

4 Pay Administration

410 Pay Administration Policy for Nonbargaining Unit Employees

Revision Note:

Subchapter 410 is currently under revision. When it is completed and appropriate advance notice obligations are fulfilled with the management associations and/or the unions, changes will be published in the *Postal Bulletin*, incorporated in the ELM on the Postal Service Corporate Intranet, and included in the next hard copy issue of the ELM.

411 General

411.1 Scope

This subchapter establishes the conditions and procedures for setting salaries of Postal Service nonbargaining career and noncareer employees in supervisory, professional, technical, clerical, administrative, and managerial positions in the EAS Salary Schedule and applies to all employees *except* the following:

- a. Employees covered by collective bargaining agreements (except when assigned to nonbargaining positions).
- b. Executives assigned to the Postal Career Executive Service (PCES).
- c. Employees in the Office of Inspector General.

411.2 Objectives

The principal objectives of Postal Service compensation policies are:

- a. To provide compensation for Postal Service work comparable to compensation paid for comparable levels of work in the private sector of the U.S. economy.
- b. To provide compensation that will attract, motivate, and retain qualified and capable personnel.

- c. To provide adequate and reasonable differentials in rates of pay between employees in the clerk and carrier grades in the line work force and supervisory and other managerial personnel.
- d. To provide for effective administration of salary expenditures.
- e. To provide for recognition of and reward for differences in individual ability and performance.
- f. To provide uniform methods for establishing and applying salary rates to employment, placement, promotion, and other changes in the status of employees.

411.3 **Responsibility**

411.31 **Assignment of Positions**

The vice president of Human Resources has the responsibility for determining the appropriate dollar range and salary grade for each position covered by subchapter 410.

411.32 **Policy and Procedural Changes**

Recommendations concerning compensation policy and procedural matters are evaluated and developed under the direction of the vice president of Human Resources. Exceptions to the policies contained in this subchapter require approval by the vice president of Human Resources or designee.

411.33 **Determination of Salaries**

411.331 **Responsibility of Appointing Officer**

The appointing officer has the primary responsibility for setting salaries of employees in nonbargaining positions according to the policies contained in this subchapter.

411.332 **Approval Required**

In all cases, the appointing officer's superior must approve the salaries set by the appointing officer.

411.333 **EAS A–E Postmaster Rates**

A–E postmasters are paid at hourly rates for less than a 40-hour week (see Rate Schedule F). For changes between A–E postmaster and full time positions, these hourly rates are first converted to full-time annual salaries using the following equation:

$$\text{Full-Time Annual Salary} = \text{Hourly Rate} \times 2080.$$

411.4 **Payment Procedures for Post Office Space**

411.41 **Lease Agreement**

411.411 **Basis for Payment**

A postmaster who has a lease agreement is reimbursed on the basis of actual lease rates for the location and not on the basis of the postmaster's salary grade.

411.412 Newly Appointed Postmaster

Postmasters who are newly appointed as EAS A–E or EAS-11 are (a) paid under standard lease agreements for the space they provide and (b) receive equipment from the Postal Service supply system.

411.413 Conversion to Rental Allowance

Conversion from the lease agreement system to the rental allowance system is not permitted.

411.42 Rental Allowance**411.421 Allowance Amounts**

The rental allowance for EAS A–E postmasters who furnish quarters and equipment covers rent, fuel, light, and equipment. The rental allowance maximums for these post offices are fixed as follows:

Post Office Service Hour Category	Annual Rental Allowance
A	\$ 342.75
B	514.05
C	685.50
D	856.80
E	1,028.10

411.422 Change in Allowance

If the salary grade of a postmaster (who receives an allowance) is increased, the rental allowance is not increased. If, however, the grade of the postmaster is decreased, the allowance is reduced to the amount shown in 411.421 for the new (lower) grade.

411.423 Manner of Payment

Normally, payment of rental allowance is made at the same time and in the same manner as payment for basic compensation. (See also ELM 411.424 and 411.425.)

411.424 Absent Postmaster

When a postmaster is absent on approved leave without pay, the allowance will continue to be paid to the postmaster — not to the person performing the duties of the postmaster.

411.425 Vacant Postmaster Position

When a postmaster's position is vacant and the facilities are still used by the Postal Service, claims for payment must be filed with the St. Louis Postal Data Center. Note that:

- a. If the facilities are furnished by the former postmaster (or estate), the allowance will continue to be paid to the former postmaster (or estate) until a new postmaster is appointed. A lease agreement will then be negotiated.

- b. If the person performing the duties of postmaster provides the facilities, the allowance for the salary grade of the post office is paid to the person performing the postmaster duties.

411.426 **Conversion to Lease Agreement**

A postmaster receiving rental allowance is permitted to convert to the lease agreement system at any time. If the rental allowance is to be discontinued, the change is effective on the date of the lease agreement.

