

Technician Topics

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Due to a critical paper shortage your Technician Topics was not published during the month of June.

CURRENT NEWS

NGAUSIT TECHNICIAN INSURER TO CHANGE 1 AUGUST 1977. On 1 August 1977, the insurer for the NGAUS Insurance Trust 'Technician Protection Plan' will be Northwestern National Life Insurance Company, replacing Life Insurance Company of North America (LINA). For the present, benefits and administrative procedures will not change. Coverages will not be interrupted, and claims and waiver of premium benefits incurred prior to 1 August will be paid by LINA until termination of the claim.

TOLL FREE NUMBER FOR ALLIANCE HEALTH INSURANCE. Should you have any question concerning a claim under the Alliance Health Insurance, call the Toll Free Number 800-228-9190.

REPORTING OF INJURY UNDER WORKMENS COMPENSATION. No matter how minor an injury is, it should be reported to the immediate supervisor and the supervisor should complete a CA-1, notate that it should be held in suspense if no time is lost and no medical service needed at that time and then the CA-1 forwarded to the TPO for holding in suspense files. If injuries are not reported and notated CA-1 on file and complications arise later on, it could result in the individual losing out on continuation of pay (COP) and medical services paid by OWCP. PROTECT YOURSELF! If you sustain a minor injury for which no time is lost and no medical services required at the time of injury, report it to your supervisor and have him complete the suspense copy of CA-1.

WEARING OF UNIFORM. Management and Locals R5-100 and R5-141 NAGE met in April to negotiate wearing of military uniform and grooming standards. On 2 June and 18 July, Management and Union officials met with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service in an attempt to come to an agreement. No agreement was reached and the matter will go to the Federal Impasse Panel for resolution.

SUGGESTION PROGRAM. Technicians are reminded that energy conservation is a primary concern at all levels. Technicians are encouraged to submit suggestions concerning energy conservation on NGB Form 6 to the TPO in accordance with TPP 903. Suggestions adopted could result in a cash award.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL DECISION - LINE OF DUTY INJURY WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY. NG technicians who are injured in line of duty while performing training are entitled to receive the pay and allowances of a regular member of the Army/AF during the period of their disability for military duty even though they resume their government civilian occupation since they are not considered to be on active military service during period of receipt of pay and allowances.

TERMINATION OF LIFE INSURANCE (FEGLI). A technician's life insurance terminates on the date immediately before he/she enters on active duty or active duty training unless the period of duty is covered by paid military leave. When a technician's life insurance terminates for this reason, the individual continues to have life insurance protection (not accidental death and dismemberment) for 31 days thereafter. FEGLI can only be reinstated when the technician returns to a pay and duty status.

ANNUAL POSITION REVIEWS. Annual position review schedules listed below were to have begun on 1 July and submitted to the TPO prior to 15 August:

Army: State Headquarters, Training Operations and Technician Personnel.
Air: Comptroller, Technician Personnel, Military Personnel, Administration Command, Medical and Security.

The following position reviews are to begin on 1 August and submitted to the TPO prior to 15 September:

Army: Organizational and Support Maintenance
Air: Comm Elect, Plans and Operations, Civil Engineers.

TECHNICIAN PERFORMANCE RATINGS/APPRaisal BY MILITARY SUPERVISOR (Reduction In Force). Performance ratings for technicians in grades 5 thru 7 were due during the month of May. To date many of these ratings have not been received. Request supervisors to check their personnel and make sure that both a performance rating and Military Supervisor's rating (Excepted Technicians) are submitted to the TPO NLT 30 Jul.

Technician and Military Supervisor ratings on technicians in grades 8 thru 10 are due during the month of August.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN QUALITY SALARY INCREASES AND OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE RATINGS.

In order to reconfirm the NGB policy that an outstanding performance rating is required to make a favorable determination on a quality salary increase recommendation, the following is quoted in part from TPP 903, Chapter 9, paragraph 9-4: "Quality salary increases will be used to recognize only the highest quality performance of assigned responsibilities of a continuing nature. Such increases must be used judiciously and granted only when performance is continued at such a high level that the technician clearly warrants greater remuneration than can be obtained through regular within grade increases."

INCENTIVE AWARDS SUMMARY 1 JULY 76 TO 30 JUNE 1977.

ARNG: 11 Quality Salary Increases; 28 Sustained Superior Performance Cash Awards.
(10.3% of work force).

ANG: 13 Quality Salary Increases; 16 Sustained Superior Performance Cash Awards.
(15.4% of work force).

HIRING FREEZE FOR ARMY TECHNICIANS.

Due to a hiring freeze imposed by the National Guard Bureau, no positions will be filled until further notice. Those positions already advertised will be filled as soon as the hiring freeze is lifted.