§ 545.25 Eligibility for performance pay.

(a) An inmate may receive performance pay for accomplishments in one or more of the following areas:

1. Institution work assignment;
2. Literacy program (GED) participation;
3. Apprenticeship training; and
4. Vocational training courses (approved by the Bureau of Prisons as certified vocational training instruction).

(b) An inmate is eligible for performance pay from the date of work or program assignment. An inmate is eligible to receive performance pay for each month that the inmate's performance justifies such payment.

(c) An inmate who refuses to participate in the financial responsibility program shall not ordinarily receive performance pay above the maintenance pay level, or bonus pay, or vacation pay in accordance with 28 CFR part 545, subpart B.

(d) An inmate who refuses participation, withdraws, is expelled, or otherwise fails attendance requirements of the drug abuse education course or the RDAP is subject to the limitations specified in §550.53(e) or §550.55(g) of this chapter.

(e) Inmates receiving performance pay who are found through the disciplinary process (part 541 of this subchapter) to have committed a level 100 or 200 series drug- or alcohol-related prohibited act will automatically have their performance pay reduced to maintenance pay level and will be removed from any assigned work detail outside the secure perimeter of the institution. This reduction to maintenance pay level, and removal from assigned work detail outside the secure perimeter of the institution, will ordinarily remain in effect for one year, unless otherwise authorized by the Warden.

§ 545.26 Performance pay provisions.

(a) The Warden shall ensure that all institution work assignments have standardized work descriptions. Each inmate work position is assigned one of four pay grade levels. Factors to consider in assigning a grade level to the specific work position include the position’s educational and vocational requirements, physical demands, working conditions (exposed to dusts, odors, etc.), and the degree of responsibility held by the inmate worker. The inmate assigned to a specific work position shall sign, and, if requested, receive a copy of, that position description.

(b) In recognition of budgetary constraints and for the effective management of the overall performance pay program, the percentage of inmates assigned to each grade level is approximately as follows (Grade 1 is highest pay):

- Grade 1—5% of the institution's allotted inmate work assignments;
- Grade 2—15% of the institution's allotted inmate work assignments;
- Grade 3—25% of the institution's allotted inmate work assignments;
- Grade 4—55% of the institution's allotted inmate work assignments.

(c) An inmate may receive performance pay only for that portion of the month that the inmate was working. Performance pay may not be awarded retroactively.

(d) An inmate is eligible to receive performance pay only for those hours during which the inmate is actually performing satisfactory work or actively participating in an education or vocational training program. Absences from an inmate’s scheduled assignment for such reasons as call-outs, visits, sick call, interviews, or making telephone calls shall be deducted from the monthly number of hours worked and will accordingly reduce the amount of
§ 545.27 Inmate vacations.

(a) An inmate who has worked full-time for 12 consecutive months on an institution work assignment is eligible to take a five-day paid vacation at the inmate’s prevailing hourly rate. A recommendation for an inmate to receive vacation credit is made by the inmate’s work supervisor, through the Department Head, to the Unit Team, who shall approve the request if the inmate’s work performance qualifies for vacation credit.

(b) Staff shall schedule an inmate’s vacation so it is compatible with shop production and administrative support requirements.

(c) The Warden or designee may authorize an inmate to accumulate vacation credit when:

(1) The inmate is transferred to another institution for the benefit of the government or because of the inmate’s favorable adjustment (custody reduction); or

(2) The inmate is placed in a new work assignment in the institution for the benefit of the government or institution, rather than solely at the inmate’s request or because of the inmate’s poor performance or adverse behavior.

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