

Federal Medical Evidence of Record
FEDMER
 PROJECT




FEDMER

Federal Medical Evidence of Record

- OPM
- SSA
- Participating Agencies (Yours?)

FEDMER DEFICIENCIES WITH THE CURRENT PROCESS

- ✓ Duplicate Medical Evidence
- ✓ Confusion
- ✓ SGA Denials
- ✓ No Coordination
- ✓ FERS Overpayments

FEDMER OBJECTIVES

- ✓ - In depth Information

Reduce or eliminate:

- ✓ Duplicate medical records
- ✓ SGA Denials
- ✓ FERS Overpayments

✓ Reduce Processing Time



FEDMER- What's New?

Personnel Specialists will assist FERS Disability applicants by obtaining:

- ★ a completed Social Security Disability Report (SSA-3368) and
- ★ signed authorization forms (SSA-827's).
 - ★ Review like FERS forms
 - ★ Copy FERS and SSA material (FEDMER Package)

FEDMER- What's New?

OPM will:

- ★ Forward FEDMER package to Social Security field office
- ★ Process FERS disability application as they normally would
- ★ FERS and SSA disability determinations are still separate (no change in the way decisions are made)

FEDMER- What's New?

Social Security field office will:

- ★ Provide OPM with benefit estimate
- ★ Set up phone appointment for Social Security Disability
- ★ Use FEDMER package, including SSA forms, FERS forms and medical evidence
- ★ Notify OPM of SSA medical decision

FEDMER -- FERS Disability

- ★ Federal employees who become unable to perform the duties of their position due to physical or mental incapacitation or illness
- ★ Must apply to SSA for disability benefits. Any disability benefit paid by SSA is off-set from FERS disability benefit.

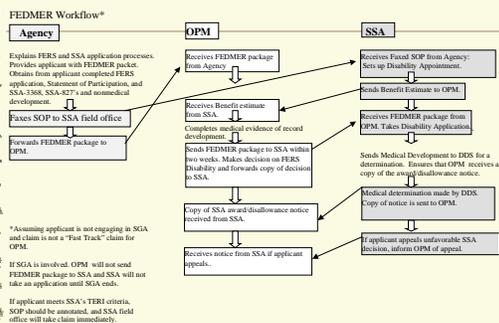
FEDMER -- SSA Disability

- ★ Inability to engage in substantial gainful activity (SGA)
- ★ Which can be expected to last for at least 12 months or to result in death

Who Can Participate in FEDMER?

- o Employee of Participating Agency
- o Resident of DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV
- o CANNOT be "CSRS Offset" Employee
- o MUST sign Statement of Participation (mentally competent)

FEDMER -- HOW DOES IT WORK?

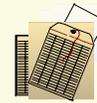


FEDMER "The FEDMER Package"

The FEDMER Package includes:



The OPM Packet
and
The SSA Packet



And the

Statement of Participation
(SOP)



FEDMER Participating Agencies

Personnel specialists for the participating agencies

- ✓ will have the authority to evaluate evidence
- ✓ and certify that they have copied a genuine and unaltered original.

COPY

CERTIFIED



FEDMER SGA

Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)

- The performance of significant and productive physical or mental work for pay or profit
- The SGA level is average countable earnings over \$700 per month (Blind= \$1050 in 1998)
- Sick pay not usually found to be SGA
- Gross earnings are reduced by impairment related work expenses before SGA is decided

\$700




FEDMER SSA

**“TERI”
TERMINAL ILLNESS**

Identified by applicant’s allegation or individual case characteristics.



Once a case is designated as a “TERI” case it is expedited through initial and any appeals processes

FEDMER

Adult Decision Making Process

- Is Claimant performing SGA? (YES → DENY, NO → YES)
- Does Claimant have a severe impairment? (NO → DENY, YES → YES)
- Does Claimant meet or equal a medical listing? (YES → ALLOW, NO → NO)
- Can Claimant perform PRW? (Adverse Profiles) (YES → DENY, NO → NO)
- Can Claimant do other work? (YES → DENY, NO → ALLOW)

Quick Review:

Who Can Participate in FEDMER?

- o Employee of Participating Agency
- o Resident of DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV
- o **CANNOT** be “CSRS Offset” Employee
- o **MUST** sign Statement of Participation

Quick Review: “STATEMENT OF PARTICIPATION”

Statement of Participation (SOP) functions as claimant’s:

- Agreement to participate in FEDMER
- Authorization to:
 - Release SSA benefit estimate to OPM
 - Send copy of award/disallowance notice to OPM
 - Notify OPM of any appeals
- Documentation of current SGA



