any new pay system that may subsequently be established under this subpart, consistent with the conversion rules in §9701.373.

§ 9701.401 Purpose.

(a) This subpart provides for the establishment in the Department of Homeland Security of at least one performance management system as authorized by 5 U.S.C. chapter 97.

(b) The performance management system established under this subpart, working in conjunction with the pay system established under subpart C of this part, is designed to promote and sustain a high-performance culture by incorporating the following features:

(1) Adherence to merit principles set forth in 5 U.S.C. 2301;

(2) A fair, credible, and transparent employee performance appraisal system;

(3) A link between elements of the pay system established in subpart C of this part, the employee performance appraisal system, and the Department’s strategic plan;

(4) Employee involvement in the design and implementation of the system (as provided in §9701.105);

(5) Adequate training and retraining for supervisors, managers, and employees in the implementation and operation of the performance management system;

(6) Periodic performance feedback and dialogue among supervisors, managers, and employees throughout the appraisal period, with specific time-tables for review;

(7) Effective safeguards so that the management of the system is fair and equitable and based on employee performance; and

(8) A means for ensuring that adequate resources are allocated for the design, implementation, and administration of the performance management system that supports the pay system established under subpart C of this part.

§ 9701.402 Coverage.

(a) This subpart applies to eligible DHS employees in the categories listed in paragraph (b) of this section, subject to a determination by the Secretary or designee under §9701.102(b), except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) The following employees are eligible for coverage under this subpart:

(1) Employees who would otherwise be covered by 5 U.S.C. chapter 43; and

(2) Employees who were excluded from chapter 43 by OPM under 5 CFR 430.202(d) prior to the date of coverage of this subpart, as determined under §9701.102(b).

(c) This subpart does not apply to employees who are not expected to be employed longer than a minimum period (as defined in §9701.404) during a single 12-month period.

§ 9701.403 Waivers.

When a specified category of employees is covered by the performance management system(s) established under this subpart, 5 U.S.C. chapter 43 is waived with respect to that category of employees.

§ 9701.404 Definitions.

In this subpart—

Appraisal means the review and evaluation of an employee’s performance.

Appraisal period means the period of time established under a performance management system for reviewing employee performance.

Competencies means the measurable or observable knowledge, skills, abilities, behaviors, and other characteristics required by a position.

Contribution means a work product, service, output, or result provided or produced by an employee that supports the Departmental or organizational mission, goals, or objectives.

Minimum period means the period of time established by DHS during which an employee must perform before receiving a rating of record.

Performance means accomplishment of work assignments or responsibilities.

Performance expectations means that which an employee is required to do, as described in §9701.406, and may include observable or verifiable descriptions of