

U.S. Department of State

Bureau of the Comptroller and Global Financial
Services (CGFS)

SENIOR LIVING FOUNDATION PLANNING FOR CHANGE

Capital Hilton – September 27, 2018

Introduction

Jeffrey Mounts

- Deputy Comptroller (beginning next Monday)
- 26 Years at Department of State (including 5 Years at U.S. Embassy Bangkok)

Global Compensation at State

- ❑ Facilities in Charleston, SC and Bangkok, Thailand
- ❑ Provide payroll and annuitant support to 107,000 individuals totaling \$7.2 billion annually:
 - American Foreign Service, Civil Service, and PSCs
 - 29,000 individuals totaling \$4.3 billion
 - Locally-employed staff (LE Staff)
 - 62,000 individuals totaling \$1.98 billion in 186 countries and 139 currencies
 - Retired Foreign Service Annuitants and Survivors
 - 16,000 individuals totaling \$929 million

Global Foreign Affairs Compensation System (GFACS)

- The Department selected the Oracle/PeopleSoft package to pay all 108,000 individuals we compensate
- Dramatic improvement in the Department's ability to timely and accurately pay employees and annuitants
- Successfully paying Annuitant/Survivor and Locally Employed (LE) Staff payees

2019 Customer Satisfaction Survey

- The Department of State periodically conducts a survey of a representative sample of annuitants and eligible survivors in order to assure the Department is providing high-quality post retirement services
- In mid-2019 we will be sending out an Annuitant Survey
- We welcome your feedback!

Foreign Service Family Member Reserve Corps

- Since The Under Secretary for Management announced in 16 STATE 49074 the creation of the Foreign Service Family Reserve Corps (FSFRC), membership is over 5,000
- FSFRC is a step forward for eligible family members wishing to work in posts overseas
- The FSFRC benefits the Department by creating a flexible work force and will streamline processes for family members to enter positions at post quickly, including those positions which require access to classified information
- FSFRC members are able to retain their security clearance as they move from post to post

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)

- Upcoming changes in 2019 to modernize the CFC program
- Retirees and survivors will be able to continue to support charities vetted and approved to participate in the CFC by check or money order, credit card and through deductions from monthly annuities!
- More information will be forthcoming in the Department's Annual Foreign Service Annuitant Newsletter

U.S Department of State

Foreign Service Annuitant – Contact Information

- Payroll Customer Support
 - 877-865-0760
 - payhelp@state.gov
- Pay Statement and Pay Changes
 - www.employeeexpress.gov

Office of Retirement

- <https://rnet.state.gov/>
- Annual Annuitant Newsletter
- What's New?
- AskRNet (FAQ's)
- Retirement Information for Foreign Service Active
- Foreign Service Annuitants Information
- Civil Service Annuitants Contact Information
- Reemployed Annuitant (WAE) Program Information
- Divorce/Former Spouse Benefits
- Reporting a Death

HTTPS://RNET.STATE.GOV



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This website provides information and guidance for retiring Foreign Service employees of the Departments of Commerce, Agriculture, the Agency for International Development, The Broadcasting Board of Governors and Peace Corps, as well as retirees and annuitants from all the Foreign Affairs agencies. For quick answers to frequently asked questions on retirement, try searching AskRnet. If you don't find the answer you are looking for, send your question to HRSC@state.gov.

[Update on the OPM Data Breach 11/03/2015](#)

Foreign Service
Active Duty Employees

Foreign Service
Retirees and Annuitants

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Report a Death

[See also "Survivor Benefits Package" under "Retiree/Annuitant Information" in "FORMS", and "Death Benefits" in Ask RNet (FAQ's)]


Procedures to Follow to Claim Benefits upon the Death of an Annuitant or Spouse

1. Notify the Department of State immediately. Call or e-mail the HR Service Center at [1-866-300-7419](tel:1-866-300-7419) (Toll Free) or [1-843-308-5539](tel:1-843-308-5539) (Outside the U.S.), or HRSC@state.gov. Please inform the HRSC if the deceased had been working under the Reemployed Annuitant (WAE) Program. The Service Center cannot accept a collect telephone call; please provide the customer service representative with the full name of the deceased annuitant, date of birth, exact date of death, address, social security number, and relationship of the person(s) who may be entitled to survivor benefits. The caller will also be asked to supply his/her name and area code/telephone number. Or, you can submit a letter or written report to: U.S. Department of State, HR Service Center, Annuitant Services, 1999 Dyess Avenue, Building E, Charleston, SC 29405.


