

§ 870.105

5 CFR Ch. I (1-1-08 Edition)

§ 870.105 Initial decision and reconsideration.

(a) An individual may ask his/her agency or retirement system to reconsider its initial decision denying life insurance coverage, the opportunity to change coverage, the opportunity to assign insurance, or the opportunity to elect portability for Option B coverage.

(b) An employing office's decision is an initial decision when the employing office gives it in writing and informs the individual of the right to an independent level of review (reconsideration) by the appropriate agency or retirement system.

(c) A request for reconsideration must be made in writing and must include the employee's (or annuitant's) name, address, date of birth, Social Security number, reason(s) for the request, and, if applicable, retirement claim number.

(d) A request for reconsideration must be made within 30 calendar days from the date of the initial decision. This time limit may be extended when the individual shows that he/she was not notified of the time limit and was not otherwise aware of it or that he/she was unable, due to reasons beyond his/her control, to make the request within the time limit.

(e) The reconsideration must take place at or above the level at which the initial decision was made.

(f) After reconsideration, the agency or retirement system must issue a final decision to the insured individual. This decision must be in writing and must fully state the findings.

[62 FR 48731, Sept. 17, 1997. Redesignated and amended at 64 FR 72461, Dec. 28, 1999]

Subpart B—Types and Amount of Insurance

§ 870.201 Types of insurance.

(a) There are two types of life insurance under the FEGLI Program: Basic and Optional.

(b) There are three types of Optional insurance: Option A (standard optional insurance), Option B (additional optional insurance), and Option C (family optional insurance).

§ 870.202 Basic insurance amount (BIA).

(a)(1) An employee's Basic insurance amount (BIA) is either:

(i) His/her annual rate of basic pay, rounded to the next higher thousand, plus \$2,000; or

(ii) \$10,000; whichever is higher, unless an employee has elected a Living Benefit under subpart K of this part. Effective for pay periods beginning on or after October 30, 1998, there is no maximum BIA.

(2) The BIA of an individual who is eligible to continue Basic Life insurance coverage as an annuitant or compensationner is the BIA in effect at the time his/her insurance as an employee would stop under § 870.601.

(b) An employee's BIA automatically changes whenever annual pay is increased or decreased by an amount sufficient to raise or lower pay to a different \$1,000 bracket, unless the employee has elected a Living Benefit under subpart K of this part.

(c) The amount of an employee's Basic Life insurance coverage is equal to his/her BIA multiplied by the appropriate factor based on the employee's age, as follows:

Age	Factor
35 or under	2.0
36	1.9
37	1.8
38	1.7
39	1.6
40	1.5
41	1.4
42	1.3
43	1.2
44	1.1
45 or over	1.0

[62 FR 48731, Sept. 17, 1997, as amended at 64 FR 72461, Dec. 28, 1999]

§ 870.203 Post-election BIA.

(a) The BIA of an individual who elects a Living Benefit under subpart K of this part is the amount of insurance left after the effective date of the Living Benefit election. This amount is the individual's post-election BIA.

(1) The post-election BIA of an individual who elects a full Living Benefit is 0.

(2) The post-election BIA of an employee who elects a partial Living Benefit is the BIA as of the date OFEGLI

receives the completed Living Benefit application (the “pre-election” BIA), reduced by the percentage which the partial lump-sum payment represents of the full Living Benefit payment the employee could have received if he/she elected a full Living Benefit; this amount is rounded up or down to the nearest multiple of \$1,000 or, if midway between multiples, to the next higher multiple.

(b) The post-election BIA cannot change after the effective date of the Living Benefit election.

(c) For purposes of computing the payment of benefits upon the death of an insured individual who elected a partial Living Benefit, the post-election BIA will be multiplied by the age factor in effect on the date OFEGLI received the completed Living Benefit application.

§ 870.204 Annual rates of pay.

(a) (1) An insured employee’s annual pay is his/her annual rate of basic pay as fixed by law or regulation.

(2) Annual pay for this purpose includes the following:

(i) Interim geographic adjustments and locality-based comparability payments as provided by Pub. L. 101-509 (104 Stat. 1479);

(ii) Premium pay for standby duty under 5 U.S.C. 5545(c)(1);

(iii) Premium pay for overtime inspectional service for customs officers as provided by Pub. L. 103-66 (107 Stat. 453);

(iv) For a law enforcement officer as defined under 5 U.S.C. 8331(20) and §§ 831.902 and 842.802 of this title, premium pay for administratively uncontrollable overtime under 5 U.S.C. 5545(c)(2);

(v) Night differential pay for wage employees;

(vi) Environmental differential pay for employees exposed to danger or physical hardship;

(vii) Tropical differential pay for citizen employees in Panama;

(viii) Special pay adjustments for law enforcement officers;

(ix) Availability pay for criminal investigators under 5 U.S.C. 5545a;

(x) Bonuses for physicians and dentists of the Department of Veterans Af-

fairs under Pub. L. 96-330 (94 Stat. 1030); and

(xi) Straight-time pay for regular overtime hours for firefighters, as provided in 5 U.S.C. 5545b and part 550, subpart M, of this chapter.

(b) To convert a pay rate of other than annual salary to an annual rate, multiply the pay rate by the number of pay units in a 52-week work year.

(c) The annual pay for a part-time employee is his/her basic pay applied to his/her tour of duty in a 52-week work year.

(d) The annual pay for an employee on piecework rates is the total basic earnings for the previous calendar year, not counting premium pay for overtime or holidays.

(e) The annual pay for an employee with a regular schedule who works at different pay rates is the weighted average of the rates at which the employee is paid, projected to an annual basis.

(f) The annual pay for a non-Postal intermittent employee or an employee who works at different pay rates without a regular schedule is the annual rate which he/she is receiving at the end of the pay period.

(g) If an employee legally serves in more than 1 position at the same time, and at least 1 of those positions entitles him/her to life insurance coverage, the annual pay is the sum of the annual basic pay fixed by law or regulation for each position. Exception: this doesn’t apply to part-time flexible schedule employees in the Postal Service.

[62 FR 48731, Sept. 17, 1997; 62 FR 52181, Oct. 6, 1997, as amended at 63 FR 64595, Nov. 23, 1998]

§ 870.205 Amount of Optional insurance.

(a) Option A coverage is \$10,000. Effective for pay periods beginning on or after October 30, 1998, Option A cannot exceed this amount. Exception: This does not apply to annuitants who retired with a higher amount of Option A before the removal of the maximum on Basic insurance (the first pay period beginning on or after October 30, 1998).