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Title 5: Administrative Personnel

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PART 410—TRAINING

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Authority: 5 U.S.C. 4101, et seq.; E.O. 11348, 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 275.

Source: 61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions



§ 410.101 Definitions.



In this part:

(a) *Agency, employee, Government, Government facility, and non-Government facility* have the meanings given these terms in section 4101 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) Exceptions to organizations and employees covered by this subpart include:

(1) Those named in section 4102 of title 5, United States Code, and

(2) The U.S. Postal Service and Postal Rate Commission and their employees, as provided in Pub. L. 91-375, enacted August 12, 1970.

(c) *Training* has the meaning given to the term in section 4101 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) *Mission-related training* is training that supports agency goals by improving organizational performance at any appropriate level in the agency, as determined by the head of the agency. This includes training that:

(1) Supports the agency's strategic plan and performance objectives;

(2) Improves an employee's current job performance;

(3) Allows for expansion or enhancement of an employee's current job;

(4) Enables an employee to perform needed or potentially needed duties outside the current job at the same level of responsibility; or

(5) Meets organizational needs in response to human resource plans and re-engineering, downsizing, restructuring, and/or program changes.

(e) *Retraining* means training and development provided to address an individual's skills obsolescence

in the current position and/or training and development to prepare an individual for a different occupation, in the same agency, in another Government agency, or in the private sector.

(f) *Continued service agreement* has the meaning given to service agreements in section 4108 of title 5, United States Code.

(g) *Interagency training* means training provided by one agency for other agencies or shared by two or more agencies.

(h) *State and local government* have the meanings given to these terms by section 4762 of title 42, United States Code.

(i) *Established contact hours* are the number of academic credit hours assigned to a course(s) times the number of weeks in a term times the number of terms required to complete the degree.

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996, as amended at 69 FR 33276, June 15, 2004]

Subpart B—Planning for Training



§ 410.201 Responsibilities of the head of an agency.



As stated in section 4103 of title 5, United States Code, and in Executive Order 11348, the head of each agency shall:

- (a) Establish, budget for, operate, maintain, and evaluate a program or programs, and a plan or plans thereunder, for training agency employees by, in, and through Government and non-Government facilities;
- (b) Determine policies governing employee training, including a statement of broad purposes for agency training, the assignment of responsibility for seeing that these purposes are achieved, and the delegation of training approval authority to the lowest possible level; and
- (c) Establish priorities for training employees and provide for funds and staff according to these priorities.

§ 410.202 Integrating employee training and development with agency strategic plans.



(a) Agencies shall include mission-related training and development in agency strategic planning to ensure that:

- (1) Agency training strategies and activities contribute to mission accomplishment; and
- (2) Organizational performance goals are met.

(b) Agency human resource development programs and plans should:

- (1) Improve employee and organizational performance; and
- (2) Build and support an agency workforce capable of achieving agency mission and performance goals.

§ 410.203 Assessing organizational, occupational, and individual needs.



(a) *Assessment.* Section 303 of Executive Order 11348 specifies the responsibility of heads of agencies to assess agency training needs annually.

(b) *Method.* The method an agency uses to conduct training needs assessment shall meet the requirements of chapter 41 of title 5, United States Code, Executive Order 11348, and this subpart.

§ 410.204 Options for developing employees.



Agencies may use a full range of options to meet their mission-related organizational and employee development needs, such as classroom training, on-the-job training, technology-based training, satellite training, employees' self-development activities, coaching, mentoring, career development counseling, details, rotational assignments, cross training, and developmental activities at retreats and conferences.

Subpart C—Establishing and Implementing Training Programs



§ 410.301 Scope and general conduct of training programs.



(a) *Authority.* The requirements for establishing training programs and plans are found in section 4103(a) of title 5, United States Code, and Executive Order 11348.

(b) *Alignment with other human resource functions.* Training programs established by agencies under chapter 41 of title 5, United States Code, should be integrated with other personnel management and operating activities, under administrative agreements as appropriate, to the maximum possible extent.

§ 410.302 Responsibilities of the head of an agency.



