



PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

JUN 20 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
DEFENSE  
SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE  
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR LEGISLATIVE  
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ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC  
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DIRECTOR OF NET ASSESSMENT  
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES  
DIRECTORS OF DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Calendar Year 2019 Waiver of Annual Pay Limitations for Certain Employees

Eligible DoD employees are authorized an increase to the calendar year (CY) 2019 premium pay limitations, as defined by the provisions of section 5547 of title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.), if they perform work in direct support of, or directly related to, a military operation, including a contingency operation or an operation in response to a national emergency declared by the President. Operation FREEDOM'S SENTINEL and Operation INHERENT RESOLVE are contingency operations under section 101(a)(13) of title 10, U.S.C., and the President continued a declaration of a national emergency related to Iraq. Eligible employees are those assigned to an overseas area of responsibility of the Commander, U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM), or an overseas location that has been moved from the USCENTCOM area of responsibility to the area of responsibility of the Commander, U.S. Africa Command (see Appendix A in the attached 2019 guidance). By agreement with the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, this increase is again administratively extended to employees covered by the Defense Civilian Intelligence Personnel System (DCIPS) who meet the criteria above. In addition, this increase is administratively extended to employees in the Cyber Excepted Service (CES) who meet the eligibility criteria.

The increase is authorized by exercising the waiver authority resulting from section 1101 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

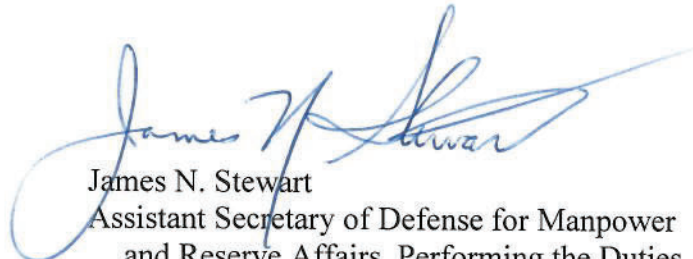
(Public Law 110-417), October 14, 2008, as most recently amended by section 1104 of the John S. McCain NDAA for FY 2019 (Public Law 115-232), August 13, 2018. Sections 1601-1603 of title 10, U.S.C., provide authorities for DCIPS employees. Eligible DoD employees who are granted a waiver under these authorities will be covered by a higher annual premium pay cap, and will be entitled to premium payments to the extent the employee's combined payable amount of basic pay and premium pay for CY 2019 does not exceed the annual rate of salary payable to the Vice President under section 104 of title 3, U.S.C., which is \$246,900.

In addition, subsection 1101(b) of the Duncan Hunter NDAA for FY 2009, has been amended to provide that the aggregate pay limitation, in section 5307 of title 5, U.S.C., will apply to an employee in CY 2019 even when the employee is granted a waiver of the premium pay limitations under subsection 1101(a). Any pay in addition to basic pay during the waiver period will be exempted in applying the aggregate limitation.

Subsection 1101(c) of the NDAA for FY 2009, as amended, remains in effect and provides that any payments made under the subsection 1101(a) waiver authority resulting in additional premium pay of a type normally creditable as basic pay will not be considered basic pay for any purpose (e.g., retirement). Further, such additional premium pay may not be used in computing lump-sum payments for accumulated and accrued annual leave under section 5551 of title 5, U.S.C. These provisions also apply in the same manner to employees covered by DCIPS and the CES.

The attached guidance, initially distributed for the increased limitation for CY 2010, remains in effect, and has been updated to reflect the changes applicable in CY 2019.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, my point of contact is Ms. Hong Miller, Director, Employment and Compensation, Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service, whom you may reach at (571) 372-1536 or by email at [hong.v.miller.civ@mail.mil](mailto:hong.v.miller.civ@mail.mil).



James N. Stewart  
Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower  
and Reserve Affairs, Performing the Duties  
of the Under Secretary of Defense for  
Personnel and Readiness

Attachment:  
As stated

**2019 Waiver of Annual Premium Pay and Aggregate Pay Limitations  
U.S. Central Command Area of Responsibility for Employees  
Covered by 5 U.S.C. §§ 5547 and 5307 and 10 U.S.C. §§ 1601-1614**

Premium Pay Waiver

Section 1101(a) of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 (Public Law 110–417), as amended, was further amended by section 1104 of the John S. Mc Cain NDAA for FY 2019 (Public Law 115-232), by striking “through 2018” and inserting “through 2019.” It authorizes the Secretary of Defense to waive the annual premium pay limitation resulting from section 5547 of title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.), or a similar limitation otherwise established for employees, up to the annual rate of the salary payable to the Vice President pursuant to section 104 of title 3, U.S.C. (Vice President’s salary), for calendar year (CY) 2019. This waiver authority applies to DoD employees who:

