

Office of the Secretary, DOT

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costs differ from projections, the actual amount of each payment may vary depending on the following factors:

(1) Seasonal characteristics of the carrier's operations at the eligible place;

(2) The actual number of flights completed, aircraft miles flown, available seat-miles flown, or variations in other operational elements upon which the subsidy rate is based; or

(3) Adjustments to the carrier's subsidy required by § 271.8(b).

(c) Payments will continue for the duration of the rate term established under § 271.8 provided that the carrier continues to provide the required service.

[ER-1398, 49 FR 49846, Dec. 24, 1984, as amended at 60 FR 43524, 43525, Aug. 22, 1995]

§ 271.8 Rate period.

(a) The subsidy rate generally will be set for a 2-year period, or two consecutive 1-year periods. The Department may set the rate for a shorter period in the following situations:

(1) A commuter air carrier is replacing a larger certificated carrier at the eligible place;

(2) Traffic at the eligible place has substantially decreased;

(3) The Department considers the cost or revenue projections of the carrier for the second year to be unrealistic;

(4) It is likely that there will be changes in the eligible place essential air service level; or

(5) The uncertainties of the market or other circumstances warrant a shorter rate period.

(b) The subsidy rate established for a carrier under this part will not be changed during the rate period unless an adjustment is required in the public interest.

(c) At the end of the rate period, the carrier will not have a continuing right to receive subsidy for providing essential air service at the eligible place.

[ER-1398, 49 FR 49846, Dec. 24, 1984, as amended at 60 FR 43524, 43525, Aug. 22, 1995]

§ 271.9 Discrimination prohibited.

(a) All air carriers receiving subsidy under this part shall comply with the following:

(1) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975;

(2) The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 49 CFR part 21; and

(3) The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 49 CFR part 27, and part 382 of this chapter.

(b) Within 1 year after it first receives a subsidy under this part, the carrier shall evaluate its practices and procedures for accommodating the handicapped in accordance with § 382.23 of this chapter.

(c) All air carriers seeking a subsidy under this part shall include in their subsidy application the assurances required by 49 CFR parts 20, 21, 27 and 29, and § 382.21 of this chapter.

[ER-1398, 49 FR 49846, Dec. 24, 1984, as amended at 60 FR 43525, Aug. 22, 1995]

PART 272—ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE TO THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES

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AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. Chapters 401, 402, 416, 461, 1102; sec. 221(a)(5) of the Compact of Free Association, and paragraph 5 of Article IX of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement in implementation of that Compact (Pub. L. 99-239; Pub. L. 99-658); Pub. L. 101-219.

SOURCE: Amdt. No. 272-1, 52 FR 5443, Feb. 23, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

§ 272.1 Purpose.

Paragraph 5 of Article IX of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement implementing section 221(a)(5) of the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and

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Palau (the Freely Associated States) provides, among other things, for the Department of Transportation (Department), as successor to the Civil Aeronautics Board (Board), to guarantee essential air service, with compensation if necessary, to certain places in these islands. Subparagraph 5(h) of the Agreement provides that the Department shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of paragraph 5 as it in its discretion deems appropriate. Section 221(a)(5) of the Compact, which was adopted by Congress as public laws (Pub. L. 99-239, Jan. 14, 1986; Pub. L. 99-658, Nov. 14, 1986), provides that the Department (as successor to the Board) has the authority to implement the provisions of paragraph 5 of the Agreement. This part implements these provisions of paragraph 5.

[Amdt. No. 272-1, 52 FR 5443, Feb. 23, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 43525, Aug. 22, 1995]

§ 272.2 Applicability.

This part establishes the provisions applicable to the Department's guarantee of essential air service to places in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Palau, and the payment of compensation for such services. The rule applies to U.S. air carriers and Freely Associated State Air Carriers providing essential air service to these places.

[Amdt. No. 272-1, 52 FR 5443, Feb. 23, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 43525, Aug. 22, 1995]

§ 272.3 Places eligible for guaranteed essential air service.

(a) Subject to the provisions of this part, and paragraph 5 of Article IX of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement, the Department will make provision for the operation of essential air service, with compensation if necessary, to the following places in the Freely Associated States:

In the *Federated States of Micronesia*: Ponape, Truk and Yap.

In the *Marshall Islands*: Majuro and Kwajalein.

In *Palau*: Koror.

(b) The places specified herein in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands or Palau, respectively, shall cease to be eligible places under this part if any of those Governments withdraw from the subsidy pro-

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visions of Article IX of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement in accordance with paragraph 8 of Article IX or Article XII of that Agreement.

[Amdt. No. 272-1, 52 FR 5443, Feb. 23, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 43525, Aug. 22, 1995]

§ 272.4 Applicability of procedures and policies under 49 U.S.C. 41731-42.

Since the authority of the Department to guarantee essential air service is derived from the Federal Programs and Services Agreement and the Compact of Free Association, the provisions and procedures utilized by the Department in implementation of 49 U.S.C. 41731-42 will be followed only to the extent determined by the Department to be consistent with the obligations assumed by the United States in the Agreement and Compact, and the provisions of this part.

[Amdt. No. 272-1, 52 FR 5443, Feb. 23, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 43525, Aug. 22, 1995]

§ 272.5 Determination of essential air service.

Procedures for the determination of essential air service under this section, and review of that determination, shall, except to the extent otherwise directed by the Department, be governed by § 325.4 (except the application of 49 U.S.C. 41737 in § 325.4(b)); § 325.6(a); §§ 325.8-325.11; § 325.12 (provided that all documents shall be served on the President and the designated authorities of the Freely Associated State concerned); and §§ 325.13 and 325.14 of this chapter.

[Amdt. No. 272-1, 52 FR 5443, Feb. 23, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 43525, Aug. 22, 1995]

§ 272.6 Considerations in the determination of essential air service.

(a) In the determination of essential air service to an eligible Freely Associated State place, the Department shall consider, among other factors, the following:

(1) The demonstrated level of traffic demand;

(2) The amount of compensation necessary to maintain a level of service sufficient to meet that demand;

(3) The extent to which the demand may be accommodated by connecting