

Fiscal Year 2019 Report on Conference Spending to Support Agency Operations in Accordance with Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memoranda

Pursuant to OMB Memorandum M-17-08, *Amending OMB Memorandum M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations*, agencies must provide a description of all agency-sponsored conferences from the previous fiscal year (FY) where the net expenses for the agency associated with the conference were in excess of \$100,000.

In keeping with the Government's efforts to safeguard Federal funds, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has focused on exercising discretion and judgment in incurring expenses related to conference sponsorship, conference hosting, and attendance of Federal employees at conferences sponsored or hosted by non-Federal entities. OPM strives to ensure that conference expenses are appropriate, necessary, and managed in a manner that minimizes expense to taxpayers.

For FY 2019, OPM is reporting one conference held on August 12-16, 2019, in Jacksonville, Florida. The Benefits Officers Development and Outreach event was hosted by Retirement Services (RS), Benefits Officers Development and Outreach (BODO) office. The purpose of this event was to educate human resources professionals on retirement benefits (CSRS/FERS, FEHB, and FEGLI) and provide guidance on the Retirement Application Audit. Participation in OPM's Virtual Federal Benefits Training Event meets the requirement of 5 U.S.C. § 8350(c)(3), which states that "once each year, each retirement counselor of an agency shall successfully complete a training session conducted under the training program" established by the OPM. The total cost of the conference is estimated at \$246,217.20, including travel expenses for 34 travelers.