

ber, the date the employee's or Member's annuity commenced), and

(ii) ending on the effective date of the adjustment under this section.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection, "pay" means the rate of salary or basic pay as payable under any provision of law, including any provision of law limiting the expenditure of appropriated funds.

#### § 8341. Survivor annuities

(a) For the purpose of this section—

(1) "widow" means the surviving wife of an employee or Member who—

(A) was married to him for at least 9 months immediately before his death; or

(B) is the mother of issue by that marriage;

(2) "widower" means the surviving husband of an employee or Member who—

(A) was married to her for at least 9 months immediately before her death; or

(B) is the father of issue by that marriage;

(3) "dependent", in the case of any child, means that the employee or Member involved was, at the time of the employee or Member's death, either living with or contributing to the support of such child, as determined in accordance with such regulations as the Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe; and

(4) "child" means—

(A) an unmarried dependent child under 18 years of age, including (i) an adopted child, and (ii) a stepchild but only if the stepchild lived with the employee or Member in a regular parent-child relationship, and (iii) a recognized natural child, and (iv) a child who lived with and for whom a petition of adoption was filed by an employee or Member, and who is adopted by the surviving spouse of the employee or Member after his death;

(B) such unmarried dependent child regardless of age who is incapable of self-support because of mental or physical disability incurred before age 18; or

(C) such unmarried dependent child between 18 and 22 years of age who is a student regularly pursuing a full-time course of study or training in residence in a high school, trade school, technical or vocational institute, junior college, college, university, or comparable recognized educational institution.

For the purpose of this paragraph and subsection (e) of this section, a child whose 22nd birthday occurs before July 1 or after August 31 of a calendar year, and while he is regularly pursuing such a course of study or training, is deemed to have become 22 years of age on the first day of July after that birthday. A child who is a student is deemed not to have ceased to be a student during an interim between school years if the interim is not more than 5 months and if he shows to the satisfaction of the Office of Personnel Management that he has a

bona fide intention of continuing to pursue a course of study or training in the same or different school during the school semester (or other period into which the school year is divided) immediately after the interim.

(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, if an employee or Member dies after having retired under this subchapter and is survived by a widow or widower, the widow or widower is entitled to an annuity equal to 55 percent (or 50 percent if retired before October 11, 1962) of an annuity computed under section 8339 (a)-(i), (n), (p), and (q) of this title as may apply with respect to the annuitant, or of such portion thereof as may have been designated for this purpose under section 8339(j)(1) of this title, unless the right to a survivor annuity was waived under section 8339(j)(1) or, in the case of remarriage, the employee or Member did not file an election under section 8339(j)(5)(C) or section 8339(k)(2) of this title, as the case may be.

(2) If an annuitant—

(A) who retired before April 1, 1948; or

(B) who elected a reduced annuity provided in paragraph

(2) of section 8339(k) of this title;

dies and is survived by a widow or widower, the widow or widower is entitled to an annuity in an amount which would have been paid had the annuitant been married to the widow or widower at the time of retirement.

(3) A spouse acquired after retirement is entitled to a survivor annuity under this subsection only upon electing this annuity instead of any other survivor benefit to which he may be entitled under this subchapter or another retirement system for Government employees. The annuity of the widow or widower under this subsection commences on the day after the annuitant dies. This annuity and the right thereto terminate on the last day of the month before the widow or widower—

(A) dies; or *except as provided in subsection (k), remarries*

(B) *remarries* before becoming 55 years of age.

(4) Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this subsection, the annuity payable under this subsection to the widow or widower of a retired employee or Member may not exceed the difference between—

(A) the amount which would otherwise be payable to such widow or widower under this subsection (determined without regard to any waiver or designation under section 8339(j)(1) of this title or a prior similar provision of law), and

(B) the amount of the survivor annuity payable to any former spouse of such employee or Member under subsection (h) of this section.

(c) The annuity of a survivor named under section 8339(k)(1) of this title is 55 percent of the reduced annuity of the retired employee or Member. The annuity of the survivor commences on the day after the retired employee or Member dies. This annuity and the right thereto terminate on the last day of the month before the survivor dies.

