

Department of State

§ 20.1

years of such service, at the rate of three percent annually to the date of separation. Interest shall not be paid for a fractional part of a month in the total service or on compulsory and special contributions from the annuitant for recall service or other service performed after the date of separation which forms the basis for annuity.

§ 19.13-2 Share payable to a former spouse.

A former spouse of a participant or annuitant is entitled to a prorata share of 50 percent of any lump-sum payment authorized to be paid to a former participant under this section who separated from the Service on or after February 15, 1981, unless otherwise directed in a court order or a spousal agreement.

§ 19.13-3 Payment after death of principal.

If a participant or former participant dies and no claim for annuity is payable, the lump-sum credit is paid to surviving beneficiaries.

§ 19.14 Waiver of annuity.

An individual entitled to be paid an annuity may, for personal reasons, decline to accept all or any part of the annuity. However, a principal may not waive the portion of his/her annuity authorized to be paid to a former spouse under § 19.7 or § 19.9 or to a beneficiary under § 19.6. An annuity waiver shall be in writing and sent to the Department (PER/ER/RET). A waiver may be revoked in writing at any time. Payment of the annuity waived may not be made for the period during which the waiver was in effect.

PART 20—BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN FORMER SPOUSES

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AUTHORITY: 22 U.S.C. 3901 *et seq.*

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§ 20.1 Definitions.

As used in this part, unless otherwise specified, the following have the meaning indicated:

COLA means cost-of-living adjustment in annuity.

Creditable service or *service* means employment or other periods that are counted under sections 816, 817, or 854 in determining retirement benefits.

Disability annuitant means a participant in FSRDS or FSPS entitled to a disability annuity under section 808 of the Act or subchapter V, chapter 84, title 5 U.S.C., and a *disability annuity* means a Foreign Service annuity computed under those sections.

FSRDS means the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability System established by subchapter I, chapter 8, of the Act.

FSPS means the Foreign Service Pension System established by subchapter II, chapter 8, of the Act.

Former spouse means a former wife or husband of a participant or former participant who was married to such participant for not less than 10 years during service of the participant which is creditable under chapter 8 of the Act with at least 5 years occurring while the employee was a member of the Foreign Service and who retired from the Foreign Service Retirement System.

Full annuity equals the annuity the former participant would be eligible to receive except for deductions made to provide survivor benefits or because of payment of a portion of the annuity to others.

Participant means a person who contributes to the Fund identified in § 20.2. Such person may participate in either FSRDS or FSPS.

Principal means a participant or former participant whose service forms the basis for a benefit for a former spouse under this part.

Pro rata share, in the case of a former spouse of a participant or former participant, means the percentage obtained by dividing the number of months during which the former spouse was married to the participant during the creditable service of the participant by the total number of months of