(a) *Specific responsibilities.* (1) The head of each agency shall prescribe procedures as are necessary to ensure that the selection of employees for training is made without regard to political preference, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, age, or handicapping condition, and with proper regard for their privacy and constitutional rights as provided by merit system principles set forth in 5 U.S.C. 2301(b)(2).

(2) The head of each agency shall prescribe procedures as are necessary to ensure that the training facility and curriculum are accessible to employees with disabilities.

(3) The head of each agency shall not allow training in a facility that discriminates in the admission or treatment of students.

(b)(1) *Training of Presidential appointees.* The Office of Personnel Management delegates to the head of each agency authority to authorize training for officials appointed by the President. In exercising this authority, the head of an agency must ensure that the training is in compliance with chapter 41 of title 5, United States Code, and with this part. This authority may not be delegated to a subordinate.

(2) Records. When exercising this delegation of authority, the head of an agency must maintain records that include:

(i) The name and position title of the official;

(ii) A description of the training, its location, vendor, cost, and duration; and

(iii) A statement justifying the training and describing how the official will apply it during his or her term of office.

(3) Review of delegation. Exercise of this authority is subject to U.S. Office of Personnel Management review.

(c) Training for the head of an agency. Since self-review constitutes a conflict of interest, heads of agencies must submit their own requests for training to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management for approval.

(d) The head of the agency shall establish the form and manner of maintaining agency records related to training plans, expenditures, and activities.

(e) The head of the agency shall establish written procedures which cover the minimum requirements for continued service agreements. (See also 5 CFR 410.310.)

(f) The head of each agency shall prescribe procedures, as authorized by section 402 of Executive Order No. 11348, for obtaining U.S. Department of State advice before assigning an employee who is stationed within the continental limits of the United States to training outside the continental United States that is provided by a foreign government, international organization, or instrumentality of either.

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 43867, Aug. 17, 1998]

§ 410.303 Employee responsibilities.



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Employees are responsible for self-development, for successfully completing and applying authorized training, and for fulfilling continued service agreements. In addition, they share with their agencies the responsibility to identify training needed to improve individual and organizational performance and identify methods to meet those needs, effectively and efficiently.

§ 410.304 Funding training programs.



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Section 4112 of title 5, United States Code, provides for agencies paying the costs of their training programs and plans from applicable appropriations or from other funds available. Training costs associated with program accomplishment may be funded by appropriations applicable to that program area. In addition, section 4109(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, provides authority for agencies and employees to share the expenses of training.

§ 410.305 Establishing and using interagency training.



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Executive departments, independent establishments, Government corporations subject to chapter 91 of title 31, the Library of Congress, and the Government Printing office may provide or share training programs developed for its employees of other agencies under section 4120 of title 5, United States Code, when this would result in better training, improved service, or savings to the Government. Section

302(d) of Executive Order 11348 allows agencies excluded from section 4102 of title 5, United States Code, to also receive interagency training when this would result in better training, improved service, or savings to the Government. Section 201(e) of Executive Order 11348 provides for the Office of Personnel Management to coordinate interagency training conducted by and for agencies (including agencies and portions of agencies excepted by section 4102(a) of Title 5, United States Code).

§ 410.306 Selecting and assigning employees to training.



(a) Each agency shall establish criteria for the fair and equitable selection and assignment of employees to training consistent with merit system principles specified in 5 U.S.C. 2301(b)(1) and (2).

(b) Persons on Intergovernmental Personnel Act mobility assignments may be assigned to training if that training is in the interest of the Government.

(1) A State or local government employee given an appointment in a Federal agency under the authority of section 3374(b) of title 5 of the United States Code, is deemed an employee of the Federal agency. The agency may provide training for the State or local government employee as it does for other agency employees.

(2) A State or local government employee on detail to a Federal agency under the authority of section 3374(c) of title 5 of the United States Code, is not deemed an employee of the Federal agency. However, the detailed State or local government employee may be admitted to training programs the agency has established for Federal personnel and may be trained in the rules, practices, procedures and/or systems pertaining to the Federal government.

