



View the List of NWS Positions Exempt from the Hiring Freeze Distributed to NWS Managers

(April 4, 2017) National Weather Service Managers received Hiring Exemption Guidelines on March 30, the day after the Department of Commerce's approval of a NWS/NESDIS group exemption request that allows NWS to fill positions essential to public safety. Managers are told they may distribute the guidelines **only verbally**. They include the following positions the NWS is approved to recruit and hire.

Telecommunications Series	GS-0391-7/9/11/12/13/14/15
General Engineers	GS-0801-12/13/14/15
Technical Engineers	GS-0802-9/10/11/12/13/14/15
Electronics Engineers	GS-0855-9/11/12/13/14/15
Electronics Technical Engineers	GS-0856-9/11/12/13/14/15
Physical Scientists	GS-1301-9/11/12/13/14/15
Hydrologists	GS-1315-9/11/12/13/14/15
Meteorologists	GS-1340-5/7/9/11/12/13/14/15
Meteorological Technicians	GS-1341-5/6/7/9/11/12
Information Technology Specialists	GS-2210-7/9/10/11/12/13/14/15

-NWSEO-

**No one cares more for National Weather Service employees than
National Weather Service employees.
No one works harder for National Weather Service employees than
National Weather Service employees.
We are NWSEO.**

Request for Posting:	John E. Potts Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer National Weather Service
Subject Line:	Hiring Freeze Exemption Guidelines
Distribution:	NWS Managers (Information may be shared with staff verbally)



Colleagues,

As announced yesterday, NWS's group exemption under the hiring freeze has been approved by DOC, and we are clear to recruit and hire for the following series and associated grades:

Telecommunications Series	GS-0391-7/9/11/12/13/14/15
General Engineers	GS-0801-12/13/14/15
Technical Engineers	GS-0802-9/10/11/12/13/14/15
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Meteorologists	GS-1340-5/7/9/11/12/13/14/15
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Please follow these guidelines going forward:

- NWS' HR Business Partner, Nicole Taylor, is working with Accenture and YRCI to finalize job offers for all of the recently selected candidates in the job series above as soon as possible.
- For the series and grades listed above, *your recruitment process does not change*. FMCs should continue to submit your PFARs to NWS.PFARS@noaa.gov for approval by NWS CFO and DAA. Once approved and you receive your signed PFAR, submit your recruiting case to NOAA Workforce Management Office (WFMO) via RADS.
- For hiring actions for job series NOT listed above where you believe you have justification for public safety exemption under the hiring freeze executive order, complete and submit the attached DOC Hiring Freeze Exemption form to NWS.PFARS@noaa.gov. NOTE: do not sign the form on page six – NOAA DUS signs the form. Should DOC approve, your exemption then goes to OPM, who is final approver for all exemptions requests outside of the group exemption referenced above. Any PFARs submitted for exemption-required series will be held while your exemption is routing. Should we be notified your specific exemption is approved, your PFAR will be approved and returned to you for immediate recruitment action.
- Continue to follow previously-distributed NOAA guidance (also attached) on reallocation actions (temporary promotions, reassignments, career ladder promotions, etc.): submit your Position Reallocation Approval Request (PRAR) to NWS.PFARS@noaa.gov for approval. These forms will be returned to you as soon as approved.

If you have any questions, contact Bob DuFrane at Robert.Dufrane@noaa.gov or by phone at 301-427-9276.

