PART 83—PRIVACY PROCEDURES FOR PERSONNEL RECORDS

§ 83.1 Purpose and scope of part.

This part describes the policy and prescribes the procedures of the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) with respect to maintaining and protecting the privacy of GAO personnel records. While GAO is not subject to the Privacy Act (Act) (5 U.S.C. 552a), GAO’s policy is to conduct its activities in a manner that is consistent with the spirit of the Act and its duties, functions, and responsibilities to the Congress. Application of the Privacy Act to GAO is not to be inferred from the provisions of these regulations. These regulations are designed to safeguard individuals against invasions of personal privacy by requiring GAO, except as otherwise provided by law, to—

(a) Protect privacy interests of individuals by imposing requirements of accuracy, relevance, and confidentiality for the maintenance and disclosure of personnel records;

(b) Inform individuals of the existence of systems of personnel records maintained by GAO containing personal information; and

(c) Inform individuals of the right to see and challenge the contents of personnel records containing information about them.

This part applies to all systems of personnel records (as defined in §83.3(g)) for which GAO is responsible.

§ 83.2 Administration.

The administration of this part is the duty and responsibility of the Director, Personnel, U.S. Government Accountability Office, 441 G Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20548. To this end, the Director, Personnel, in consultation with the Office of the General Counsel, is authorized to issue such supplemental regulations or procedural directives as may be necessary and appropriate.

(a) The Director, Personnel, shall have general responsibility and authority for implementing this part, including—

(1) Approving all systems of personnel records to be maintained by GAO (whether physically located in GAO’s Office of Personnel or elsewhere), including the contents and uses of such systems, accounting methods, and security methods; and

(2) Responding to an individual’s request to gain access to or amend his or her own personnel records.

(b) The Director, Personnel, may delegate within GAO any of his functions under this part.

§ 83.3 Definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) Individual means a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence;
§ 83.4 Conditions of disclosure.

GAO shall not disclose any record that is contained in a system of personnel records by any means of communication to any person or organization, including another agency, without the prior written consent of the individual to whom the record pertains, unless disclosure of the record would be:

(a) To those officers and employees of GAO who have a need for the record in the performance of their duties; or
(b) Required under regulations implementing the public availability of GAO records published at part 81 of this chapter, or authorized under §83.5; or
(c) For a routine use as defined in §83.3(f); or
(d) To a recipient who has provided GAO with advance adequate written assurance that the record will be used solely as a statistical research or reporting record, and the record is to be transferred in a form that is not individually identifiable; or
(e) To another agency or an instrumentality of any governmental jurisdiction within or under the control of the United States for a civil or criminal law enforcement activity if the activity is authorized by law, if the head of the agency or instrumentality has made a written request to GAO specifying the particular record desired and the law enforcement activity for which the record is sought; or
(f) To any person pursuant to a showing of compelling circumstances affecting the health or safety of an individual (not necessarily the data subject) if upon such disclosure notification is transmitted to the last known address of the subject of the personnel record; or
(g) To either House of Congress, or, to the extent of matter within its jurisdiction, any committee or subcommittee of Congress; or
(h) Pursuant to the order of a court of competent jurisdiction or in connection with any judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings; or
(i) To the Bureau of the Census for purposes of planning or carrying out a census or survey or related activity pursuant to the provisions of Title 13, United States Code; or
(j) To the National Archives of the United States as a record which has sufficient historical or other value to warrant its continued preservation by the U.S. Government, or for evaluation by the Administrator of General Services or his designee to determine whether the record has such value; or
(k) To a consumer reporting agency in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3711(f).