(c) Subject to the prohibitions of §410.308(a) of this part, an agency may pay all or part of the training expenses of students hired under the Student Career Experience Program (see 5 CFR 213.3202(d)(10)).

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996; 61 FR 68119, Dec. 27, 1996]

§ 410.307 Training for promotion or placement in other positions.



(a) *General.* In determining whether to provide training under this section, agencies should take into account:

(1) Agency authority to modify qualification requirements in certain situations as provided in the OPM Operating Manual for Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions;

(2) Agency authority to establish training programs that provide intensive and directly job-related training to substitute for all or part of the experience (but not education, licensing, certification, or other specific credentials), required by OPM qualification standards. Such training programs may be established to provide employees with the opportunity to acquire the experience and knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to qualify for another position (including at a higher grade) at an accelerated rate; and

(3) Time-in-grade restrictions on advancement (see 5 CFR 300.603(b)(6)).

(b) *Training for promotion.* Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 4103, and consistent with merit system principles set forth in 5 U.S.C. 2301(b)(1) and (2), an agency may provide training to non-temporary employees that in certain instances may lead to promotion. An agency must follow its competitive procedures under part 335 of this chapter when selecting a non-temporary employee for training that permits noncompetitive promotion after successful completion of the training.

(c) *Training for placement in other agency positions, in other agencies, or outside Government* —(1)

Grade or pay retention. Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 4103 and 5 U.S.C. 5364, an agency may train an employee to meet the qualification requirements of another position in the agency if the new position is at or below the retained grade or the grade of the position the employee held before pay retention.

(2) *Training for placement in another agency.* Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 4103(b), and consistent with merit system principles set forth in 5 U.S.C. 2301, an agency may train an employee to meet the qualification requirements of a position in another agency if the head of the agency determines that such training would be in the interest of the Government.

(i) Before undertaking any training under this section, the head of the agency shall determine that there exists a reasonable expectation of placement in another agency.

(ii) When selecting an employee for training under this section, the head of the agency shall consider:

(A) The extent to which the employee's current skills, knowledge, and abilities may be utilized in the new position;

(B) The employee's capability to learn skills and acquire knowledge and abilities needed in the new position; and

(C) The benefits to the Government which would result from retaining the employee in the Federal service.

(3) *Training displaced or surplus employees.* Displaced or surplus employees as defined in 5 CFR 330.604(b) and (f) may be eligible for training or retraining for positions outside Government through programs provided under 29 U.S.C. 1651, or similar authorities. An agency may use its appropriated funds for training displaced or surplus employees for positions outside Government only when specifically authorized by legislation to do so.

(4) *Career transition assistance plans.* Under 5 CFR 330.602, agencies are required to establish career transition assistance plans (CTAP) to provide career transition services to displaced and surplus employees.

(i) Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 4109, an agency may:

(A) Train employees in the use of the CTAP services;

(B) Provide vocational and career assessment and counseling services;

(C) Train employees in job search skills, techniques, and strategies; and

(D) Pay for training related expenses as provided in 5 U.S.C. 4109(a)(2).

(ii) Agency CTAP's will include plans for retraining displaced or surplus employees covered by this part.

§ 410.308 Training to obtain an academic degree.



(a) An agency may authorize training for an employee to obtain an academic degree under conditions prescribed at 5 U.S.C. 4107(a).

(b) Colleges and universities participating in an academic degree training program must be accredited by a nationally recognized body. A "nationally recognized body" is a regional, national, or international accrediting organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The listing of accrediting bodies is available through the Department.

(c) The selection of employees for an academic degree training program must follow the requirements of

§335.103(b)(3), §335.103(c)(1)(iii), and subpart A of part 300 of this chapter. The selection and assignment must be accomplished to meet one or more of the criteria identified in 5 U.S.C. 4107(a). Therefore, an agency may competitively select and assign an employee to an academic degree training program that qualifies the employee for promotion to a higher graded position or to a position that requires an academic degree.

(d) Agency heads must assess and maintain records on the effectiveness of training assignments under this section.

(e) On a periodic basis, OPM may request agency information on the use and effectiveness of training assignments under this section.

[69 FR 33277, June 15, 2004]

§ 410.309 Agreements to continue in service.



(a) *Authority.* Continued service agreements are provided for in section 4108 of title 5, United States Code. Agencies have the authority to determine when such agreements will be required.

(b) *Requirements.* (1) The head of the agency shall establish written procedures which include the minimum requirements for continued service agreements. These requirements shall include procedures the agency considers necessary to protect the Government's interest should the employee fail to successfully complete training.

(2) An employee selected for training subject to an agency continued service agreement must sign an agreement to continue in service after training prior to starting the training. The period of service will equal at least three times the length of the training.

(3) The head of an agency shall establish procedures to compute length of training period for academic degree training programs in accordance with §410.310(d).

(c) *Failure to fulfill agreements.* With a signed agreement, the agency has a right to recover training costs, except pay or other compensation, if the employee voluntarily separates from Government service. The agency shall provide procedures to enable the employee to obtain a reconsideration of the recovery amount or to appeal for a waiver of the agency's right to recover.

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996; 63 FR 72097, Dec. 31, 1998, as amended at 69 FR 33277, June 15, 2004]

§ 410.310 Computing time in training.



For the purpose of computing time in training for continued service agreements under section 4108 of title 5, United States Code:

(a) An employee on an 8-hour day work schedule assigned to training is counted as being in training for the same number of hours he or she is in pay status during the training assignment. If the employee is not in pay status during the training, the employee is counted as being in training for the number of hours he or she is granted leave without pay for the purpose of the training.

(b) For an employee on an alternative work schedule, the agency is responsible for determining the number of hours the employee is in pay status during the training assignment. If the employee is not in pay status during the training, the employee is counted as being in training for the number of hours he or she is granted leave without pay for the purpose of the training.

(c) An employee on an 8-hour or an alternative work schedule assigned to training on less than a full-time basis is counted as being in training for the number of hours he or she spends in class, in formal computer-based training, in satellite training, in formal self-study programs, or with the training instructor, unless a different method is determined by the agency.

(d) When an employee is pursuing an academic degree through an agency academic degree training program, an agency may compute the length of the academic degree training period based on the academic institution's established contact hours.

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996, as amended at 69 FR 33277, June 15, 2004]

Subpart D—Paying for Training Expenses



§ 410.401 Determining necessary training expenses.



(a) The head of an agency determines which expenses constitute necessary training expenses under section 4109 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) An agency may pay, or reimburse an employee, for necessary expenses incurred in connection with approved training as provided in section 4109(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code. Necessary training expenses do not include an employee's pay or other compensation.

§ 410.402 Paying premium pay.



(a) *Prohibitions.* Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this section, an agency may not use its funds, appropriated or otherwise available, to pay premium pay to an employee engaged in training by, in, or through Government or non-government facilities.

(b) *Exceptions.* The following are excepted from the provision in paragraph (a) of this section prohibiting the payment of premium pay:

(1) *Continuation of premium pay.* An employee given training during a period of duty for which he or she is already receiving premium pay for overtime, night, holiday, or Sunday work shall continue to receive that premium pay. This exception does not apply to an employee assigned to full-time training at institutions of higher learning.

(2) *Training at night.* An employee given training at night because situations that he or she must learn to handle occur only at night shall be paid by the applicable premium pay.

(3) *Cost savings.* An employee given training on overtime, on a holiday, or on a Sunday because the costs of the training, premium pay included, are less than the costs of the same training confined to regular work hours shall be paid the applicable premium pay.

(4) *Availability pay.* An agency shall continue to pay availability pay during agency-sanctioned training to a criminal investigator who is eligible for it under 5 U.S.C. 5545a and implementing regulations. Agencies may, at their discretion, provide availability pay to investigators during periods of initial, basic training. (See 5 CFR 550.185 (b) and (c).)

