

(c) Once NASA has decided to request administrative offset under this section, the request should be made as soon as practical after completion of the applicable procedures in order that the Office of Personnel Management may identify and “flag” the debtor’s account in anticipation of the time when the debtor requests or becomes eligible to receive payments from the Fund. This will satisfy any requirement that offset be initiated prior to expiration of the applicable statute of limitations. At such time as the debtor makes a claim for payments from the Fund, if at least a year has elapsed since the offset request was originally made, the debtor should be permitted to offer a satisfactory repayment plan in lieu of offset upon establishing that changed financial circumstances would render the offset unjust.

(d) If NASA collects part or all of the debt by other means before deductions are made or completed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, the designated official should act promptly to modify or terminate the agency’s request to OPM for offset.

(e) OPM is not required or authorized by 4 CFR 102.4 to review the merits of NASA’s determination with respect to:

- (1) The amount and validity of the debt;
- (2) Waiver under an applicable statute; or
- (3) Provide or not provide an oral hearing.

**§ 1261.508 Offset against a judgment.**

Collection by offset against a judgment obtained by a debtor against the United States shall be accomplished in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3728.

**Subpart 1261.6—Collection by Offset From Indebted Government Employees**

SOURCE: 52 FR 19487, May 26, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 1261.600 Purpose of subpart.**

This subpart implements 5 U.S.C. 5514 in accordance with the OPM regulation and establishes the procedural requirements for recovering pre-judgment debts from the current pay ac-

count of an employee through what is commonly called salary offset, including a situation where NASA (the current paying agency) is not the employee’s creditor agency. Salary offset to satisfy a judgment or a court determined debt is governed by section 124 of Pub. L. 97–276 (October 2, 1982), 5 U.S.C. 5514 *note*.

**§ 1261.601 Scope of subpart.**

(a) *Coverage.* This subpart applies to agencies and employees as defined in § 1261.602.

(b) *Applicability.* This subpart and 5 U.S.C. 5514 apply in recovering certain prejudgment debts by administrative offset except where the employee consents to the recovery, from the current pay account of an employee. Because it is an administrative offset, debt collection procedures for salary offset which are not specified in 5 U.S.C. 5514 and this subpart should be consistent with subpart 1261.5.

(1) *Excluded debts or claims.* The procedures contained in this subpart do not apply to debts or claims arising under the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended (26 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*), the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 *et seq.*), or the tariff laws of the United States; or to any case where collection of a debt by salary offset is explicitly provided for or prohibited by another statute (e.g., travel advances in 5 U.S.C. 5705, employee training expenses in 5 U.S.C. 4108, and debts determined by a court as provided in 5 U.S.C. 5514 *note*).

(2) *Waiver requests and claims to the General Accounting Office.* This subpart does not preclude an employee from requesting waiver of a salary overpayment under 5 U.S.C. 5584, 10 U.S.C. 2774, or 32 U.S.C. 716, or in any way questioning the amount or validity of a debt by submitting a subsequent claim to the General Accounting Office in accordance with procedures prescribed by the General Accounting Office. Similarly, in the case of other types of debts, it does not preclude an employee from requesting waiver, if waiver is available under any statutory provision pertaining to the particular debt being collected.

**§ 1261.602 Definitions.**

For purposes of this subpart: