agency employees.

(2) A State or local government employee on detail to a Federal agency under the authority of section 3374(c) of title 5 of the United States Code, is not deemed an employee of the Federal agency. However, the detailed State or local government employee may be admitted to training programs the agency has established for Federal personnel and may be trained in the rules, practices, procedures and/or systems pertaining to the Federal government.

(c) Subject to the prohibitions of § 410.308(a) of this part, an agency may pay all or part of the training expenses of students hired under the Student Career Experience Program (see 5 CFR 213.3202(d)(10)).

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§ 410.307 Training for promotion or placement in other positions.

(a) *General.* In determining whether to provide training under this section, agencies should take into account:

(1) Agency authority to modify qualification requirements in certain situations as provided in the OPM Operating Manual for Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions;

(2) Agency authority to establish training programs that provide intensive and directly job-related training

to substitute for all or part of the experience (but not education, licensing, certification, or other specific credentials), required by OPM qualification standards. Such training programs may be established to provide employees with the opportunity to acquire the experience and knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to qualify for another position (including at a higher grade) at an accelerated rate; and

(3) Time-in-grade restrictions on advancement (see 5 CFR 300.603(b)(6)).

(b) *Training for promotion.* Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 4103, and consistent with merit system principles set forth in 5 U.S.C. 2301(b)(1) and (2), an agency may provide training to non-temporary employees that in certain instances may lead to promotion. An agency must follow its competitive procedures under part 335 of this chapter when selecting a non-temporary employee for training that permits noncompetitive promotion after successful completion of the training.

(c) *Training for placement in other agency positions, in other agencies, or outside Government—(1) Grade or pay retention.* Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 4103 and 5 U.S.C. 5364, an agency may train an employee to meet the qualification requirements of another position in the agency if the new position is at or below the retained grade or the grade of the position the employee held before pay retention.

(2) *Training for placement in another agency.* Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 4103(b), and consistent with merit system principles set forth in 5 U.S.C. 2301, an agency may train an employee to meet the qualification requirements of a position in another agency if the head of the agency determines that such training would be in the interest of the Government.

(i) Before undertaking any training under this section, the head of the agency shall determine that there exists a reasonable expectation of placement in another agency.

(ii) When selecting an employee for training under this section, the head of the agency shall consider:

(A) The extent to which the employee's current skills, knowledge, and abilities may be utilized in the new position;

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(B) The employee's capability to learn skills and acquire knowledge and abilities needed in the new position; and

(C) The benefits to the Government which would result from retaining the employee in the Federal service.

(3) *Training displaced or surplus employees.* Displaced or surplus employees as defined in 5 CFR 330.604(b) and (f) may be eligible for training or retraining for positions outside Government through programs provided under 29 U.S.C. 1651, or similar authorities. An agency may use its appropriated funds for training displaced or surplus employees for positions outside Government only when specifically authorized by legislation to do so.

(4) *Career transition assistance plans.* Under 5 CFR 330.602, agencies are required to establish career transition assistance plans (CTAP) to provide career transition services to displaced and surplus employees.

(i) Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 4109, an agency may:

(A) Train employees in the use of the CTAP services;

(B) Provide vocational and career assessment and counseling services;

(C) Train employees in job search skills, techniques, and strategies; and

(D) Pay for training related expenses as provided in 5 U.S.C. 4109(a)(2).

(ii) Agency CTAP's will include plans for retraining displaced or surplus employees covered by this part.

§ 410.308 Training to obtain an academic degree.

(a) *Prohibition.* (1) Under 5 U.S.C. 4107(a), an agency may not authorize training for an employee to obtain an academic degree, except for shortage occupations as defined in § 410.308(b).

(2)(i) The prohibition on academic degree in 5 U.S.C. 4107(a)(2) is not to be construed as limiting the authority of agencies to approve and pay for training expenses to develop knowledge, skills, and abilities directly related to improved individual performance. If, in the accomplishment of such training, an employee receives an academic degree, the degree is an incidental by-product of the training.

(ii) Paying an additional rate of tuition because a student is a degree can-

didate is prohibited. An agency is only authorized to pay the tuition and fees charged for a nondegree student, even though the employee is enrolled as a degree candidate. If it is not possible to distinguish between costs associated with the acquisition of knowledge and skills and the costs associated with the acquisition of an academic degree at an institution, an agency is authorized to pay in full the tuition of an employee participating in an authorized program of training at that institution.

(b) *Academic degree training to relieve recruitment and retention problems.* (1) 5 U.S.C. 4107(b) allows an agency to authorize academic degree training if the training:

(i) Is necessary to assist in recruiting or retaining employees in occupations in which the agency has or anticipates a shortage of qualified personnel, especially in occupations which it has determined involve skills critical to its mission, and

(ii) Meets the conditions of this section.

(2) In reviewing the need to provide training under this section, an agency shall give appropriate consideration to any special salary rate, student loan repayment, retention allowance, or other monetary inducement authorized by law already provided or being provided which contributes to the alleviation of the staffing problem in the occupation targeted by that training.

(3) In exercising the authority in this section, an agency shall, consistent with the merit system principles set forth in 5 U.S.C. 2301(b)(1) and (2), take into consideration the need to maintain a balanced workforce in which women and members of racial and ethnic minority groups are appropriately represented in the agency.

(4) The authority in this section shall not be exercised on behalf of any employee occupying, or seeking to qualify for appointment to, any position which is excepted from the competitive service because of its confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character.

(5) An agency's policies established under § 410.201 of this part shall cover decisions to authorize training under this section, to ensure that: