



Not certified by the Federal Government

## UPDATES FOR 2009 FOR ChFEBC

“Use it or lose it” That is what the federal employees retiring under the Federal Employee Retirement System always heard when they had unused sick leave at retirement. It appears that most FERS employees do not have many unused sick leave days left at retirement. This is known as “the FERS flu.”

When the Senate approves the House-passed bill that would allow FERS retiring in the next three years to a credit of 75% of their unused sick leave hours toward retirement. Any FERS retiring later would be able to credit all their unused sick leave in the calculation of their annuities.

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Also under this bill, for CSRS and FERS there would be an additional option to the present Thrift Savings Plan now in place. By adding a “Roth” IRA to the TSP, would allow retirees to transfer their pre-tax TSP to a tax-free Roth at retirement. However by transferring from the TSP to a Roth, the federal employee would be taxed on the transfer.

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The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB) who oversees the Thrift Savings Plan, would allow participants to invest their account in mutual funds outside of the regular TSP funds.

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INTERMITTENT WORK SCHEDULE: this is not an appointment type. In the 70’s and earlier, many agencies hired people for a specific period of time. Some worked on a recurring basis. In the Forest Service, that could have been from April through September or during “vacation time.” Other agencies did the same, such as the IRS who hired people for the tax season, January through April 15. Those employees were given credit for the time they worked during the “season: but outside of the season, they were considered intermittent and received credit only for the days worked. In 1980, the law changed and those people who returned to this job for the same season each year were called “seasonal employees” and received the same credit as full time employees, including up to 6 months credit for LWOP. Only for seasonal employees, this was called “Non-pay Status..” Before the law change, seasonal employees were called WAE of “When Actually Employed.”

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## ACTUARIAL REDUCTION ON SURVIVOR BENEFITS

When calculating the actuarial reduction on survivor benefits for CSRS or FERS, it's a one-time permanent reduction. All cost of living adjustments are calculated on this new basis.

The rest of exam is based on the information located in the "FEND Almanac" or in the "Self-study manual" you were provided by us when you originally studied for your ChFEBC Designation.