

(b) Failure to complete the period of employment established under a service agreement occurs when the employee's service with the agency at the new duty station terminates before the employee completes the period of employment specified in the service agreement.

(c) Amounts owed by an employee under paragraph (a) of this section shall be recovered from the employee under the agency's regulations for collection by offset from an indebted Government employee under 5 U.S.C. 5514 and subpart K of part 550 of this chapter.

(d) Paragraph (a) of this section does not apply when an employee fails to complete the period of employment established under a service agreement because the employee is involuntarily separated or because of a written determination by the head of the agency that it is necessary to relocate the employee to a position in a different commuting area.

(e) A right of recovery of an employee's debt under 5 U.S.C. 5514 may be waived in whole or in part by the head of the agency if he or she determines that recovery would be against equity and good conscience or against the public interest.

#### § 575.208 Internal monitoring.

Each agency shall monitor the use of relocation bonuses to ensure that its relocation bonus plan conforms to the requirements established under this subpart and that the payment of relocation bonuses conforms to the criteria established under this subpart.

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#### § 575.209 Records and reports.

(a) Each agency shall keep a record of each determination required by § 575.204(c) of this part and make such records available for review upon request by OPM. Each agency shall promptly submit a report of each such determination as a part of its regular submission to OPM's Central Personnel Data File.

(b) So that OPM can evaluate agencies' use of this authority and provide the Congress and others with information regarding the use of relocation bonuses, each agency shall maintain such

other records and submit to OPM such other reports and data as OPM shall require.

### Subpart C—Retention Allowances

#### § 575.301 Purpose.

This subpart provides regulations to implement 5 U.S.C. 5754, which authorizes payment of a retention allowance of up to 25 percent of basic pay to a current employee if the unusually high or unique qualifications of the employee or a special need of the agency for the employee's services makes it essential to retain the employee, and the agency determines that the employee would be likely to leave in the absence of a retention allowance.

#### § 575.302 Delegation of authority.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the head of an agency (or, with respect to positions not under the General Schedule, the head of an Executive agency) may pay a retention allowance to an employee who holds—

(1) A General Schedule position paid under 5 U.S.C. 5332;

(2) A senior-level or scientific or professional position paid under 5 U.S.C. 5376;

(3) A Senior Executive Service position paid under 5 U.S.C. 5383 or a Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug Enforcement Administration Senior Executive Service position paid under 5 U.S.C. 3151;

(4) A position as a law enforcement officer, as defined in § 550.103 of this chapter;

(5) A position under the Executive Schedule established under subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, or a position the rate of pay for which is fixed by law at a rate equal to a rate for the Executive Schedule;

(6) An executive branch position filled by Presidential appointment (with or without the advice and consent of the Senate); or

(7) A prevailing rate position, as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5342(a)(3).

(b) The delegation of authority under paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply to the payment of a retention allowance to the head of an agency, including an agency headed by a collegial