

Subpart L—Interagency Career Transition Assistance for Displaced Former Panama Canal Zone Employees

SOURCE: 65 FR 52294, Aug. 29, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

§ 330.1201 Purpose.

This subpart implements Section 1232 of Public Law 96-70 (the Panama Canal Act of 1979) and provides eligible displaced employees of the former Panama Canal Zone with interagency special selection priority for continuing Federal vacant positions in the continental United States.

§ 330.1202 Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart:

(a) *Agency* means an Executive Department, a Government corporation, and an independent establishment as cited in 5 U.S.C. 105. For the purposes of this program, the term “agency” includes all components of an organization, including its Office of Inspector General.

(b) *Canal Zone* is the definition set forth in 22 U.S.C. 3602(b)(1), and means the areas and installations in the Republic of Panama made available to the United States pursuant to the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977 and related agreements;

(c) *Eligible displaced employee of the former Panama Canal Zone* means a citizen of the United States who:

(1) Held a position in the Panama Canal Employment System that is in retention tenure group 1 or 2, as defined in § 351.501(a) of this chapter;

(2)(i) Was an employee of the Panama Canal Company or the Canal Zone Government on March 31, 1979, and was continuously employed in the former Panama Canal Zone under the Panama Canal Employment System; or

(ii) Was continuously employed since March 31, 1979, in the former Panama Canal Zone under the Panama Canal Employment System as an employee of an executive agency, or as an employee of the Smithsonian Institution;

(3) Held a position that was eliminated as the result of the implementation of the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977 and related agreements;

(4) Was not appointed to another appropriate Federal position located in the Republic of Panama; and

(5) Received a specific notice of separation by reduction in force, and meets the additional eligibility criteria covered in § 330.1203.

(d) *Special selection priority* means that an eligible displaced employee of the former Panama Canal Zone who applies for a competitive service vacancy, and who the hiring agency in the continental United States determines is well-qualified, has the same special selection priority as a current or former displaced Federal employee who is eligible under 5 CFR part 330, subpart G (the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan), or under 5 CFR part 330, subpart K (Federal Employment Priority Consideration for Displaced Employees of the District of Columbia Department of Corrections). Eligible displaced employees of the former Panama Canal Zone have special selection priority under this subpart to positions throughout the continental United States.

(e) *Vacancy* means a competitive service position to be filled for a total of 121 days or more, including all extensions, which the agency is filling, regardless of whether the agency issues a specific vacancy announcement.

(f) *Well-qualified* employee means an eligible displaced former employee of the Panama Canal Zone who possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities that clearly exceed the minimum qualification requirements for the position. A well-qualified employee will not necessarily meet the agency’s definition of *highly or best qualified*, when evaluated against other candidates who apply for a particular vacancy, but must satisfy the following criteria, as determined and consistently applied by the agency:

(1) Meets the basic qualification standards and eligibility requirements for the position, including any medical qualifications, suitability, and minimum educational and experience requirements;

(2) Satisfies one of the following qualifications requirements:

(i) Meets all selective factors where applicable. Meets appropriate quality rating factor levels as determined by