(d) If an employee or Member dies after completing at least 18 months of civilian service, his widow or widower is entitled to an annuity equal to 55 percent of an annuity computed under section

1/1/95

**\$831.665** Payment of deposits under **\$831.631**, **\$831.632**, **\$831.633**, or **\$831.634** under pre-October 1, 1993, law or when the retiree has died prior to October 1, 1993.

(a) If a retiree fails to make a deposit required under **\$831.632** or **\$831.634** within 60 days after the date of the notice required by **\$831.632(e)** or **\$831.634(c)**, the deposit will be collected by offset from his or her annuity in installments equal to 25 percent of the retiree's net annuity (as defined in **\$838.103** of this chapter).

(b) If a retiree fails to make a deposit required by **\$831.631** or **\$831.632** within 2 years after the date of the post-retirement marriage or divorce, the deposit will be collected by offset from his or her annuity in installments equal to 25 percent of the retiree's net annuity (as defined in **\$838.103** of this chapter).

(c) If a retiree dies before a deposit required under **\$831.631**, **\$831.632**, **\$831.633**, or **\$831.634** is fully made, the deposit will be collected from the survivor annuity (for which the election required for the deposit) before any payments of the survivor annuity are made.

[50 FR 20070, May 13, 1985, as amended at 51 FR 31935, Sept. 8, 1986; 57 FR 33571, July 29, 1992; 58 FR 52281, Oct. 13, 1993. Redesignated and amended at 58 FR 52282, Oct. 13, 1993]

**CHILDREN'S ANNUITIES**

**\$831.671** Proof of eligibility for a child's annuity.

(a) *Proof of paternity.* (1) A judicial determination of percentage conclusively establishes the paternity of a child.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, a child born to the wife of a married person is presumed to be the child of the wife's husband. This presumption may be rebutted only by clear and convincing evidence that the husband is not the father of the child.

(3) When paternity is not established under paragraph (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this section, paternity is determined by a preponderance of the credible evidence as defined in **\$1201.56(c)(2)** of this title.

(b) *Proof of adoption.* (1) An adopted child is—

(i) A child adopted by the employee or retiree before the death of the employee or retiree; or

(ii) A child who lived with the employee or retiree and for whom a petition for adoption was filed by the employee or retiree and who is adopted by the current spouse of the employee or retiree after the death of the employee or retiree.

(2) The only acceptable evidence to prove status as an adopted child under paragraph (b)(1)(i) of this section is a copy of the judicial decree of adoption.

(3) The only acceptable evidence to prove status as an adopted child under paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section is copies of—

(i) The petition for adoption filed by the employee or retiree (clearly showing the date filed); and

(ii) The judicial decree of adoption.

(c) *Dependency.* To be eligible for survivor annuity benefits, a child must have been dependent on the employee or retiree at the time of the employee's or retiree's death.

(d) *Proof of dependency.* (1) A child is presumed to have been dependent on the deceased employee or retiree if he or she is—

(i) A legitimate child; or

(ii) An adopted child; or

(iii) A stepchild or recognized natural child who lived with the employee or retiree in a regular parent-child relationship at the time of the employee's or retiree's death; or

(iv) A recognized natural child for whom a judicial determination of support was obtained; or

(v) A recognized natural child to whose support the employee or retiree made regular and substantial contributions.

(2) The following are examples of proofs of regular and substantial support. More than one of the following proofs may be required to show support of a child who did not live with the employee or retiree in a regular parental relationship and for whom a judicial determination of support was not obtained.

(i) Evidence of eligibility as a dependent child for benefits under other State or Federal programs;

(ii) Proof of inclusion of the child as a dependent on the decedent's income

tax returns for the years immediately before the employee's or retiree's death;

(iii) Cancelled checks, money orders, or receipts for periodic payments received from the employee or retiree for or on behalf of the child;

(iv) Evidence of foods or services that shows regular contributions of considerable value;

(v) Proof of coverage of the child as a family member under the employee's or retiree's Federal Employees Health Benefits enrollment; and

(vi) Other proof of a similar nature that OPM may find to be sufficient to demonstrate support or percentage.

(3) Survivor benefits may be denied—

(i) If evidence shows that the deceased employee or retiree did not recognize the claimant as his or her own despite a willingness to support the child; or

(ii) If evidence casts doubt upon the percentage of the claimant, despite the deceased employee's or retiree's recognition and support of the child.

