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5 U.S. Code § 4502 - General provisions

U.S. Code Notes Authorities (CFR)

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, a cash award under this subchapter may not exceed \$10,000.

(b) When the head of an agency certifies to the Office of Personnel Management that the suggestion, invention, superior accomplishment, or other meritorious effort for which the award is proposed is highly exceptional and unusually outstanding, a cash award in excess of \$10,000 but not in excess of \$25,000 may be granted with the approval of the Office.

(c) A cash award under this subchapter is in addition to the regular pay of the recipient. Acceptance of a cash award under this subchapter constitutes an

agreement that the use by the Government of an idea, method, or device for which the award is made does not form the basis of a further claim of any nature against the Government by the employee, his heirs, or assigns.

(d) A cash award to, and expense for the honorary recognition of, an employee may be paid from the fund or appropriation available to the activity primarily benefiting or the various activities benefiting. The head of the agency concerned determines the amount to be paid by each activity for an agency award under section 4503 of this title. The President determines the amount to be paid by each activity for a Presidential award under section 4504 of this title.

(e) The Office of Personnel Management may by regulation permit agencies to grant employees time off from duty, without loss of pay or charge to leave, as an award in recognition of superior accomplishment or other personal effort that contributes to the quality, efficiency, or economy of Government operations.

(f) The Secretary of Defense may grant a cash award under subsection (b) of this section without regard to the requirements for certification and approval provided in that subsection.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 442; Pub. L. 95-454, title V, § 503(b), (c), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1183; Pub. L. 97-35, title XVII, § 1703(b)(2), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 756; Pub. L. 101-509, title V, § 529 [title II, § 201], Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1427, 1455; Pub. L. 103-89, § 3(b)(1)(D), Sept. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 981; Pub. L. 106-398, § 1 [[div. A], title XI, § 1132], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-318.)