- (1) perform work while in an overseas location in the area of responsibility of the Commander, U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM) or an overseas location formerly in the area of responsibility of the Commander, USCENTCOM, but has been moved to the area of responsibility of the Commander, U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM);
- (2) are subject to section 5547 of title 5, U.S.C., or a similar limitation otherwise established;
- (3) are assigned to an overseas location in the USCENTCOM or the USAFRICOM areas of responsibility specified at Appendix A for at least 42 consecutive calendar days; and
- (4) perform work in direct support of, or directly related to, the response to a national emergency declared by the President or a military operation, including a contingency operation as defined in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, U.S.C. (Note: Operation FREEDOM’S SENTINEL as of the date of this memorandum has been determined by the DoD to be a contingency operation under section 101(a)(13) of title 10, U.S.C.; Operation INHERENT RESOLVE has also been determined to be a contingency operation; and the President has continued a declaration of a national emergency in Iraq).

By agreement with the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, the annual premium pay cap for employees under the Defense Civilian Intelligence Personnel System (DCIPS) is waived up to the annual rate of the salary payable to the Vice President’s salary for CY 2019. This waiver authority applies to DoD employees covered by DCIPS who meet the four specified criteria described in the paragraph above. In addition, this waiver authority is administratively extended to employees in the Cyber Excepted Service (CES).

For all covered employees, the increased annual premium pay limitation was effective on January 1, 2019, and applies to premium payments payable to an eligible employee during CY 2019.

Employees may be paid premium pay only to the extent that the payment does not result in the total of his or her basic pay and premium pay payable in CY 2019 to exceed the annual rate of the salary payable to the Vice President for CY 2019.

The increased premium pay cap cannot be applied to premium payments earned before an employee is assigned to the USCENTCOM or the USAFRICOM areas of responsibility specified at Appendix A, but those payments will be counted toward the higher limitation if paid during CY 2019.

Employees assigned to Iraq or Afghanistan for at least 42 days are deemed to meet the eligibility requirements for the increased premium pay cap and no further determination regarding these employees is required. Determinations about whether employees in other USCENTCOM or USAFRICOM overseas areas of responsibility (Appendix A) perform work that meets the four eligibility criteria described in the first paragraph above, (i.e., whether the employee is performing work in direct support of, or directly related to, the response to a national emergency declared by the President or a military operation, including a contingency operation as defined in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, U.S.C.) must be made on a case-by-case basis.

Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Heads of Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities with independent appointing authority on behalf of themselves and their serviced populations are hereby delegated the authority to determine when employees, other than employees assigned to Iraq or Afghanistan, meet the eligibility criteria. This authority may be further delegated, in writing, to managerial and supervisory levels deemed appropriate.

For employees who were serving in the area on January 1, 2019, the 42 consecutive days may include days served in 2018. The 42 consecutive days also may include days served in Afghanistan in 2020, although the higher annual pay limitation addressed in this policy will apply only to premium pay payable in 2019.

#### Aggregate Pay

**New to this year's guidance:** Under section 1101(b), when an employee is granted a section 1101(a) waiver, the aggregate limitation on pay under section 5307 of title 5 U.S.C., will still apply during CY 2019, but any pay in addition to basic pay received during the waiver period is not counted as compensation in applying the aggregate limitation. Under the aggregate limitation on pay, payments (other than basic pay) in excess of the aggregate limitation must be deferred and are generally paid as a lump-sum payment at the beginning of the following CY. Employees granted a section 1101(a) waiver will be subject to the aggregate limitation in CY 2019, but any pay in addition to basic pay during the section 1101(a) waiver period will be exempted in applying the aggregate limitation. The application of section 1101(b) also applies in the same manner to employees covered by DCIPS and the CES.

### Additional Guidance

When an eligible employee (including an employee covered by the CES and DCIPS) no longer performs work in support of a declared emergency or a covered military operation or when the employee is reassigned to a position outside the covered geographic area of responsibility, the employee will be subject to the biweekly limitation for that position and location as established by section 5547 of title 5, U.S.C., or under sections 1601-1603 of title 10, U.S.C., as applicable.

