Research, Education, and Economics Agricultural Research Service

February 2, 2015

SUBJECT: Sending Salary Information to Cooperators for Agreements

TO: The File

FROM: Kim Parks, Branch Chief

Fiscal Services Branch

Financial Management and Agreements Division

The following fringe benefit information is used when providing cooperators salary information for an agreement.

When an incumbent is in the position, the actual benefits and salary amounts are used based on data from the salary payroll system.

When providing salary projections for vacant positions the following guidance is utilized:

All permanent full-time and part-time vacancies and those temporary vacancies which are eligible for FERS will be budgeted with an average benefit rate of 37 percent, based on the breakdown below.

Benefit	Percent
FICA/OASDI (Social Security)	6.20%
Health Insurance Tax (HIT)	1.45%
FERS Retirement	13.20%
Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) variable	4.45%
Health/Life Insurance (optional/variable)	11.70%
Total Benefits	37.00%

Temporary vacancies not eligible for FERS will be budgeted with a benefit rate of 8 percent (7.65% rounded) for OASDI and HIT.