412 **New Appointment**

412.1 **Career Appointment**

A new employee hired into the EAS schedule is paid the minimum salary for the grade of the position to which hired except:

- a. *Exceptional Qualifications.* If the appointing official determines that the person has exceptional qualifications, the starting salary may be set up to the 25th percentile of the grade, provided the individual does not receive an increase in salary of more than 30 percent or \$5,000 per year, whichever is greater, over the salary of the previous position held outside the Postal Service.
- b. *Trial Period.* If the appointing officer determines that a newly hired person should first serve a trial period, the salary may be set not more than 10 percent below the minimum of the range for the grade. To determine whether to retain or separate the employee, the employee's performance must be reviewed prior to the expiration date of her or his 6-month probationary period. Note that:
 - (1) If the employee is retained, the salary must be increased to the minimum of the grade within 12 months from date of hire. This salary increase is *not* a merit increase.
 - (2) Eligibility for a merit increase is determined in accordance with the merit pay administrative guidelines.
- c. *Reinstatement or Transfer.* The appointing officer may, when more favorable to the employee, set the salary of a former or current federal civilian or former Postal Service employee who is being given a Postal Service career appointment, at a point between the minimum and the highest basic compensation the employee previously received. However, the salary may not be in excess of the maximum rate of the grade for the assigned position.

412.2 **Noncareer Appointment**

A noncareer employee is hired in accordance with the provisions in 419.

413 Promotion to Nonbargaining Positions

413.1 Definition

The permanent assignment, with or without relocation, of an employee (a) to an established position having a higher grade than the position to which the employee was previously assigned in the same schedule or (b) to a position with a higher than equivalent grade (see 418.1) in another schedule. (See also 415.6.)

413.2 Promotion Increase

413.21 EAS Employees

Nonbargaining unit employees receive promotion increases up to 8 percent, subject to the conditions and exceptions described below. In determining the amount of an increase, consideration must be given to such factors as responsibility and complexity of the job, skill requirements, and the employee's experience, credentials, and salary history.

- a. Normally an increase is no less than 4 percent.
- b. An increase cannot result in a salary that exceeds the maximum of the new grade.
- c. An increase of more than 8 percent is given if necessary to bring the salary to the minimum of the new grade or the minimum salary for certain supervisory positions as set forth in paragraph e below.
- d. The total of promotion and merit increases to salary in the preceding 52-week period cannot exceed 15 percent of the employee's salary at the beginning of the 52-week period unless a larger increase is necessary to bring the salary to the minimum set forth in paragraph e below.
- e. For promotions to positions at grade 15 or above that require supervising bargaining unit employees, the amount of the increase must result in a salary that is no less than 1.05 times the maximum annual rate for the most populated grade in the largest bargaining unit of postal employees.

413.22 Bargaining Unit Employees

Bargaining unit employees permanently assigned to a higher equivalent grade in the nonbargaining unit schedule receive a salary adjustment of 5 percent of their basic salary subject to the following:

- a. An increase cannot result in a salary that exceeds the maximum of the new grade.
- b. An increase of more than 5 percent is given if necessary to bring the employee's salary to the minimum of the new grade or the minimum salary for certain supervisory positions as described in 413.21e above.

413.3 Considerations

Situations which supplement the definitions and salary rules for promotion to or within the EAS schedule are:

- a. *Employee With Rate Retention.* When an employee who has rate retention (see 415.112) is assigned to a different position, the assignment is not a promotion unless it is to a position with a grade or grade equivalent higher than the grade on which the rate retention was established.
- b. *Employee Below Minimum Rate.* An employee hired below the minimum rate (see 412.1b) is not eligible for promotion until placed in at least the minimum rate of the grade for which hired.
- c. *Change in Duties and/or Responsibilities.* When an employee's position is upgraded through the job evaluation process (JEP) or job ranking standards and guidelines, a 2 percent lump sum payment is provided. There is no salary increase other than what is necessary to bring the salary to the minimum of the new grade, in which case the lump sum is offset by the amount of the salary increase.

Note: Changes to the grades of postmaster and supervisor positions at grade EAS-A–E through EAS-22 associate offices are made pursuant to the Workload Service Credit System (WSCS) and the Supervisory Workload Credit System (SWCS), respectively.

Note: All A–E postmasters are in the same grade, EAS-A–E; therefore, a change from one A–E service-hour category to another does not result in a change in grade. (See 414.31.)

- d. *Change in Job Evaluation Criteria.* When an employee's position is upgraded as a result of revisions to the JEP or established job ranking standards and guidelines, the rules above do not apply. In such instances, instructions regarding the pay of affected employees are issued by the vice president of Human Resources.

413.4 A–E Postmasters

When a postmaster in an EAS A–E post office is promoted to a position in a grade higher than the A–E postmaster grade, the postmaster's hourly rate is converted to the full-time annual salary equivalent to that hourly rate (see 411.333) and then further adjusted in accordance with the promotion procedures in 413.2. (For a change from one A–E postmaster position to another, see 414.31.)

414 Reassignment to Nonbargaining Positions**414.1 Definition**

The permanent change, with or without relocation, of an employee to an established EAS position from a position with the same or equivalent grade. (For changes between pay schedules, see 418.1.)

414.2 Rate Adjustment**414.21 Nonbargaining Employees**

414.211 An EAS employee's salary is not changed as a result of reassignment within the EAS schedule.

414.22 Bargaining Unit Employees

414.221 Bargaining unit employees reassigned to nonbargaining positions continue to receive their former basic salary provided that it is not below the minimum or above the maximum for the new position.

414.222 If the person is reassigned to an EAS-19 or below position and has served 52 weeks or more in the bargaining-unit position since the last step, promotion, or other equivalent increase, the salary is advanced by 3 percent, provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a. An equivalent increase (one equal to a most prevalent step in the former position) is not received at the time of the reassignment.
- b. The employee has satisfactory service.
- c. The new salary is below the new maximum.

414.3 EAS A–E Postmasters

414.31 When an A–E postmaster is reassigned to another A–E post office with a different number of service hours, or when the service-hour category of an A–E post office is changed pursuant to the Workload Service Credit System (WSCS), the postmaster's basic hourly rate remains the same as before, regardless of the number of service hours.

414.32 When an employee is reassigned to an A–E postmaster position from a position in a grade equivalent to the grade for A–E postmasters, the following applies:

- a. The employee is placed (a) at minimum of the hourly rate range for A–E postmasters, or (b) at the discretion of the appointing official, up to the highest basic salary the employee has received that does not exceed the rate for the maximum of the hourly rate range for A–E postmasters.
- b. If previously full-time, the employee's former annual salary is divided by 2080 hours. The resultant hourly rate is used to place the employee in the hourly rate range for A–E postmasters as provided above in 414.32a.

415 Rate Retention and Change to Lower EAS Grade**415.1 Rate Retention Types****415.11 Saved Grade**

Nonbargaining employees may be granted saved grade only in accordance with terms and conditions issued for special situations by the vice president of Human Resources, except as noted in 415.12.

415.12 Veterans' Preference Saved Grade NTE Under RIF

Veterans' preference eligibles who are changed to a lower grade position under RIF procedures and who held the higher-graded position for at least 52 weeks at any time in their history retain the current grade and pay for a period not to exceed 2 years from the effective date of the change to the lower-grade position. These employees are treated as being in the higher grade for pay increase and benefit purposes during the saved grade period. Upon expiration of the saved grade period, they are automatically reduced to the grade of the position to which assigned. These employees are then entitled to Veterans' Preference Retained Salary.

415.13 Saved Salary

Saved salary provides that an employee assigned to a lower-grade position whose salary does not fall within the salary range of the lower-grade will have this salary continued. As long as the salary is higher than the maximum salary of the lower-grade position, the employee may receive merit lump sums and variable pay amounts based on this salary and the policies applicable to employees at or above their salary range maximum. The saved salary is continued until it is terminated as specified in 415.7.

415.14 Veterans' Preference Retained Salary Under RIF

Provisions for veterans' preference retained salary under RIF are the same as those for saved salary, except that the pay cannot exceed 150 percent of the maximum salary of the lower-grade position.

415.15 Protected Salary

An employee assigned to a lower-grade position whose salary does not fall within the salary range of the lower-grade position has this salary retained for a period not to exceed 2 years (104 weeks) as a protected salary. During this 2-year period, the employee may receive merit lump sums and variable pay amounts based on his or her protected salary and the policies applicable to employees at or above the maximum. If the protected salary exceeds the maximum salary for the lower grade at the end of the 2-year period, it is terminated and the salary is automatically reduced to the maximum salary of the lower-grade position.

An employee assigned to a lower-grade position whose current salary falls within the salary range of the lower-grade position has this salary continued and no salary retention is applicable. Future salary increases, merit lump

sums, and variable pay amounts are determined in accordance with the policies applicable to the lower-grade position.

415.2 **Changes to Lower Grade Using RIF Avoidance Procedures**

Employees who are voluntarily placed in a lower-grade position under the provisions of the RIF avoidance policies are reduced to the grade of the position immediately. However, they are eligible for protected salary.

415.3 **Changes to Lower Grade Using RIF Procedures**

415.31 **Non-Veterans' Preference Eligibles**

Non-veterans' preference eligibles are immediately reduced to the grade of the position and are eligible for protected salary.

415.32 **Veterans' Preference Eligibles**

Veterans' preference eligibles who are changed to a lower grade in a RIF are governed by 5 CFR Parts 351 and 536. Veterans' preference eligibles who held the higher-grade position for less than 52 weeks are reduced to the grade of the position and are eligible for protected salary. Veterans' preference eligibles who held the higher-grade position for at least 52 weeks at any time in their history retain the current grade and pay for a period not to exceed 2 years (104 weeks) from the effective date of the change to the lower-grade position. During the 2 years, these employees are eligible for veterans' preference saved grade NTE. They are treated as being in the higher grade for pay and benefit purposes during this saved grade period. Upon expiration of the 2-year period, they are automatically reduced to the grade of the position to which assigned. They are then entitled to veterans' preference retained salary.

415.4 **Post-RIF Placement to Lower Grade**

Employees remaining unplaced at the conclusion of the RIF and subsequently assigned to a lower-grade position are placed in the grade of the position and are eligible for protected salary.

415.5 **Non-RIF-Related Changes to Lower Grade**

415.51 **Voluntary Change to Lower Grade, Demotion for Cause, or Refusal of a Reasonable Assignment to a Higher-Grade Position During a Rate Retention Period**

An employee who voluntarily changes to lower grade, is demoted for cause, or refuses a reasonable assignment to a higher-grade position is immediately reduced to the lower grade, and the salary is set at the same relative percentile point in the lower position's salary range (see 415.73). In no case may the salary be set above the maximum for the new grade or above the employee's salary immediately before the change. If the employee has a form of rate retention, it is terminated (see 415.7).

415.52 Position Reclassified to a Lower Grade

When a position is reclassified to a lower grade, the employee is immediately reduced to this grade, but saved salary is granted if the employee's salary exceeds the maximum salary of the lower grade. If the employee's salary is within the salary range for the lower grade, the salary is continued and there is no saved salary.

Reclassifications occur primarily under the Postmaster Grade Review process with managers, Customer Service, under the Position Grade Review process. In cases where full-time postmaster positions are reclassified to part-time positions for 104 weeks, the postmaster receives an hourly rate that produces the annual salary in effect prior to the change (full-time annual salary divided by the annual service hours for the part-time position). At the end of 104 weeks, the affected postmaster's hourly salary is reduced to the *hourly equivalent* of the amount received in the full-time position (full-time annual salary divided by 2080 hours). This hourly amount becomes the saved rate.

Note: All A–E postmasters are in the same grade, A–E; therefore, a change from one A–E service-hour category to another does not result in a change in grade (see 414.31).

415.53 Management-Initiated Action Where Employee Voluntarily Accepts a Lower-Grade EAS Position

In cases of management-initiated action or in cases that management determines that it is in the mutual interest of both the employee and the Postal Service and an employee voluntarily accepts a lower-grade EAS position, the employee must be placed in a position that he or she is qualified to perform, and as near to the grade of his or her original position as possible. Placement and granting of protected salary in these circumstances must be approved by the area Human Resources manager. Placement and grant of saved rate in these circumstances may be approved by the area vice president.

415.6 Rate Retention Effect on Promotion

If an employee under rate retention is assigned to a different position, the assignment is not a promotion for purposes of a pay adjustment unless the assignment is to a position with a grade that is higher than the grade upon which the retained rate was established. On a reassignment to a position with a grade equal to or lower than the grade upon which the retained rate was established, the employee is placed at a salary in the new grade equal to the existing salary, and the retained rate continues until terminated in accordance with 415.7.

415.7 Termination of Salary Retention**415.71 Reason for Terminating**

A saved grade and/or retained rate ceases at the beginning of the pay period following a determination that the employee is no longer entitled to saved grade and/or rate retention for any one of the following reasons:

- a. A break in service of 1 workday or more.
- b. A demotion or employee-initiated change to a lower grade position.
- c. A promotion or assignment change to a rate in a grade or range equal to or above the saved grade and/or retained rate.
- d. A change in compensation of the employee, for any reason, to a rate equal to or higher than the retained rate.
- e. The employee refuses a reasonable assignment to a higher grade position.
- f. A change from nonbargaining to a bargaining unit schedule.

Note: This terminates nonbargaining saved grade and/or saved salary; however, an eligible employee may continue to receive rate retention subject to bargaining unit rules.

415.72 Salary Adjustment

When a retained rate is terminated for the reason described in 415.71 b. or c. above, the employee's salary is reduced to that which would be in effect if it had been reduced by the initial action to the same relative percentile point in the new grade as the former salary was in the previous grade.

