

## § 846.101

subpart G also issued under section 642 of Pub. L. 105-61, 111 Stat. 1272.

SOURCE: 52 FR 19235, May 21, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—General Provisions

#### § 846.101 Purpose.

This part identifies the employees who may transfer to the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), gives the conditions under which they may transfer, and sets forth the method of computing the annuities of employees who transfer to FERS.

#### § 846.102 Definitions.

In this part—

*CSRS* means subchapter III of chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code.

*CSRS/SS service* means service subject to both CSRS deductions (or deductions under another retirement system for Federal employees if such service is creditable under CSRS) and social security deductions as a result of the Social Security Amendments of 1983. For this purpose, the service of an individual is considered CSRS/SS service if the service would have been covered under CSRS except for an election under section 208(a)(1)(A) of the Federal Employees Retirement Contribution Temporary Adjustment Act of 1983 to have no CSRS coverage.

*Employee* means an employee as defined by § 842.102 of this chapter.

*Employing office* means the office of an agency to which jurisdiction and responsibility for retirement matters for an employee have been delegated.

*FERS* means the Federal Employees Retirement System as described in chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code.

*Former spouse* means a former spouse as defined in § 838.103 or § 838.1003 of this chapter.

*Member* means a Member of Congress as defined in section 2106 of title 5, United States Code.

*OPM* means the Office of Personnel Management.

*Qualifying court order* means a court order acceptable for processing as defined in § 838.103 of this chapter or a qualifying court order as defined in § 838.1003 of this chapter.

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*Social security* means coverage under the Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance programs of the Social Security Act.

[52 FR 19235, May 21, 1987, as amended at 57 FR 33599, July 29, 1992]

### Subpart B—Elections

#### § 846.201 Elections to become subject to FERS.

(a) *Employees and Members subject to CSRS on June 30, 1987.* An individual who, on June 30, 1987, is employed in the Federal service or is a Member and who is covered by CSRS may elect to become subject to FERS. An election under this paragraph may not be made before July 1, 1987, or after December 31, 1987.

(b)(1) *Separated employees who are re-employed.* A former employee who, after June 30, 1987, becomes reemployed and subject to CSRS may elect, during the 6-month period beginning on the date he or she becomes subject to CSRS, to become subject to FERS, except that an employee serving under an interim appointment under the authority of § 772.102 of this chapter is not eligible to elect to become subject to FERS.

(2) *Separated employees who are employed with the District of Columbia Financial Management and Assistance Authority (Authority).* A former employee who becomes employed with the Authority and subject to CSRS may elect, during the 6-month period beginning on the date he or she becomes subject to CSRS, to become subject to FERS, except that an employee serving under an interim appointment under the authority of § 772.102 of this chapter is not eligible to elect to become subject to FERS.

(c) *Employees and Members not subject to CSRS.* (1) An employee or Member who is excluded from FERS coverage on January 1, 1987, by § 842.104 (d) or (f) of this chapter and who, on December 31, 1986, is not subject to CSRS may elect to become subject to FERS. An election under this paragraph (c)(1) may not be made before July 1, 1987, or after December 31, 1987.

(2) An employee who, on June 30, 1987, is not covered by CSRS, but later becomes so covered, may elect to become subject to FERS. An election

under this paragraph (c)(2) must be made during the 6-month period beginning on the date he or she becomes subject to CSRS.

(3) An employee who would be subject to CSRS except for the exclusions in § 831.201 of this chapter, but is not excluded from FERS by 5 U.S.C. 8401 nor by § 842.105 of this chapter, is deemed eligible to make an election of FERS coverage under this section. An election under this paragraph (c)(3) must be made during the period beginning July 1, 1987, and ending December 31, 1987, or, if later, during the 6-month period beginning on the date the employment described in this paragraph (c)(3) begins.

(d) *Exceptions.* (1) An individual who is an employee of the government of the District of Columbia may not elect to become subject to FERS except an individual so employed who is covered by CSRS and eligible for FERS coverage by operation of section 11246 of Pub. L. 105-33, 111 Stat. 251, or section 7(e) of Pub. L. 105-274, 112 Stat. 2419.

(2) A Member who has irrevocably elected, by written notice to the official by whom the Member is paid, not to participate in FERS may not elect to become subject to FERS during the same continuous period of service.

(3) An employee or reemployed annuitant whose appointment is excluded from FERS coverage by law or regulation may not become subject to FERS by reason of an election under this section except as specified in paragraph (c) of this section or as otherwise provided by law.

(4) An election under this section may not be made by an individual who is ineligible for social security coverage.

(e) *Effective date.* An election made under this section is effective with the first pay period beginning after the date the election is properly filed with the employing office.

(f) *Irrevocability.* An election made under this section is irrevocable.

[52 FR 19235, May 21, 1987, as amended at 57 FR 3714, Jan. 31, 1992; 61 FR 58459, Nov. 15, 1996; 62 FR 50997, Sept. 30, 1997; 64 FR 15289, Mar. 31, 1999]

#### § 846.202 Condition for making an election.

(a) An election under § 846.102 of this part may not become effective unless the election is made with the written consent of any former spouse(s) entitled to benefits under subpart F of part 831 of this chapter or part 838 of this chapter. As provided in section 301(d)(2)(A) of the FERS Act of 1986, this section applies only if OPM has been duly notified concerning any qualifying court order and has received the documentation required in § 838.211, § 838.721, or § 838.1005 of this chapter. This section does not apply with respect to a former spouse who has ceased to be so entitled because of remarrying before age 55.

(b) OPM may waive the requirement of paragraph (a) of this section upon a showing that the former spouse's whereabouts cannot be determined. A request for waiver on this basis must be accompanied by—

(1) A judicial or administrative determination that the former spouse's whereabouts cannot be determined; or

(2)(i) Affidavits by the employee or Member and two other persons, at least one of whom is not related to the employee or Member, attesting to the inability to locate the former spouse and stating the efforts made to locate the spouse; and

(ii) Documentary corroboration such as newspaper reports about the former spouse's disappearance.

(c) OPM may waive the requirement of paragraph (a) of this section based on exceptional circumstances if the employee or Member presents a judicial determination regarding the former spouse that would warrant waiver of the consent requirement based on exceptional circumstances.

(d)(1) OPM shall, upon application of an individual, grant an extension for such individual to make an election under § 846.201 of this part, if the individual—

(i) Files an application for the extension with OPM before the end of the period during which the individual would otherwise be eligible to make the election; and