DOCUMENTS USED TO MAKE DETERMINATION: Application/SF-50s in OPF/SF-75

## **RETIREMENT COVERAGE**

**GENERAL RULE:** All Federal employees are covered by either the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), unless they are specifically excluded by law or regulation. As a Federal employee, you are covered under the retirement system checked below.

□ FERS	As (1) a newly appointed Federal employee subject to Social Security taxes; or (2) a rehired or transferred Federal employee with less than five years of creditable CSRS service and a break in service exceeding 365 days, you are automatically covered by the FERS. The FERS is a three-tiered plan consisting of Social Security, a basic FERS annuity, and a Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). See your FERS Retirement Brochure (RI 90-1) for more information. The FERS was established by Public Law 99-335 in Chapter 84 of Title 5, U.S. code, effective January 1, 1987.	
CSRS	As (1) a rehired Federal employee who had CSRS coverage before with a break in service of 365 days or less; or (2) a first hired Federal employee who had CSRS coverage in a non-Federal employment, e.g., D.C. Government; or (3) a transferred Federal employee with no break in service or a break in service of 3 days or less, you are covered under the CSRS. The CSRS was established in subchapter III of chapter 83 of the Title 5, U.S. Code, enacted in 1920. You will pay 7 percent of your basic pay to CSRS fund. When you are eligible to participate in the TSP, you can contribute to the TSP, but you do not receive any government contributions.	
CSRS OFFSET	As a Federal employee rehired into the Civil service on or after January 1, 1984, with a break in service of more than 365 days, but who as of January 1, 1987, had at least five years of creditable Federal civilian service, you are covered under the CSRS Offset Plan. This is a version of the CSRS which requires you to pay 6.20 percent of your basic pay to Social Security taxes and .80 percent of your basic pay to the CSRS Fund. When CSRS Offset employees retire, they receive full CSRS benefits until they are eligible for Social Security benefits, generally at age 62. At that time, the CSRS benefit is offset by the portion of their Social Security benefit that represents the period of time they were covered by both CSRS and Social Security. When you are eligible to participate in the TSP, you can contribute to the TSP, but you do not receive any government contributions.	
FERS	As a CSRS or CSRS Offset Plan employee with a break in service of 4 days or more, you may remain in the CSRS or the CSRS Offset or transfer to the new FERS. You have six months from the date of your rehire to make the transfer decision. If you do not make a decision to transfer to FERS within this six month period, you may not switch to FERS at a later date. If you decide to transfer to FERS, your decision is irrevocable, even if you again leave the government and return later.	
TSP BEGIN	You will be eligible to start contributing to the TSP immediately or upon receipt of your TSP pin number.	
TSP CONTINUE	Your TSP Contributions will continue without interruption.	
RECEIVED:		DATE:
	HR SPECIALIST:	DATE: