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Subpart B—Elections to continue retirement coverage after a qualifying move

§ 847.201 Purpose and scope.

This subpart contains OPM's regulations on the procedures, eligibility requirements, time limits and effects of elections under sections 8347(q) and 8461(n) of title 5, United States Code.

§ 847.202 Definition of qualifying move.

(a) A qualifying move occurring on or after August 10, 1996, which would allow an opportunity to elect to continue retirement coverage under CSRS and FERS must meet all the following criteria:

(1) The employee must not have had a prior opportunity to elect to continue CSRS or FERS retirement coverage;

(2) The employee must have been vested in CSRS or FERS prior to the move to a NAFI;

(3) The employee must have moved from a position covered by CSRS or FERS to a retirement-covered position in a NAFI; and

(4) The employee must begin employment in a retirement-covered position in a NAFI no later than 1 year after separation from CSRS- or FERS-covered employment.

(b) A qualifying move occurring on or after August 10, 1996, which would allow an opportunity to elect to continue retirement coverage under a NAFI retirement system must meet all the following criteria:

(1) The employee must not have had a prior opportunity to elect to continue NAFI retirement system coverage;

(2) The employee must have been a vested participant in the NAFI retirement system (as the term ''vested participant'' is defined by that retirement system) prior to the move to a CSRS- or FERS-covered position;

(3) The employee must have moved from a NAFI to a civil service position subject to CSRS or FERS coverage; and

(4) The employee must be appointed to a CSRS- or FERS-covered position no later than 1 year after separation from retirement-covered NAFI employment.

(c) A qualifying move occurring between January 1, 1987, and August 9, 1996, which would allow an opportunity to elect to continue retirement coverage under CSRS or FERS must meet all the following criteria:

(1) The employee must not have had a prior opportunity to elect to continue CSRS or FERS retirement coverage;

(2) The employee must have been vested in CSRS or FERS prior to the move to a NAFI;

(3) The employee must have moved from a CSRS- or FERS-covered position within the Department of Defense or the U.S. Coast Guard to a retirement covered position with a NAFI; and

(4) The employee must begin employment in a retirement-covered position in a NAFI no later than 4 days after separation from CSRS- or FERS-covered employment.

(d) A qualifying move occurring between January 1, 1987, and August 9, 1996, which would allow an opportunity to elect to continue retirement coverage under a NAFI retirement system must meet all the following criteria:

(1) The employee must not have had a prior opportunity to elect to continue NAFI retirement system coverage;

(2) The employee must have been a vested participant in the NAFI retirement system (as the term ''vested participant'' is defined by that retirement system) prior to the move to the civil service;

(3) The employee must have moved from a NAFI to a CSRS- or FERS- covered position within the Department of Defense or the U.S. Coast Guard; and

(4) The employee must be appointed to a CSRS- or FERS-covered position no later than 4 days after separation from retirement-covered NAFI employment.

(e) A qualifying move under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section is considered to occur on the date the individual enters into the new position, not at the time of separation from the prior position.

(f) A retroactive election opportunity under subpart D of this part (pertaining to elections of CSRS, FERS, or NAFI retirement coverage) is not considered a prior opportunity to elect retirement coverage under this section.

§ 847.203 Elections of CSRS coverage.

(a) An employee who completes a qualifying move (under § 847.202(a) or (c)) from a CSRS-covered position to a NAFI may elect to continue CSRS coverage.

(b) An employee who elects CSRS coverage under this section will be covered by CSRS (or FERS, if the employee subsequently transfers to FERS under part 846 of this chapter) during all periods of future service not excluded from coverage by CSRS, including any periods of service with a NAFI.

(c) An employee who makes an election under paragraph (a) of this section and who has had a break in service exceeding 3 days is eligible to elect FERS under part 846 of this chapter.

§ 847.204 Elections of FERS coverage.

(a) An employee who completes a qualifying move under § 847.202(a) and (c) from a FERS-covered position to a NAFI may elect to continue FERS coverage.

(b) An employee who elects FERS coverage under this section will be covered by FERS during all periods of future service not excluded from coverage by FERS, including any periods of service with a NAFI.

§ 847.205 Elections of NAFI retirement system coverage.

(a) An employee who completes a qualifying move under § 847.202(b) and (d) from a NAFI position to a CSRS- or FERS-covered position may elect to continue coverage under the NAFI retirement system.

(b) An employee who elects NAFI retirement system coverage under this section is excluded from coverage under CSRS or FERS during that and all subsequent periods of employment, including any periods of service as a reemployed annuitant.

§ 847.206 Time limit for making an election.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the time limit for making the election is 30 days after the qualifying move.

(b) Agencies may waive the time limit if it finds that the employee was not timely given the opportunity to make the election, or, despite due diligence, was prevented by circumstances beyond his or her control from making an election within the time limit.

(c) An agency decision to waive the time limit must comply with the provisions of § 847.106, including notification of the right of appeal under § 847.107.

§ 847.207 Effective dates of elections.

Elections under this subpart are effective on the date of the qualifying move.

§ 847.208 Changes of election.

An election under this subpart is irrevocable when received by the employing agency.

§ 847.209 Collection of CSRS and FERS retirement contributions from NAFI employers.

CSRS and FERS salary deductions and contributions for NAFI employees who have elected CSRS or FERS coverage under this subpart must be made and submitted to OPM in the manner currently prescribed for the transmission of withholdings and contributions.

§ 847.210 Collection of NAFI retirement contributions from Federal agencies.

The Department of Defense and the U.S. Coast Guard will establish procedures for agencies to withhold and submit retirement contributions to the retirement systems for employees who elect to be covered by a retirement system for NAFI employees under this subpart.

§ 847.211 Death of employee during election opportunity period.

(a) When an employee eligible to make an election under this subpart dies before expiration of the time limit under § 847.206, the employee is deemed to have made the election and to be