

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240



MAY - 3 2004

PERSONNEL BULLETIN NO. 04-08

(537)

SUBJECT: Revised Departmental Policy on the Student Loan Repayment Benefit Plan

- 1. **Purpose.** This Bulletin transmits a change in the Department's Student Loan Repayment Benefit Plan policy.
- 2. Policy. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5379, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued revised regulations that increased the repayment loan amounts for the student loan repayment program. Bureaus and equivalent organizations may now authorize a maximum payment of \$10,000 in loan repayment benefits to an employee per calendar year. The total lifetime loan repayment benefit an employee can receive is \$60,000. The current policy, Personnel Bulletin Number 02-4, Departmental Policy on the Student Loan Repayment Benefit Plan, dated November 7, 2001, remains in effect with the exception of the new loan repayment amounts as indicated by this bulletin.
- 3. **Responsibilities.** Bureaus and equivalent organizations are responsible for incorporating this change in their plans and for notifying employees of the change.
- 4. Effective Date. This revised policy is effective immediately.
- 5. Point of Contact. Office of Personnel Policy, (202) 208-6761.

Carolyn Cohon

Director, Office of Personnel Policy