Office of Personnel Management

§ 890.102

Underdeduction means a failure to withhold the required amount of health benefits contributions from an individual's pay, annuity, or compensation. This definition includes both nondeductions (when none of the required amounts was withheld) and partial deductions (when only part of the required amount was withheld). Though FEHB contributions are required to cover a period of nonpay status, the nonpayment of contributions during such period does not result in an underdeduction.

(b) Whenever, in this part, a period of time is stated as a number of days or a number of days from an event, the period is computed in calendar days, excluding the day of the event. Whenever, in this part, a period of time is defined by beginning and ending dates, the period includes the beginning and ending dates.

[33 FR 12510, Sept. 4, 1968]

Editorial Note: For Federal Register citations affecting § 890.101, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and at www.fdsys.gov.

§ 890.102 Coverage.

(a) Each employee, other than those excluded by paragraph (c) of this section, is eligible to be enrolled in a health benefits plan at the time and under the conditions prescribed in this part.

(b) An employee who serves in cooperation with non-Federal agencies and is paid in whole or in part from non-Federal funds may register to be enrolled within the period prescribed by OPM for the group of which the employee is a member following approval by OPM of arrangements providing that (1) the required withholdings and contributions will be made from Federally-controlled funds and timely deposited into the Employees Health Benefits Fund, or (2) the cooperating non-Federal agency will, by written agreement with the Federal agency, make the required withholdings and contributions from non-Federal funds and transmit them for timely deposit into the Employees Health Benefits Fund.

(c) The following employees are not eligible:

(1) An employee (other than an acting postmaster, a Presidential appointee appointed to fill an unexpired term, and an appointee whose appointment meets the definition of provisional appointment set out in §§316.401 and 316.403 of this chapter) who is serving under an appointment limited to 1 year or less and who has not completed 1 year of current continuous employment, excluding any break in service of 5 days or less.

(2) An employee who is expected to work less than 6 months in each year, except for an employee who is employed under an OPM approved career-related work-study program under Schedule B of at least 1 year's duration and who is expected to be in a pay status for at least one-third of the total period of time from the date of the first appointment to the completion of the work-study program.

(3) An intermittent employee—a non-full-time employee without a prearranged regular tour of duty.

(4) A beneficiary or patient employee in a Government hospital or home.

(5) An employee paid on a contract or fee basis, except an employee who is a citizen of the United States who is appointed by a contract between the employee and the Federal employing authority which requires his personal service and is paid on the basis of units of time.

(6) An employee paid on a piecework basis, except one whose work schedule provides for full-time service or part-time service with a regular tour of duty.

(7) An individual first employed by the government of the District of Columbia on or after October 1, 1987. However, this exclusion does not apply to:

(i) Employees of St. Elizabeths Hospital who accept offers of employment with the District of Columbia government without a break in service, as provided in section 6 of Pub. L. 98–621 (98 Stat. 2379); and

(ii) The Corrections Trustee and the Pretrial Services, Defense Services, Parole, Adult Probation and Offender Supervision Trustee and employees of these Trustees who accept employment with the District of Columbia government within 3 days after separating from the Federal Government; and
§ 890.103


(b) An individual first employed by the government of the District of Columbia on or after October 1, 1987. However, this exclusion does not apply to:

(i) Employees of St. Elizabeths Hospital who accept offers of employment with the District of Columbia government without a break in service, as provided in section 6 of Pub. L. 98–621 (98 Stat. 3379);

(ii) The Corrections Trustee and the Pretrial Services, Parole, Adult Probation and Offender Supervision Trustee and employees of these Trustees who accept employment with the District of Columbia government within 3 days after separating from the Federal Government;

(iii) Effective October 1, 1997, judges and nonjudicial employees of the District of Columbia Courts, as provided by Pub. L. 105–33 (111 Stat. 251); and


(d) Paragraph (c) of this section does not deny coverage to:

(1) An employee appointed to perform “part-time career employment,” as defined in section 3401(2) of title 5, United States Code, and 5 CFR part 340, subpart B; or

(2) An employee serving under an interim appointment established under § 772.102 of this chapter;

(e) The Office of Personnel Management makes the final determination of the applicability of this section to specific employees or groups of employees.

(f) An employee of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority (the Authority) who makes an election under the Technical Corrections to Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Act (section 153 of Pub. L. 104–134, 110 Stat. 1321) to be considered a Federal employee for health benefits and other benefit purposes is subject to this part. If the employee is eligible to make an election to enroll under § 890.301, such election must be made within 60 days after the later of either the date the employee makes the election or the date the Authority begins or the date the Authority receives his or her election to be considered a Federal employee. Employees of the Authority who are former Federal employees are subject to the provisions of § 890.303(a), except that a former Federal employee employed by the Authority before October 26, 1996, and within 3 days following the termination of the Federal employment may make an election to enroll under § 890.301(c). Annuittants who have continued their coverage under this part as annuitants are not eligible to enroll under this paragraph. An election to enroll under this part is effective under the provisions of § 890.306(a) unless the employee requests the Authority to make the enrollment effective on the first day of the first pay period following the date the employee entered on duty in a pay status with the Authority.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision in this part, the hiring of a Federal employee, whether in pay status or nonpay status, for a temporary, intermittent position with the decennial census has no effect on the withholding or Government contribution for his/her coverage or the determination of when 365 days in nonpay status ends.

§ 890.103 Correction of errors.

(a) The employing office may make prospective corrections of administrative errors as to enrollment at any time. The employing office may make retroactive corrections of administrative errors that occur after December 31, 1994.

(b) OPM may order correction of an administrative error upon a showing satisfactory to OPM that it would be against equity and good conscience not to do so.

(c) The employing office may make retroactive correction of enrollee enrollment code errors if the enrollee reports the error by the end of the pay period in which the error was made.