

§ 25.3

affecting amounts of benefit payments), and any other provisions not directly affecting the amounts of the benefit payments, in such local plans, shall not apply, but in lieu thereof the pertinent provisions of the FECA shall apply, unless modified in this section.

(2) However, the Director may at any time modify, limit or redesignate the class or classes of beneficiaries entitled to death benefits, including the designation of persons, representatives or groups entitled to payment under local statute or custom whether or not included in the classes of beneficiaries otherwise specified by this subchapter.

(c) Compensation in all cases of such employees paid and closed prior to January 4, 1999 shall be deemed compromised and paid under 5 U.S.C. 8137. In all other cases, compensation may be adjusted to conform with the regulations in this part, or the beneficiary may by compromise or agreement with the Director have compensation continued on the basis of a previous adjustment of the claim.

(d) Persons employed in a country or area having no well-defined workers' compensation benefits structure shall be accorded the benefits provided—either by local law or special schedule—in a nearby country as determined by the Director. In selecting the benefit structure to be applied, equity and administrative ease will be given consideration, as well as local custom.

(e) Compensation for disability and death of non-citizens outside the United States under this part, whether paid under local law or special schedule, shall in no event exceed that generally payable under the FECA.

§ 25.3 What is the authority to settle and pay such claims?

In addition to the authority to receive, process and pay claims, when delegated such representative or agency receiving delegation of authority shall, in respect to cases adjudicated under this part, and when so authorized by the Director, have authority to make lump-sum awards (in the manner prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 8135) whenever such authorized representative shall deem such settlement to be for the best interest of the United States, and to compromise and pay claims for any

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benefits provided for under this part, including claims in which there is a dispute as to questions of fact or law. The Director shall, in instructions to the particular representative concerned, establish such procedures in respect to action under this section as he or she may deem necessary, and may specify the scope of any administrative review of such action.

§ 25.4 What type of evidence is required to establish a claim under this part?

Claims of employees of the United States who are neither citizens nor residents of the United States, any territory or Canada, if otherwise compensable, shall be approved only upon evidence of the following nature without regard to the date of injury or death for which claim is made:

(a) Appropriate certification by the Federal employing establishment; or

(b) An armed service's casualty or medical record; or

(c) Verification of the employment and casualty by military personnel; or

(d) Recommendation of an armed service's "Claim Service" based on investigations conducted by it.

§ 25.5 What special rules does OWCP apply to claims of third and fourth country nationals?

(a) *Definitions.* A "third country national" is a person who is neither a citizen nor resident of the United States who is hired by the United States in the person's country of citizenship or residence for employment in another foreign country, or in a possession or territory of the United States. A "fourth country national" is a person who is neither a citizen nor resident of either the country of hire or the place of employment, but who otherwise meets the definition of third country national. "Benefits applicable to local hires" are the benefits provided in this part by local law or special schedule, as determined by the Director. With respect to a United States territory or possession, "local law" means only the law of the particular territory or possession.

(b) *Benefits payable.* Third and fourth country nationals shall be paid the benefits applicable to local hires in the

country of hire or the place of employment, whichever benefits are greater, provided that all benefits payable on account of one injury must be paid under the same benefit structure.

(1) Where no well-defined workers' compensation benefits structure is provided in either the country of hire or the place of employment, the provisions of § 25.2(d) shall apply.

(2) Where equitable considerations as determined by the Director so warrant, a fourth country national may be awarded benefits applicable to local hires in his or her home country.

§ 25.6 How does OWCP adjudicate claims of non-citizen residents of possessions?

An employee who is a *bona fide* permanent resident of any United States possession, territory, commonwealth or trust territory will receive the full benefits of the FECA, as amended, except that the application of the minimum benefit provisions provided therein shall be governed by the restrictions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 8138.

Subpart B—The Special Schedule of Compensation

§ 25.100 How is compensation for disability paid?

Compensation for disability shall be paid to the employee as follows:

(a) *Permanent total disability.* In cases of permanent total disability, 66⅔ percent of the monthly pay during the period of such disability.

(b) *Temporary total disability.* In cases of temporary total disability, 66⅔ percent of the monthly pay during the period of such disability.

(c) *Permanent partial disability.* In cases of permanent partial disability, 66⅔ percent of the monthly pay, for the following losses and periods:

- (1) Arm lost: 280 weeks' compensation.
- (2) Leg lost: 248 weeks' compensation.
- (3) Hand lost: 212 weeks' compensation.
- (4) Foot lost: 173 weeks' compensation.
- (5) Eye lost: 140 weeks' compensation.
- (6) Thumb lost: 51 weeks' compensation.

(7) First finger lost: 28 weeks' compensation.

(8) Great toe lost: 26 weeks' compensation.

(9) Second finger lost: 18 weeks' compensation.

(10) Third finger lost: 17 weeks' compensation.

(11) Toe, other than great toe, lost: 8 weeks' compensation.

(12) Fourth finger lost: 7 weeks' compensation.

(13) Loss of hearing: One ear, 52 weeks' compensation; both ears, 200 weeks' compensation.

(14) Phalanges: Compensation for loss of more than one phalanx of a digit shall be the same as for the loss of the entire digit. Compensation for loss of the first phalanx shall be one-half of the compensation for the loss of the entire digit.

(15) Amputated arm or leg: Compensation for an arm or a leg, if amputated at or above the elbow or the knee, shall be the same as for the loss of the arm or leg; but, if amputated between the elbow and the wrist, or between the knee and the ankle, the compensation shall be the same as for the loss of the hand or the foot.

(16) Binocular vision or percent of vision: Compensation for loss of binocular vision, or for 80 percent or more of the vision of an eye shall be the same as for the loss of the eye.

(17) Two or more digits: Compensation for loss of two or more digits, one or more phalanges of two or more digits of a hand or foot may be proportioned to the loss of use of the hand or foot occasioned thereby, but shall not exceed the compensation for the loss of a hand or a foot.

(18) Total loss of use: Compensation for a permanent total loss of use of a member shall be the same as for loss of the member.

(19) Partial loss or partial loss of use: Compensation for permanent partial loss or loss of use of a member may be for proportionate loss of use of the member.

(20) Consecutive awards: In any case in which there shall be a loss or loss of use of more than one member or parts of more than one member set forth in paragraphs (c) (1) through (19) of this