The higher annual limitation on premium pay established under section 1101 of the NDAA for FY 2009, as amended, and for DCIPS and CES employees by this policy, will apply during CY 2019 to an employee's annual aggregate basic pay plus premium pay even after the employee has stopped performing work covered by section 1101 of the NDAA for FY 2009, as amended, and implemented by this policy. After an employee stops performing covered work, the employee's earnings again will be subject to the biweekly premium pay limitation under section 5547 of title 5, U.S.C., or sections 1601-1603 and section 1599f of title 10, U.S.C., as applicable. Employees still could receive premium payments up to the biweekly premium pay limitation each pay period until the \$246,900 annual premium pay limitation under section 1101(a) of the NDAA for FY 2009, or this policy, as applicable, is reached. (Note: If such an employee's aggregate projected basic pay plus premium pay payable for 2019 is less than the annual limit established under section 5547 of title 5, U.S.C., an agency may invoke that annual limit, if appropriate, and pay premium pay in excess of the biweekly limit. Once the section 5547 annual limit is reached, the employee would be again subject to the section 5547 biweekly limit and simultaneously subject to the 1101(a) annual limit. If the employee's projected basic pay plus premium pay payable for 2019 already exceeds the section 5547 annual limit, the waiver of the biweekly limit and invoking of the section 5547 annual limit would not provide additional premium pay in any biweekly pay period.)

If an employee's premium pay limitation is increased to the level of the Vice President's salary for CY 2019 as applicable and, at the end of CY 2019, the employee did not meet the eligibility criteria, the employee must reimburse the Department for premium payments made in excess of the applicable limitation. The debt collection process for current and former employees is outlined in DoD 7000.14-R, "Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation," Volume 8.

To the extent that a waiver results in payment of additional premium pay of a type that is normally credited as basic pay for retirement or any other purpose, such additional pay shall not be considered to be basic pay for any purpose, nor shall it be used in computing a lump-sum payment for accumulated and accrued annual leave under section 5551 of title 5, U.S.C.

Time and attendance and electronic personnel and payroll procedures established in 2009 remain essentially the same. Timekeepers should continue to provide the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) with the necessary data on employees who are projected to work in a covered overseas location for a period of at least 42 consecutive days.

Authorized management officials should ensure personnel records are established in the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System (or equivalent) and DFAS is provided the required data even if the employee has departed the overseas location prior to the issuance date of this policy.

Authorized management officials also must update personnel records when an employee departs the area prior to meeting the 42-day eligibility criterion.

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

*Aggregate Pay Limitation.* The maximum amount of an employee's total CY payable income as specified in section 5307 of title 5, U.S.C., or similar limitation pursuant to sections 1601-1603 of title 10, U.S.C., as applicable.

*Annual Premium Pay Limitation.* The maximum amount of basic pay and premium pay payable in a CY to an employee as specified in section 5547(a) of title 5, U.S.C., or similar limitation pursuant to sections 1601-1603 of title 10, U.S.C., as applicable.

*Area of Responsibility.* The geographic area associated with a combatant command within which a combatant commander has authority to plan and conduct operations.

*Contingency Operation.* As defined in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, U.S.C., a military operation that is designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which members of the armed forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against an opposing force; or results in the call or order to, or retention on, active duty of members of the uniformed Services under sections 688, 12301(a), 12302, 12304, 12304a, 12305, or 12406 of this title, chapter 15 of title 10, section 712 of title 14, or any other provision of law during a war or during a national emergency declared by the President or Congress.

*Military Operations.* Operations that encompass the use of military capabilities across the range of military operations. These military actions can be applied to complement any combination of the other instruments of national power and occur before, during, and after war.

*National Emergency.* A condition declared by the President or the Congress by virtue of powers previously vested in them that authorize certain emergency actions to be undertaken in the national interest. Action to be taken may include partial, full, or total mobilization of national resources.

*Premium Pay.* Premium pay subject to the annual premium pay limitation is the dollar value of earned hours of compensatory time off and additional pay authorized for overtime, night, Sunday, or holiday work; or for standby duty, administratively uncontrollable overtime work, or availability duty. It excludes overtime pay paid to employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act and compensatory time off earned in lieu of such overtime pay.

## APPENDIX A

### COUNTRIES IN CENTCOM OVERSEAS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

1. Afghanistan
2. Bahrain
3. Egypt
4. Iran
5. Iraq
6. Jordan
7. Kazakhstan
8. Kuwait
9. Kyrgyzstan
10. Lebanon
11. Oman
12. Pakistan
13. Qatar
14. Saudi Arabia
15. Syria
16. Tajikistan
17. Turkmenistan
18. United Arab Emirates
19. Uzbekistan
20. Yemen

### COUNTRIES IN AFRICOM OVERSEAS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (Formerly in USCENTCOM Overseas Area of Responsibility)

1. Djibouti
2. Eritrea
3. Ethiopia
4. Kenya
5. Seychelles
6. Somalia
7. Sudan