Notifying the State Department immediately enables us to begin promptly to assist the person(s) entitled to survivor benefits. On receipt of this information, the records of the deceased annuitant will be examined and an application will be sent to the person(s) entitled to benefits. Information will also be provided on benefits from the Foreign Service Retirement Systems (FSRDS or FSPS), Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB).

2. Return any uncashed annuity checks to the Retirement Accounts Division (RAD), if there is no surviving spouse: RAD, Department of State, 1969 Dyess Avenue, Building

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Click <http://www.employeeexpress.gov>

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Re-employed Annuitant (WAE) Program

A Re-employed Annuitant When Actually Employed (REA/WAE) works on an intermittent basis for the Department, filling staffing gaps or assisting with special projects. Foreign Service Officers from any agency or Civil Service retirees from the Department of State only may be appointed to these temporary positions.

The Global Registry is currently being used to express interest in the program. To be placed on the registry, annuitants or those within 2-3 months of retiring should contact HR Shared Services at HRSC@state.gov or [866-300-7419](tel:866-300-7419). Please keep in mind that having your name added to the registry does not guarantee or imply you will be hired, the registry is simply a searchable database.

Annuitants are encouraged to contact a [Bureau Coordinator](#) directly to network for a position. It is recommended that annuitants send an updated resume to the coordinator.

The following table describes the resources that were developed for annuitants:

| Document Name | Description |
|---|---|
| Fact Sheet | Provides overview and basic information about the program. |
| Hours Tracker | Spreadsheet created to help annuitants track the hours worked in a calendar year. You should download the spreadsheet to your computer and enter the appropriate hours each day. Formulas in the spreadsheet automatically add the total hours for each month and display the total hours for the calendar year in red at the top of the spreadsheet. |
| Required Skills for Bureaus | Specific skills requested by Bureaus. The document only has skills for the bureaus and offices that provided information. |



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DIVORCE - FORMER SPOUSE BENEFITS

Former Spouses' Statutory Entitlements

Former spouses have a default entitlement to a pro rata marital share of the annuity, survivor annuity and health benefits coverage if the following conditions have been met:

- Former spouse must have been married to annuitant for at least 10 years of the employee's creditable service (civilian or military), with 5 of these years occurring while the employee was in the Foreign Service; and
- Have been divorced from employee after February 15, 1981, and
- Have not remarried prior to age 55 or expressly waived spousal benefits under the Foreign Service Act of 1980.

A qualified court order or a valid spousal agreement will take precedence over the above-noted provisions.

Qualified Court Order Or Valid Spousal Agreement

A court order or spousal agreement that alters or waives the statutory entitlement payable under the Foreign Service Act to a former spouse must do so expressly. To expressly alter or waive a Former Spouse's statutory entitlement to benefits, the court order spousal or agreement must specifically refer to Foreign Service retirement. For example, the parties may specify that the relevant language in the court order or agreement pertains to pension, survivor or refunds under the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability System if the annuitant is a FSRDS participant, or under the Foreign Service Pension System if the annuitant is a FSPS participant.



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Immediate Opportunities Available for Retired Foreign Service and Civil Service Employees for the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Surge!

In an effort to address the backlog of requests pending within the Department, an exemption to the hiring freeze has been granted to hire REA/WAEs on a temporary, intermittent basis. The FOIA Office has an immediate need for retirees who served on an FS appointment within the last three years at the following grade levels: FS-02, FS-01, FE-OC, FE-MC, and FE-CM. CS retirees at the GS-14, GS-15, & SES levels are also eligible for these positions, but their salary will be reduced by the amount of their annuity.

REA/WAEs hired under this exemption will be solely assigned to A/GIS (the FOIA Surge project) for the foreseeable future. However, these REA/WAEs may be physically located within another bureau to help assist them with processing their taskers assigned as part of the FOIA Surge backlog reduction project. REA/WAEs appointed under this exemption may be selected for assignment with other bureaus at a later date, after the FOIA Surge.

HR Shared Services is collecting resumes and handling these new appointments centrally. **Interested candidates should send their resumes and retirement SF-50s to <mailto:HRSEU@state.gov>.**

QUESTIONS ?





THANK YOU!