

§ 550.144

5 CFR Ch. I (1–10 Edition)

post and a technician continuously observing instruments are engaged in the actual work of their positions). Actual work includes both work performed during regular work periods and work performed when called out during periods ordinarily spent in a standby status.

§ 550.144 Rates of premium pay payable under § 550.141.

(a) An agency may pay the premium pay on an annual basis referred to in § 550.141 to an employee who meets the requirements of that section, at one of the following percentages of that part of the employee's rate of basic pay which does not exceed the minimum rate of basic pay for GS-10 (including any applicable locality-based comparability payment under 5 U.S.C. 5304 or special rate of pay under 5 U.S.C. 5305 or similar provision of law):

(1) A position with a tour of duty of the 24 hours on duty, 24 hours off duty type and with a schedule of: 60 hours a week—5 percent, unless 25 or more hours of actual work is customarily required, in which event—10 percent; 72 hours a week—15 percent, unless 24 or more hours of actual work is customarily required, in which event—20 percent; 84 hours or more a week—25 percent.

(2) A position with a tour of duty requiring the employee to remain on duty during all daylight hours each day, or for 12 hours each day, or for 24 hours each day, with the employee living at his station during the period of his assignment to his tour, and with a schedule of: 5 days a week—5 percent, unless 25 or more hours of actual work is customarily required, in which event—10 percent; 6 days a week—15 percent, unless 30 or more hours of actual work is customarily required, in which event 20 percent; 7 days a week—25 percent.

(3) A position in which the employee has a basic workweek requiring fulltime performance of actual work, and is required, in addition, to remain on standby duty: 14 to 18 hours a week on regular workdays, or extending into a nonworkday in continuation of a period of duty within the basic workweek—15 percent; 19 to 27 hours a week

on regular workdays, or extending into a nonworkday in continuation of a period of duty within the basic workweek—20 percent; 28 or more hours a week on regular workdays, or extending into a nonworkday in continuation of a period of duty within the basic workweek—25 percent; 7 to 9 hours on one or more of his regular weekly nonworkdays—15 percent; 10 to 13 hours on one or more of his regular weekly nonworkdays—20 percent; 14 or more hours on one or more of his regular weekly nonworkdays—25 percent.

(4) When an agency pays an employee one of the rates authorized by paragraph (a)(1), (2), or (3) of this section, the agency shall increase this rate by adding (i) 2½ percent to the rate when the employee is required to perform Sunday work on an average of 20 to 40 Sundays over a year's period or (ii) 5 percent to the rate when the employee is required to perform Sunday work on an average of 41 or more Sundays over a year's period but the rate thus increased may not exceed 25 percent.

(b) If an employee is eligible for premium pay on an annual basis under § 550.141, but none of the percentages in paragraph (a) of this section is applicable, or unusual conditions are present which seem to make the applicable rate 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 employee's tour of duty; the number of hours of actual work required; and how it is distributed over the tour of duty; the number of hours in a standby status required and the extent to which the employee's whereabouts and activities are restricted during standby periods; the extent to which the assignment is made more onerous by night, holiday, or Sunday duty or by hours of duty beyond 8 in a day or 40 in a week; and any other pertinent conditions.

[33 FR 12458, Sept. 4, 1968, as amended at 56 FR 20342, May 3, 1991; 61 FR 3543, Feb. 1, 1996]

Office of Personnel Management

§ 550.153

ADMINISTRATIVELY UNCONTROLLABLE WORK

§ 550.151 Authorization of premium pay on an annual basis.

An agency may pay premium pay on an annual basis, instead of other premium pay prescribed in this subpart (except premium pay for regular overtime work, and work at night, on Sundays, and on holidays), to an employee in a position in which the hours of duty cannot be controlled administratively and which requires substantial amounts of irregular or occasional overtime work, with the employee generally being responsible for recognizing, without supervision, circumstances which require the employee to remain on duty. Premium pay under this section is determined as an appropriate percentage, not less than 10 percent nor more than 25 percent, of the employee's rate of basic pay (as defined in § 550.103).

[57 FR 2435, Jan. 22, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 3543, Feb. 1, 1996]

§ 550.152 [Reserved]

§ 550.153 Bases for determining positions for which premium pay under § 550.151 is authorized.

(a) The requirement in § 550.151 that a position be one in which the hours of duty cannot be controlled administratively is inherent in the nature of such a position. A typical example of a position which meets this requirement is that of an investigator of criminal activities whose hours of duty are governed by what criminals do and when they do it. He is often required to perform such duties as shadowing suspects, working incognito among those under suspicion, searching for evidence, meeting informers, making arrests, and interviewing persons having knowledge of criminal or alleged criminal activities. His hours on duty and place of work depend on the behavior of the criminals or suspected criminals and cannot be controlled administratively. In such a situation, the hours of duty cannot be controlled by such administrative devices as hiring additional personnel; rescheduling the hours of duty (which can be done when, for example, a type of work occurs pri-

marily at certain times of the day); or granting compensatory time off duty to offset overtime hours required.

(b) In order to satisfactorily discharge the duties of a position referred to in § 550.151, an employee is required to perform substantial amounts of irregular or occasional overtime work. In regard to this requirement:

(1) A substantial amount of irregular or occasional overtime work means an average of at least 3 hours a week of that overtime work.

(2) The irregular or occasional overtime work is a continual requirement, generally averaging more than once a week.

(3) There must be a definite basis for anticipating that the irregular or occasional overtime work will continue over an appropriate period with a duration and frequency sufficient to meet 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 prearranged plan or an awaited event. Performance of only call-back overtime