[55 FR 9102, Mar. 12, 1990, as amended at 58 FR 46383, Aug. 17, 1993. Redesignated at 58 FR 52282, Oct. 13, 1993]

**\$831.672** Annuity for a child age 18 to 22 during full-time school attendance.

(a) *General requirements for an annuity.* (1) For a child age 18 to 22 to be eligible to receive an annuity as a full-time student, the child must also meet all other requirements applicable to qualify for an annuity by a child who has not attained age 18.

(2) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (a)(1) of this section, OPM must receive certification, in a form prescribed by OPM, that the child is regularly pursuing a full-time course of study in an accredited institution.

(b) *Full-time course of study.* (1) Generally, a full-time course of study is a noncorrespondence course which, if successfully completed, will lead to completion of the education within the period generally accepted as minimum for completion, by a full-time day student, of the academic or training program concerned.

(2) A certification by an accredited institution that the student's workload is sufficient to constitute a full-time

course of study for the program in which the student is enrolled is prima facie evidence that the student is pursuing a full-time course of study.

(c) *Certification of school attendance.* (1) OPM may periodically request the recipient of a child's annuity payments to furnish certification of school attendance. The certification must be completed in the form prescribed by OPM.

(2) If OPM requests the recipient of a child's annuity payments to provide a self-certification of school attendance, the recipient must complete and sign the certification form.

(3) If OPM requests the recipient of a child's annuity payments to provide a certification by the school, the certification must be signed by an official who is either in charge of the school or in charge of the school's records. OPM will not accept certification forms signed by instructors, counselors, aides, roommates, or others not in charge of the school or the records.

(4) If the educational institution is above the high school level, the certification must be signed by the president or chancellor, vice president or vice chancellor, dean or assistant dean, registrar or administrator, assistant registrar or assistant administrator, or the equivalent.

(5) If the educational institution is at the high school level, the certification must be signed by the superintendent of schools, assistant superintendent of schools, principal, vice principal, assistant principal, or the equivalent.

(6) If the educational institution is a technical or trade school, the certification must be signed by the president, vice president, director, assistant director, or the equivalent.

(7) OPM will accept a facsimile signature of a school official only if it is accompanied by a raised seal of the institution or other evidence clearly demonstrating the authenticity of the certification and making unauthorized use of the signature stamp unlikely.

(d) *Continuation of annuity during interim breaks.* A child's annuity continues during interim breaks between school years if the following conditions are satisfied:

§ 831.673 Rates of child annuities.

(1) The student must have been a full-time student at the end of the school term immediately before the break.

(2) The break between the end of the last term of full-time attendance and the return to full-time attendance must not exceed 5 months. (See § 831.107, concerning calculation of this time period.)

(3) The recipient of a child's annuity payments must show that the student has a bona fide intent to return to school as a full-time student immediately after the break. The full-time certification for the prior term and the certification (in a form prescribed by OPM) by the recipient of a child's annuity payments that the student intends to return to school (immediately after the break) as a full-time student constitute prima facie evidence of a bona fide intent to return to school.

(e) *Benefits after age 22.* (1) A student's eligibility for a child's annuity terminates based on reaching age 22 or—

(1) June 30 of the calendar year of the child's 22nd birthday if the child's birthday is before July 1; or

(1) The last day of the month before the child's 22nd birthday if the child's birthday occurs after June 30 but before September 1 of the calendar year;

(1) June 30 of the year after the one in which the child attains age 22 if the child's birthday is after August 31 of the calendar year.

(2) (1) An otherwise eligible child who becomes a full-time student after his or her 22nd birthday but before the date the annuity terminates under paragraph (e)(1) of this section is eligible for annuity while he or she is a full-time student until the termination date under paragraph (e)(1) of this section.

(1) An otherwise eligible child who is a full-time student, and whose parent dies after the child's 22nd birthday but before the date the annuity terminates under paragraph (e)(1) of this section, is eligible for annuity while he or she is a full-time student after the death of the parent until the termination date under paragraph (e)(1) of this section.

US FR 52862, June 8, 1993. Redesignated at 58 FR 52862, Oct. 13, 1993.

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not survived the former employee or Member.

[51 FR 51839, Sept. 8, 1986. Redesignated at 58 FR 52862, Oct. 13, 1993]

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO NONCODIFIED STATUTES

§ 831.681 Annual notice required by Public Law 95-517.

At least once every 12 consecutive months, OPM will send a notice to all retirees to inform them about the survivor annuity elections available to them, under sections 8339(j), 8339(k)(2), and 8339(o) of title 5, United States Code.

[56 FR 16263, Apr. 22, 1991, as amended at 58 FR 42493, Aug. 17, 1993. Redesignated at 58 FR 52862, Oct. 13, 1993]

§ 831.682 Election by a retiree who retired before May 7, 1986, to provide a former spouse annuity.

(a) A retiree who retired before May 7, 1986, including a retiree receiving a fully reduced annuity to provide a current spouse annuity, may elect a fully reduced annuity or a partially reduced annuity to provide a former spouse annuity.

(b) The election should be made by letter addressed to OPM. The election must—

- (1) Be in writing; and
- (2) Agree to pay any deposit due under paragraph (c) of this section; and
- (3) Be signed by the retiree; and
- (4) Be filed with OPM before September 8, 1987.

(c)(1)(i) If a retiree who is receiving an insurable interest annuity elects a fully reduced annuity or a partially reduced annuity under this section to benefit the same person, the insurable interest annuity terminates. A retiree who is receiving an insurable interest annuity at the time that an annuity is elected under this section does not owe any further deposit.

(ii) If a retiree who had been receiving an insurable interest annuity, which was terminated to elect a reduced annuity to provide a current spouse annuity for a spouse acquired after retirement, elects to provide a former spouse annuity for a former spouse who was the beneficiary of the insurable interest annuity, the retiree must deposit an amount equal to the sum of the difference between the self-reduced annuity and a fully reduced annuity under this section. (iv) A partially reduced annuity (with the same base as elected to provide a former spouse annuity) since the date of retirement, plus 5 percent interest, computed under § 831.105, from the date to which each month's difference is attributable.

(d) If a retiree who is receiving a fully reduced annuity or a partially reduced annuity to provide a current spouse annuity for a spouse acquired after retirement, elects to provide a former spouse annuity for a former spouse who was the beneficiary of the insurable interest annuity, the retiree must deposit an amount equal to the sum of the difference between the self-reduced annuity and a fully reduced annuity under this section. (iv) A partially reduced annuity (with the same base as elected to provide a former spouse annuity) since the date of retirement, plus 5 percent interest, computed under § 831.105, from the date to which each month's difference is attributable.

must deposit an amount equal to the sum of the monthly difference between the self-only annuity and reduced annuity, or partially reduced annuity (with the same base as elected to provide the former spouse annuity) terminated, plus 5 percent interest, computed under § 831.105, from the date to which each month's difference is attributable.

(2) A retiree who elects a fully reduced annuity or a partially reduced annuity under this section, to provide a former spouse annuity for a former spouse for whom the retiree had elected (during the marriage to that spouse) a reduced annuity to provide a current spouse annuity, must deposit an amount equal to the sum of the monthly differences between the self-only annuity and the amount of fully reduced annuity or partially reduced annuity (with the same base as elected to provide the former spouse annuity) been in effect since the time of retirement, plus 5 percent interest, computed under § 831.105, from the date to which each month's difference is attributable, except that the retiree be charged for any period during the survivor's reduction was in effect that former spouse.

(3) A retiree who elects a fully reduced annuity or a partially reduced annuity under this section, and covered under paragraph (c)(1) of this section, must deposit an amount equal to the sum of the difference between the self-reduced annuity and a fully reduced annuity under this section. (iv) A partially reduced annuity (with the same base as elected to provide a former spouse annuity) since the date of retirement, plus 5 percent interest, computed under § 831.105, from the date to which each month's difference is attributable.

(d) If a retiree who is receiving a fully reduced annuity or a partially reduced annuity to provide a current spouse annuity for a spouse acquired after retirement, elects to provide a former spouse annuity for a former spouse who was the beneficiary of the insurable interest annuity, the retiree must deposit an amount equal to the sum of the difference between the self-reduced annuity and a fully reduced annuity under this section. (iv) A partially reduced annuity (with the same base as elected to provide a former spouse annuity) since the date of retirement, plus 5 percent interest, computed under § 831.105, from the date to which each month's difference is attributable.

than 5 months and if such child shows to the satisfaction of the Office that such child has a bona fide intention of continuing to pursue a course of study or training in the same or different school during the school semester (or other period into which the school year is divided) immediately after the interim.

