

Monthly FERS annuity payments for letter carriers who retire on April 1, 2026

The Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) covers federal and postal employees hired on or after Jan. 1, 1984. FERS employees earn retirement benefits from three sources: the FERS Basic Annuity, Social Security and the Thrift Savings Plan.

An additional Special Annuity Supplement is paid to FERS annuitants who retire at Minimum Retirement Age (MRA) plus 30 years or more, or at age 60 plus 20 years or more. It is approximately calculated by taking an individual's Social Security age 62 benefit estimate, multiplied by the number of years of FERS

coverage, divided by 40. It is payable to age 62 and then ends. Social Security benefits are payable beginning at age 62.

The table below provides monthly basic annuity, survivor deduction and net annuity amount estimates for letter carriers who plan to take optional retirement on April 1, 2026. Estimates are computed by using the given high-3 averages, which are based on the basic pay earned by full-time Step P carriers and vary by length of postal/military/federal service. Reduced annuity amounts reflect the difference between the given basic annuity and survivor reduction figures.

Years of Service ²	City Carrier / High-3 Average ¹ : 78,854			Carrier Technician / High-3 Average ¹ : 80,509		
	Basic Annuity	Max. Survivor Deduction ³	Max. Survivor Reduced Annuity ⁴	Basic Annuity	Max. Survivor Deduction ³	Max. Survivor Reduced Annuity ⁴
20	\$1,314	\$131	\$1,183	\$1,342	\$134	\$1,208
21	1,380	138	1,242	1,409	141	1,268
22	1,446	145	1,301	1,476	148	1,328
23	1,511	151	1,360	1,543	154	1,389
24	1,577	158	1,419	1,610	161	1,449
25	1,643	164	1,479	1,677	168	1,510
26	1,708	171	1,538	1,744	174	1,570
27	1,774	177	1,597	1,811	181	1,630
28	1,840	184	1,656	1,879	188	1,691
29	1,906	191	1,715	1,946	195	1,751
30	1,971	197	1,774	2,013	201	1,811
31	2,037	204	1,833	2,080	208	1,872
32	2,103	210	1,892	2,147	215	1,932
33	2,168	217	1,952	2,214	221	1,993
34	2,234	223	2,011	2,281	228	2,053
35	2,300	230	2,070	2,348	235	2,113
36	2,366	237	2,129	2,415	242	2,174
37	2,431	243	2,188	2,482	248	2,234
38	2,497	250	2,247	2,549	255	2,295
39	2,563	256	2,306	2,617	262	2,355
40	2,628	263	2,366	2,684	268	2,415
Each additional year ⁵	65.71	6.57	59.14	67.09	6.71	60.38

1. High-3 averages for both grades (formerly levels) are for carriers who have worked full time on a continuous basis between April 1, 2023, and March 31, 2026, at Step O/P.

2. Years of service includes any unused sick leave.

3. The reduction for survivor's annuity is the amount necessary to provide maximum benefits (50 percent of basic annuity) to a surviving spouse.

4. If covered by the NALC Health Benefit Plan, a further deduction of either \$635.51 per month if for self plus one (PSHB code 77C), \$579.41 if for self and family (PSHB code 77B), or \$262.47 if for self only (PSHB code 77A) will be made. In addition, premiums for any coverage under the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program will reduce the net annuity further.

5. Under FERS rules, there is no maximum allowable yearly annuity. However, given the FERS formula of 1 percent per year, it is highly unlikely that any FERS employee will ever exceed the 80 percent maximum limit under CSRS.

6. FERS employees who retire at age 62 or later with at least 20 years of service receive an additional 10 percent—their annuities are calculated at 1.1 percent times years of service times high-3 average salary.