(5) *Standby and administratively uncontrollable duty.* An agency may continue to pay annual premium pay for regularly scheduled standby duty or administratively uncontrollable overtime work, during periods of temporary assignment for training as provided by 5 CFR 550.162(c).

(6) *Firefighter overtime pay.* (i) A firefighter compensated under part 550, subpart M, of this chapter shall receive basic pay and overtime pay for the firefighter's regular tour of duty (as defined in §550.1302 of this chapter) in any week in which attendance at agency-sanctioned training reduces the hours in the firefighter's regular tour of duty.

(ii) The special pay protection provided by paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this section does not apply to firefighters who voluntarily participate in training during non-duty hours, leave hours, or periods of excused absence. It also does not apply if the firefighter is entitled to a greater amount of pay based on actual work hours during the week in which training occurs.

(7) *Agency exemption.* An employee given training during a period not otherwise covered by a provision of this paragraph may be paid premium pay when the employing agency has been granted an exception to paragraph (a) of this section by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

(c) An employee who is excepted under paragraph (b) of this section is eligible to receive premium pay in accordance with the applicable pay authorities.

(d) Regulations governing overtime pay for employees covered by Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) during training, education, lectures, or conferences are found in §551.423 of this chapter. The prohibitions on paying premium pay found in paragraph (a) of this section are not applicable for the purpose of paying FLSA overtime pay.

(e) Compensation for time spent traveling to and from training. (1) Compensation provisions are contained in 5 CFR 550.112(g) for time spent traveling for employees subject to title 5 of the United States Code.

(2) Compensation provisions are contained in 5 CFR 551.422 for time spent traveling for employees covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act. (See also 29 CFR 785.33 through §785.41.)

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 64592, Nov. 23, 1998; 64 FR 69172, Dec. 10, 1999; 67 FR 15466, Apr. 2, 2002]

§ 410.403 Payments for temporary duty training assignments.



Section 4109(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, provides that an agency may pay, or reimburse an employee for, all or a part of the necessary expenses of training, including the necessary costs of travel; per diem expenses; or limited relocation expenses including transportation of the immediate family, household goods and personal effects:

(a) If an agency chooses to pay per diem, or in unusual circumstances the actual subsistence, expenses for an employee on a temporary duty training assignment, payment must be in accordance with 41 CFR part 301-7 or 41 CFR part 301-8 (or, for commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in accordance with sections 404 and 405 of title 37, United States Code, and the Joint Federal travel Regulations for the Uniformed Services).

(b) An agency may pay a reduced per diem rate, such as a standardized payment less than the maximum per diem rate for a geographical area. If a reduced or standardized per diem rate was not authorized in advance of the travel and the fees paid to a training institution include lodging or meal costs, an appropriate deduction shall be made from the total per diem rate payable on the travel voucher (see 41 CFR 301-7.12).

(c) An agency may pay limited relocation expenses for the transportation of the employee's immediate family, household goods and personal effects, including packing, crating, temporarily storing, draying, and unpacking the household goods in accordance with section 5724 of title 5, United States Code (or, for commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in accordance with sections 406 and 409 of title 37, United States Code, and the Joint federal travel Regulations for the uniformed Services). Limited relocation expenses are payable only when the estimated costs of transportation and related services are less than the estimated aggregate per diem or actual subsistence

expense payments for the period of training. An employee selected for temporary duty training may receive travel and per diem (or actual subsistence expenses) for the period of the assignment or payment of limited relocation expenses, but not both.

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996; 61 FR 66821, Dec. 30, 1996]

§ 410.404 Determining if a conference is a training activity.



Agencies may sponsor an employee's attendance at a conference as a developmental assignment under section 4110 of title 5, United States Code, when—

- (a) The announced purpose of the conference is educational or instructional;
- (b) More than half of the time is scheduled for a planned, organized exchange of information between presenters and audience which meets the definition of training in section 4101 of title 5, United States Code;
- (c) The content of the conference is germane to improving individual and/or organizational performance, and
- (d) Development benefits will be derived through the employee's attendance.

§ 410.405 Protection of Government interest.