#### § 8442. Rights of a widow or widower

(a)(1) Except as provided in subsection (g), if an annuitant dies and is survived by a widow or widower, the widow or widower is entitled to an annuity equal to 50 percent of an annuity computed under section 8415 with respect to the annuitant, (or one-half thereof, if designated for this purpose under section 8419 of this title), unless—

(A) the right to an annuity was waived under section 8416(a) (and no election was subsequently made under section 8416(d) nullifying the waiver); or

(B) in the case of a marriage after retirement, the annuitant did not file an election under section 8416 (b) or (c), as the case may be.

(2) A spouse acquired after retirement is entitled to an annuity under this subsection (as provided in paragraph (1)) only upon electing this annuity instead of any other survivor benefit to which such spouse may be entitled under this subchapter or section 8424 or under another retirement system for Government employees.

(b)(1) If an employee or Member dies after completing at least 18 months of civilian service creditable under section 8411 and is survived by a widow or widower, the widow or widower is entitled to—

(A) an amount equal to the sum of—  
(i) 50 percent of the final annual rate of basic pay (or of the average pay, if higher) of the employee or Member; and

(ii) \$15,000 as adjusted under section 8462(e); and  
(B) if the employee or Member completed at least 10 years of service, an annuity equal to 50 percent of an annuity computed under section 8415 with respect to the employee or Member, but without regard to subsection (f) of such section.  
(2) The Office shall prescribe regulations under which the total amount payable to a widow or widower under paragraph (1)(A) may, at the election of the widow or widower, be paid—

(A) in a lump sum; or  
(B) on a monthly basis—  
(i) over a period of 3 years beginning on the day after the employee's or Member's death; or  
(ii) over any other period established under the regulations.

Any method of payment provided for under subparagraph (B) shall be designed such that the present value of the benefits provided under such method is actuarially equivalent to the present value of a lump-sum payment under subparagraph (A).

(3) An amount payable under paragraph (1)(A) shall not be considered to be part of an annuity for purposes of this chapter.

(c)(1) If a former employee or Member dies after having separated from the service with title to a deferred annuity under sec-

#### SUBCHAPTER IV—SURVIVOR ANNUITIES

#### § 8441. Definitions

For the purpose of this subchapter—

(1) the term "widow" means the surviving wife of an employee, Member, or annuitant, or of a former employee or Member, who—

(A) was married to him for at least 9 months immediately before his death; or

(B) is the mother of issue by that marriage;

(2) the term "widower" means the surviving husband of an employee, Member, or annuitant, or of a former employee or Member, who—

(A) was married to her for at least 9 months immediately before her death; or

(B) is the father of issue by that marriage;

(3) the term "dependent", in the case of any child, means that the employee, Member, or annuitant involved was, at the time of death of the employee, Member, or annuitant either living with or contributing to the support of such child, as determined in accordance with such regulations as the Office shall prescribe; and

(4) the term "child" means—

(A) an unmarried dependent child under 18 years of age, including (i) an adopted child, (ii) a stepchild but only if the stepchild lived with the employee, Member, or annuitant in a regular parent-child relationship, (iii) a recognized natural child, and (iv) a child who lived with and for whom a petition of adoption was filed by an employee, Member, or annuitant and who is adopted by the widow or widower of the employee, Member, or annuitant after the death of such employee, Member, or annuitant;

(B) such unmarried dependent child regardless of age who is incapable of self-support because of mental or physical disability incurred before age 18; or

(C) such unmarried dependent child between 18 and 22 years of age who is a student regularly pursuing a full-time course of study or training in residence in a high school, trade school, technical or vocational institute, junior college, college, university, or comparable recognized educational institution.

For the purpose of this paragraph and section 8443, a child whose 22nd birthday occurs before July 1 or after August 31 of a calendar year, and while regularly pursuing such a course of study or training, is deemed to have become 22 years of age on the first day of July after that birthday. A child who is a student is deemed not to have ceased to be a student during an interim between school years if the interim is not more