415.73 Same Relative Percentile Point

An employee's salary which is reduced to the same relative percentile point by a change to a lower grade is calculated in the following manner:

- a. Subtract the minimum of the higher grade from the employee's salary.
- b. Subtract the higher grade minimum from the higher grade maximum.
- c. Divide a. by b. to determine the percentile point of the employee's salary in the higher grade.
- d. Subtract the lower grade minimum from the lower grade maximum and multiply the difference by the percentile point determined in c.
- e. Add the result determined in d. to the lower grade minimum. This sum is the salary in the lower grade which is at the same relative percentile point as the salary in the higher grade.

416 Merit Pay Program**416.1 Policy**

EAS employees are eligible for an annual merit salary increase and/or lump sum payment based on a fiscal year performance evaluation. These evaluations are conducted in accordance with established performance

appraisal instructions. Merit adjustments are made in accordance with a merit matrix and guidelines that are issued annually.

416.2 **Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for a merit pay adjustment, an employee must have an appointment that is not time limited, and receive a merit performance rating warranting a merit adjustment as provided in the applicable merit matrix and guidelines.

416.21 **Military Duty**

Employees who return to postal duty following a separation or leave for military duty are eligible for merit adjustments as if duty with the Postal Service had been continuous. For purposes of calculating their merit pay upon return to duty, it is assumed they “met the objectives/expectations” of the position as if duty with the Postal Service had been continuous.

416.22 **Injury Compensation Absence**

Employees who are on official absence due to an injury that is considered compensable under the Office of Workers’ Compensation Program (OWCP) rules are eligible for merit adjustments upon returning to duty as if duty with the Postal Service had been continuous, provided the employee has fully overcome the disability upon his or her reinstatement to the former or equivalent position. For purposes of calculating their pay upon return to duty, it is assumed these employees “met the objectives/expectations” of the position as if duty with the Postal Service had been continuous. See 546 for details and special provisions applicable to employees with compensable disabilities which are partially overcome.

416.23 **Association Officials**

Employees who are placed on LWOP to devote full-time service as elected national officers of a recognized organization of supervision or other managerial personnel are eligible to have their salary of record adjusted to reflect annual merit basic salary increases as if they continued in a pay status. The effective date is the same as if the employee was in a pay status. The amount of such adjustments is determined as follows:

- a. The percentage increase is equal to the average basic salary percentage increase for the employee’s grade. This is determined by Headquarters Human Resources and transmitted to the appropriate area office.
- b. The adjusted salary may not exceed the maximum of the range for the employee’s grade.
- c. Employees are not eligible for merit lump sums.

416.24 **Leave Without Pay (LWOP)**

Employees who are on LWOP during the year are eligible for a merit adjustment, subject to a prorated reduction for the LWOP hours. This does not apply to LWOP associated with absences described in 416.21, 416.22, or 416.23.

416.3 Simultaneous Personnel Actions

When a merit increase and another personnel action are effective on the same date, the merit increase is granted first and then the other personnel action is affected in accordance with the applicable pay rules.

417 Temporary Assignment to Nonbargaining Positions (Career Employees)**417.1 Definitions****417.11 Temporary Assignment**

The placement of a career employee in another established position which is vacant, or from which the incumbent is absent from duty, to perform duties and responsibilities other than those specifically set forth in employee's position description, and when the employee is not awarded the position on a regular basis.

417.12 Pay Schedule

The salary of a career employee who is temporarily assigned to an EAS position is based on the career EAS schedule.

417.2 Rates of Pay**417.21 Lower Grade**

Employees who are temporarily assigned to perform duties of a lower grade continue to receive their existing basic salary.

417.22 Same or Equivalent Grade

Employees who are temporarily assigned to perform duties of the same grade or of an equivalent grade (418.1) continue to receive their existing salaries.

417.23 Higher Grade**417.231 General Requirement**

An employee who is temporarily assigned to a higher grade position must be assigned the primary or *core* duties and be directed to assume the major responsibilities of the higher grade position to be eligible for higher level pay under the conditions of this section.

417.232 Employee With Rate Retention

When an employee who has rate retention is assigned to a different position, it is not considered a higher level assignment unless that position is at a grade higher than the grade on which the rate retention was established.

417.233 Eligibility

An employee whose temporary assignment meets the conditions described in 417.234 is eligible for higher level pay when temporarily assigned to an

authorized established EAS position in a higher grade than that of the position to which permanently assigned, *except* as follows:

- a. Employees temporarily assigned to PCES positions.
- b. Employees in developmental programs the Management Instructions for which provide that participants do not receive higher level pay.

417.234 **Conditions**

a. *EAS Employees*

- (1) *Field Installations.* Higher level pay is authorized to eligible EAS employees during each temporary assignment to higher level EAS positions in field installations for all such service beginning after 10 consecutive work days, excluding breaks for normal days off, and continuing for the duration of the assignment.
- (2) *Headquarters Installations.* Normally, when EAS employees are temporarily assigned to higher level positions at Headquarters or related units, they are entitled to higher level pay beginning on the 31st calendar day, i.e., higher level pay normally is not authorized during the first 30 calendar days of such an assignment. Higher level pay is authorized to an EAS employee temporarily assigned as a first-line supervisor of *bargaining unit* employees at Headquarters or related units after the supervisory position has been vacant, or the incumbent has been absent, for three or more continuous weeks, beginning with the first full working tour or more and continuing for the duration of the assignment. Immediate higher level pay is authorized for an eligible employee who is temporarily assigned as an ad hoc EEO counselor/investigator, provided the employee has completed the training certificate requirements, the assignment is scheduled in advance and approved by the employee's immediate supervisor, and the higher level service is performed in increments of one hour or more. The applicable waiting period for higher level pay applies to full-time, temporary assignments to an EEO counselor/investigator position.
- (3) Different employees are not to be assigned consecutively to the same vacancy solely to avoid the higher level pay requirements.

- b. *Bargaining Unit Employees.* Bargaining unit employees are authorized higher level pay for all time worked on higher level assignments.

417.235 **Payment Amount**

(See Exhibit 417.235) Higher level pay is calculated as follows:

- a. *Within the EAS Schedule.* The employee receives a salary increase equal to 5 percent of the minimum rate for the position in which higher level service is performed. (See 417.236 for payment factors.)
- b. *From Bargaining to Nonbargaining Schedule.* The employee receives a salary increase equivalent to that which would be granted if the employee were to be promoted to the detail position.

Pay Administration
Pay Administration Policy for Nonbargaining Unit Employees

417.235

Exhibit 417.235

Higher Level Pay

From Rate Schedule	To Rate Schedule											
	A – Mail Transportation Equipment Shops	C – Mail Equip. Shops & Area Supply Centers	E – EAS	G – Nurses	K – HQ Operating Services	M – Mail Handlers	N – Data Centers	P – PS	Q – City Carriers	R – Rural Carriers	T – Tool & Die	Y – Postal Police Officers
A – Mail Transportation Equipment Shops	.....	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
C – Mail Equipment Shops & Area Supply Centers	1	.....	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
E – EAS	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	.....	2	2
F – A–E Postmasters*	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	.....	2	2
G – Nurses	1	1	2	.....	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
K – HQ Operating Services	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
M – Mail Handlers	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
N – Data Centers	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
P – PS	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
Q – City Carriers	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
R – Rural Carriers**	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
T – Tool & Die	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
Y – Postal Police Officers	1	1	2	.....	1	.....	1	1	1	.....	1	.....

* For A–E Postmaster assigned to full-time position, first adjust the current salary to the full-time equivalent salary.

** Rural Carriers who are detailed into a different salary schedule are converted at the beginning pay period following the first 30 days to the salary for a 40-hour evaluated route, attained step, before applying the higher level increase. Pay is then adjusted in accordance with salary rules for that salary schedule.

SALARY ADJUSTMENT CALCULATIONS — To use the chart:

Step 1. In the vertical list on the left, locate the rate schedule of the employee's position before the change action.

Step 2. Cross over to the rate schedule of the position into which the employee is being assigned.

Step 3. Use the number found in that cell to choose from the following:

No. In

Cell Calculation Method to Use

- 1 To the current full-time salary, add 2 times the most prevalent step increment of the current grade (add 3 times for a detail to a position three or more grades higher). If the salary is between two steps, advance this amount to the next higher salary step in the new grade. The new salary may not be below the minimum or exceed the maximum for the new grade. However, if the employee's current salary already exceeds the maximum, it is continued without any adjustment.
- 2 To the current full-time salary, add 5 percent. The new salary may not be below the minimum or exceed the maximum for the new grade. However, if the employee's current salary already exceeds the maximum, it is continued without any adjustment.
- 3 To the current full-time salary, add 5 percent of the higher grade minimum salary. The new salary may not exceed the maximum for the new grade. However, if the employee's current salary already exceeds the maximum, it is continued without any adjustment. If the employee is assigned to an EAS-15 or above position that involves directly supervising two or more bargaining unit employees, the salary must be no less than 1.05 times the maximum rate for the most populated grade in the largest bargaining unit for postal employees. Rural carrier current salary is for a 40-hour evaluated route at the carrier's attained step.

417.236 Payment Factors

- a. *Maximum Rate.* Total higher level compensation may not exceed the maximum salary rate of the higher level position in which such service is performed, or the employee's existing salary if above the maximum of the range for the higher grade.
- b. *Holiday Pay.* An employee is eligible for higher level pay for a holiday as follows:
 - (1) *Holiday Not Worked.* The employee receives holiday leave pay for the holiday at the rate of the higher level position, provided the employee received the higher level pay for both the full workday preceding the holiday and the full workday following the holiday.
 - (2) *Holiday Worked.* The employee is paid at the rate of the higher level position for work in the higher level position on a holiday.
- c. *Annual, Sick, Holiday, or Other Paid Leave During Higher Level Service*
 - (1) Except as provided in (2) below, when full-time employees are absent on approved annual, sick, or other paid leave falling within a period of temporary assignment to a higher level position, they receive leave pay at the rate for the higher level position provided they receive higher level pay for both the full workday immediately preceding and the full workday immediately following the period of absence.
 - (2) If a second person is assigned to replace the absent employee, the original temporary higher level assignment is cancelled and the absent employee has no entitlement to higher level pay for the parts of the leave period during which she or he is replaced.
- d. *Determination of FLSA Status.* An employee's FLSA status during a temporary assignment is based on the FLSA status of the position to which assigned. See 434.143, and 444.313 to determine an employee's eligibility for overtime and other premiums when, due to temporary assignment(s), both FLSA exempt and nonexempt work are performed in a single workweek.

417.3 Postmaster Positions**417.31 Officer in Charge (OIC)****417.311 Definition**

The temporary assignment of a career employee to act as postmaster during which the accountability of postmaster *is* transferred to the employee.

417.312 Basis for Rate of Pay

The salary of a career employee temporarily assigned to a post office as OIC is based on the grade of the post office to which he or she is assigned and is determined in accordance with the provisions of 417.2.

417.32 **Postal Operations Administrator (POA)**

417.321 **Definition**

The temporary assignment of a career employee to act as postmaster during which the accountability of postmaster is *not* transferred to the employee.

417.322 **Basis for Rate of Pay**

The salary of a career employee who is temporarily assigned to a post office as POA is based on the grade which is two grades below the grade for the office and is determined as provided in 417.2.

418 **Assignment to a Different Salary Schedule (see Exhibit 418)**

418.1 **Equivalent Grades**

When an employee is reassigned, promoted, or otherwise permanently or temporarily changed to a position in another salary schedule, see Exhibit 418.1 for grades that are equivalent for pay purposes. If the employee has a retained rate, the grade on which the retained rate is based is used to determine grade equivalence and appropriate salary action.

418.2 **Changes Between Nonbargaining Schedules**

Changes between EAS and PCES salary schedules are made in accordance with the provisions of the Postal Career Executive Service Program. Changes between other nonbargaining schedules are made in accordance with the promotion and reassignment provisions of this subchapter (see 413, 414, and 415).

418.3 **Changes From Nonbargaining to Bargaining Schedules**

Changes of nonbargaining employees to bargaining unit positions are made in accordance with 420 and any applicable collective-bargaining agreement.

418.4 **Changes From Bargaining to Nonbargaining Schedules**

Changes of bargaining unit employees to nonbargaining positions are made in accordance with 410.

418.4

Pay Administration
Pay Administration Policy for Nonbargaining Unit Employees

Exhibit 418

Promotional Increase

From Rate Schedule	To Rate Schedule											
	A – Mail Transportation Equipment Shops	C – Mail Equip. Shops & Area Supply Centers	E – EAS	G – Nurses	K – HQ Operating Services	M – Mail Handlers	N – Data Centers	P – PS	Q – City Carriers	R – Rural Carriers	T – Tool & Die Shop	Y – Postal Police Officers
A – Mail Transportation Equipment Shops	.....	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
C – Mail Equipment Shops & Area Supply Centers	1	.....	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
E – EAS	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2
F – A–E Postmasters*	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2
G – Nurses	1	1	2	.....	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
K – HQ Operating Services	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
M – Mail Handlers	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
N – Data Centers	1	1	2	.....	.....	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
P – PS	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
Q – City Carriers	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
R – Rural Carriers**	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1
T – Tool & Die Shop	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
Y – Postal Police Officers	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	1

* For A–E postmaster promoted to full-time position first adjust the current salary to the full-time equivalent rate.

** Rural carriers who are promoted into a different salary schedule are converted first to the salary for a 40-hour evaluated route, attained step, before applying the promotion increase.

SALARY ADJUSTMENT CALCULATIONS — To use the chart:

Step 1. In the vertical list on the left, locate the rate schedule of the employee's position before the change action.

Step 2. Cross over to the rate schedule of the position into which the employee is being assigned.

Step 3. Use the number found in that cell to choose from the following:

No. In

Cell Calculation Method to Use

- 1 To the current full-time salary, add 2 times the most prevalent step increment of the current grade (add 3 times for a promotion of three or more grades). Advance this amount to the next higher salary step in the new grade if between two steps. If the employee is promoted to a bargaining unit grade previously held, place the salary and next step date the same as if the employee had remained in that grade.
- 2 To the current full-time salary, add 5 percent. Advance this amount to the next higher salary step in the new grade if between two steps. If the employee is promoted to a bargaining unit grade previously held, place the salary and next step date the same as if the employee had remained in that grade.
- 3 Place at step A all new regular rural carriers appointed from other schedules unless they were on USPS rolls before August 7, 1991. In that case, place at step C. Place substitute rural carriers at the lower of step 8 or their existing step.
- 4 To the current full-time salary, add up to 8 percent.

Note: The new salary may not be below the minimum or exceed the maximum for the new grade.

Pay Administration
Pay Administration Policy for Nonbargaining Unit Employees

418.4

Exhibit 418.1

Equivalent Grades

A – Mail Transport Equipment Centers	B – Rural Auxiliary	C – Mail Equipment Centers & Area Supply Centers	E – EAS	F – A–E Postmasters	G – Nurses	K – HQ Oper. Services	M – Mail Handlers	N – Data Centers	P – PS	Q – City Carriers	R – Rural Carriers	T – Tool & Die Shop	Y – Postal Police Officers
....	1–4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	5	A–E	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	6	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	7	....	....	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1	1	8	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	....
2	2	9	....	....	3	....	....	2	....	....	....	....
3	3	3	....	....	....	4	3	....	3	....	....	....	....
4	4	10	....	....	5	4	6,7,8	4	....	....	4	....
5	5	5	11	....	X *	6	5	9,10	5	5	X *	....	....
6	6	12	....	....	7	6	11,12	6	6	....	6	X *
7	7	....	....	....	....	....	13	7	....	....	7	....
8	8	13	....	....	8	....	14	8	....	....	8	....
9	9	14	....	....	9	....	15	9	....	....	9	....
10	10	15	....	....	....	....	16	10	....	....	....	....
....	16	....	....	....	....	17	....	....	....	11	....
....	17	....	....	....	....	18	....	....	....	....	....
....	18	....	....	....	....	19	....	....	....	....	....
....	19	....	....	....	....	20	....	....	....	....	....
....	20	....	....	....	....	21	....	....	....	....	....
....	21	....	....	....	....	22	....	....	....	....	....
....	22	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	23	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	24	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	25	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

* X signifies a single-level schedule.

EQUIVALENT GRADE DETERMINATION — To use the chart:

Step 1. In the horizontal list at the top, locate the salary schedule and grade to the employee's position before the change action.

Step 2. Cross over to the salary schedule into which the employee is being assigned.

Step 3. Determine the nature of the change from the following:

Change Type	Position of New Grade
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Reassignment	If the new grade is on the same line as the previous grade.
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Lower Level	If the new grade is on a lower line than the previous grade.
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Promotion	If the new grade is on a higher line than the previous grade. The number of lines on the chart between the old grade and the new grade is considered to be the number of grades increased for the purpose of calculating the promotional increase and new salary.
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419 Supplemental (Noncareer) Workforce**419.1 Assignments****419.11 Casual Employee****419.111 Definition**

Casual employees are nonbargaining, noncareer employees with limited term appointments. These employees are employed as a supplemental workforce, as described in collective-bargaining agreements, to perform duties assigned to bargaining unit positions.

419.112 Salary Grade

Appointments of casuals are made to the position of Casual, Occupation Code 5201-1001, at grade EAS-7 in the Noncareer Temporary Rate (NTR) Schedule or as otherwise authorized by the vice president of Human Resources.

419.12 Noncareer Rural Carriers**419.121 Definition**

Noncareer rural carriers are employed as a supplemental workforce to perform duties assigned to the rural carrier bargaining unit.

419.122 Salary Grade

Noncareer rural carriers are appointed and paid as provided in the NRLCA Agreement.

419.13 Temporary Employee**419.131 Definition**

Temporary employees, including officers in charge (OICs) appointed from outside the Postal Service, are nonbargaining, noncareer employees who perform duties assigned to nonbargaining positions.

419.132 Salary Grades

Temporary employees hired as OICs are paid in accordance with the *Officers in Charge* schedule. Prior to hiring a temporary employee for other positions, the installation head or other appointing official should carefully assess operational needs of the office and determine the EAS grade for the types of work to be performed. Based on this determination, the temporary employee is hired at the minimum salary for that grade. The full-time salary is divided by 2080 to determine the appropriate hourly rate.

419.14 Postmaster Relief/Leave Replacements (PMRs)**419.141 Definition**

A PMR is a noncareer hourly rate employee who performs as a relief or leave replacement during the absence of a postmaster in an EAS-15 or below post office.

419.142 **Salary Grades**

PMRs are employed at the Noncareer Temporary Rate schedule grades indicated below, and are paid in accordance with the *Postmaster Reliefs/Leave Replacements* schedule.

Authorized PM Grade (EAS)	PMR Occupational Code	PMR Grade (NTR)
15	2305-6115	13
13	2305-6113	11
11	2305-6111	9
A-E	2305-6100	3