The head of an agency shall establish such procedures as he or she considers necessary to protect the Government's interest when employees fail to complete, or to successfully complete, training for which the agency pays the expenses.

Subpart E—Accepting Contributions, Awards, and Payments From Non-Government Organizations



§ 410.501 Scope.



- (a) Section 4111 of title 5, United States Code, describes conditions for employee acceptance of contributions, awards, and payments made in connection with non-Government sponsored training or meetings which an employee attends while on duty or when the agency pays the training or meeting attendance expenses, in whole or in part.
- (b) This subpart does not limit the authority of an agency head to establish procedures on the acceptance of contributions, awards, and payments in connection with any training and meetings that are outside the scope of this subpart in accordance with laws and regulations governing Government ethics and governing acceptance of travel reimbursements from non-Federal sources.

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 16877, Apr. 7, 1998]

§ 410.502 Authority of the head of an agency.



(a) In writing, the head of an agency may authorize an agency employee to accept a contribution or award (in cash or in kind) incident to training or to accept payment (in cash or in kind) of travel, subsistence, and other expenses incident to attendance at meetings if

(1) The conditions specified in section 4111 of title 5, United States Code, are met; and

(2) In the judgment of the agency head, the following two conditions are met:

(i) The contribution, award, or payment is not a reward for services to the organization prior to the training or meeting; and

(ii) Acceptance of the contribution, award, or payment:

(A) Would not reflect unfavorably on the employee's ability to carry out official duties in a fair and objective manner;

(B) Would not compromise the honesty and integrity of Government programs or of Government employees and their official actions or decisions;

(C) Would be compatible with the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended; and

(D) Would otherwise be proper and ethical for the employee concerned given the circumstances of the particular case.

(b) Delegation of authority. An agency head may delegate authority to authorize the acceptance of contributions, awards, and payments under this section. The designated official must ensure that—

(1) The policies of the agency head are reflected in each decision; and

(2) The circumstances of each case are fully evaluated under conditions set forth in §410.502(a).

(c) Acceptance of contributions, awards, and payments. An employee may accept a contribution, award, or payment (whether made in cash or in kind) that falls within the scope of this section only when he or she has specific written authorization.

(d) When more than one non-Government organization participates in making a single contribution, award, or payment, the “organization” referred to in this subsection is the one that:

(1) Selects the recipient; and

(2) Administers the funds from which the contribution, award, or payment is made.

§ 410.503 Records.



An agency shall maintain, in such form and manner as the agency head considers appropriate, the following records in connection with each contribution, awards, or payment made and accepted under authority of this section: The recipient's name; the organization's name; the amount and nature of the contribution, award, or payment and the purpose for which it is to be used; and a copy of the written authorization required by §410.502(a).

Subpart F—Evaluating Training



§ 410.601 Responsibility of the head of an agency.



Under provisions of chapter 41 of title 5, United States Code, and Executive Order 11348, the agency head shall evaluate training to determine how well it meets short and long-range program needs by occupations, organizations, or other appropriate groups. The agency head may conduct the evaluation in the manner and frequency he or she considers appropriate.

§ 410.602 Records.



An agency head shall retain records of these evaluations in such form and manner as he or she considers appropriate.

Subpart G—Reporting



§ 410.701 Reporting.



(a) Each agency shall maintain records of training plans, expenditures, and activities in such form and manner as necessary to submit the recorded data to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) through the OPM Governmentwide Electronic Data Collection System.

(b) Beginning December 31, 2006, each agency shall report the training data for its employees' training and development at such times and in such form as required for the OPM Governmentwide Electronic Data Collection System, which is explained in the *Guide to Personnel Recordkeeping* and the *Guide to Human Resources Reporting*.

(c) Agencies may request an extension for the timeframe in which they will begin reporting the data under paragraph (b) of this section. OPM may grant an extension based on an approved agency plan to meet the reporting requirements. No extension will be granted for a timeframe beyond December 31, 2007.

(d) Each agency shall establish a Schedule of Records for information required to be maintained by this chapter in accordance with regulations promulgated by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

[71 FR 28547, May 17, 2006]

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