

the minimum requirements under paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) of this section.

(c) The words in § 550.151 that an employee is generally “responsible for recognizing, without supervision, circumstances which require him to remain on duty” mean that:

(1) The responsibility for an employee remaining on duty when required by circumstances must be a definite, official, and special requirement of his position.

(2) The employee must remain on duty not merely because it is desirable, but because of compelling reasons inherently related to continuance of his duties, and of such a nature that failure to carry on would constitute negligence.

(3) The requirement that the employee is responsible for recognizing circumstances does not include such clear-cut instances as, for example, when an employee must continue working because a relief fails to report as scheduled.

(d) The words “circumstances which require him to remain on duty” as used in § 550.151 mean that:

(1) The employee is required to continue on duty in continuation of a full daily tour of duty or that after the end of his regular workday, the employee resumes duty in accordance with a pre-arranged plan or an awaited event. Performance of only call-back overtime work referred to in § 550.112(f) does not meet this requirement.

(2) The employee has no choice as to when or where he may perform the work when he remains on duty in continuation of a full daily tour of duty. This differs from a situation in which an employee has the option of taking work home or doing it at the office; or doing it in continuation of his regular hours of duty or later in the evening. It also differs from a situation in which an employee has such latitude in his working hours, as when in a travel status, that he may decide to begin work later in the morning and continue working later at night to better accomplish a given objective.

[33 FR 12458, Sept. 4, 1968, as amended at 35 FR 6311, Apr. 18, 1970]

§ 550.154 Rates of premium pay payable under § 550.151.

(a) An agency may pay the premium pay on an annual basis referred to in § 550.151 to an employee who meets the requirements of that section, at one of the following percentages of the employee’s rate of basic pay (as defined in § 550.103):

(1) A position which requires an average of at least 3 but not more than 5 hours a week of irregular or occasional overtime work—10 percent;

(2) A position which requires an average of over five but not more than 7 hours a week of irregular or occasional overtime work—15 percent;

(3) A position which requires an average of over seven but not more than 9 hours a week or irregular or occasional overtime work—20 percent;

(4) A position which requires an average of over 9 hours a week of irregular or occasional overtime work—25 percent.

(b) If an agency proposes to pay an employee premium pay on an annual basis under § 550.151 but unusual conditions seem to make the applicable rate in paragraph (a) of this section unsuitable, the agency may propose a rate of premium pay on an annual basis for OPM approval. The proposal shall include full information bearing on the frequency and duration of the irregular or occasional overtime work required; the nature of the work which prevents hours of duty from being controlled administratively; the necessity for the employee being generally responsible for recognizing, without supervision, circumstances which require him to remain on duty; and any other pertinent conditions.

[33 FR 12458, Sept. 4, 1968, as amended at 35 FR 6311, Apr. 18, 1970; 55 FR 41178, Oct. 10, 1990; 57 FR 2435, Jan. 22, 1992; 61 FR 3543, Feb. 1, 1996]

GENERAL RULES GOVERNING PAYMENTS OF PREMIUM PAY ON AN ANNUAL BASIS

§ 550.161 Responsibilities of the agencies.

The head of each agency, or an official who has been delegated authority to act for the head of an agency in the matter concerned, is responsible for: