

Monthly FERS annuity payments for letter carriers who retire on March 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 March 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 : 78,638			Carrier Technician / High-3 Average ¹ : 80,289		
	Basic Annuity	Max. Survivor Deduction ³	Max. Survivor Reduced Annuity ⁴	Basic Annuity	Max. Survivor Deduction ³	Max. Survivor Reduced Annuity ⁴
20	\$1,311	\$131	\$1,180	\$1,338	\$134	\$1,204
21	1,376	138	1,239	1,405	141	1,265
22	1,442	144	1,298	1,472	147	1,325
23	1,507	151	1,357	1,539	154	1,385
24	1,573	157	1,415	1,606	161	1,445
25	1,638	164	1,474	1,673	167	1,505
26	1,704	170	1,533	1,740	174	1,566
27	1,769	177	1,592	1,807	181	1,626
28	1,835	183	1,651	1,873	187	1,686
29	1,900	190	1,710	1,940	194	1,746
30	1,966	197	1,769	2,007	201	1,807
31	2,031	203	1,828	2,074	207	1,867
32	2,097	210	1,887	2,141	214	1,927
33	2,163	216	1,946	2,208	221	1,987
34	2,228	223	2,005	2,275	227	2,047
35	2,294	229	2,064	2,342	234	2,108
36	2,359	236	2,123	2,409	241	2,168
37	2,425	242	2,182	2,476	248	2,228
38	2,490	249	2,241	2,542	254	2,288
39	2,556	256	2,300	2,609	261	2,348
40	2,621	262	2,359	2,676	268	2,409
Each additional year ⁵	65.53	6.55	58.98	66.91	6.69	60.22

1. High-3 averages for both grades (formerly levels) are for carriers who have worked full time on a continuous basis between March 1, 2023, and Feb. 28, 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.