

Pub. L. 95-437 added par. (3).  
Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-454, §906(a)(3), substituted “Office” for “Commission”.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-654 effective 120 days after Nov. 14, 1988, see section 301(d) of Pub. L. 100-654, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8906a of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-615 effective May 7, 1985, with enumerated exceptions, and applicable to any individual who is married to an employee or annuitant on or after that date, see section 4(a)(2) of Pub. L. 98-615, as amended, set out as a note under section 8341 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-454 effective 90 days after Oct. 13, 1978, see section 907 of Pub. L. 95-454, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

**§ 8914. Effect of other statutes**

Any provision of law outside of this chapter which provides coverage or any other benefit under this chapter to any individuals who (based on their being employed by an entity other than the Government) would not otherwise be eligible for any such coverage or benefit shall not apply with respect to any individual appointed, transferred, or otherwise commencing that type of employment on or after October 1, 1988.

(Added Pub. L. 100-238, title I, §108(a)(3)(A), Jan. 8, 1988, 101 Stat. 1747.)

**CHAPTER 89A—ENHANCED DENTAL BENEFITS**

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**§ 8951. Definitions**

In this chapter:

(1) The term “employee” means an employee defined under section 8901(1) and an employee of the District of Columbia courts.

(2) The terms “annuitant”, “member of family”, and “dependent” have the meanings as such terms are defined under paragraphs (3), (5), and (9), respectively, of section 8901.

(3) The term “eligible individual” refers to an individual described in paragraph (1) or (2), without regard to whether the individual is enrolled in a health benefits plan under chapter 89.

(4) The term “Office” means the Office of Personnel Management.

(5) The term “qualified company” means a company (or consortium of companies or an employee organization defined under section 8901(8)) that offers indemnity, preferred pro-

vider organization, health maintenance organization, or discount dental programs and if required is licensed to issue applicable coverage in any number of States, taking any subsidiaries of such a company into account (and, in the case of a consortium, considering the member companies and any subsidiaries thereof, collectively).

(6) The term “employee organization” means an association or other organization of employees which is national in scope, or in which membership is open to all employees of a Government agency who are eligible to enroll in a health benefits plan under chapter 89.

(7) The term “State” includes the District of Columbia.

(Added Pub. L. 108-496, §2, Dec. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4001; amended Pub. L. 109-356, title I, §117(a)(1), Oct. 16, 2006, 120 Stat. 2027.)

**AMENDMENTS**

2006—Par. (1). Pub. L. 109-356, which directed insertion of “and an employee of the District of Columbia courts” at end of par. (1), was executed by making the insertion before the period to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Pub. L. 108-496, §7, Dec. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4011, provided that: “The amendments made by this Act [enacting this chapter and chapter 89B of this title, amending section 1005 of Title 39, Postal Service, and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 101 of this title] shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2004] and shall apply to contracts that take effect with respect to the calendar year 2006.”

**§ 8952. Availability of dental benefits**

(a) The Office shall establish and administer a program through which an eligible individual may obtain dental coverage to supplement coverage available through chapter 89.

(b) The Office shall determine, in the exercise of its reasonable discretion, the financial requirements for qualified companies to participate in the program.

(c) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the availability of dental benefits provided by health benefits plans under chapter 89.

(Added Pub. L. 108-496, §2, Dec. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4002.)

**§ 8953. Contracting authority**

(a)(1) The Office shall contract with a reasonable number of qualified companies for a policy or policies of benefits described under section 8954 without regard to section 6101(b) to (d) of title 41 or any other statute requiring competitive bidding. An employee organization may contract with a qualified company for the purpose of participating with that qualified company in any contract between the Office and that qualified company.

(2) The Office shall ensure that each resulting contract is awarded on the basis of contractor qualifications, price, and reasonable competition.

(b) Each contract under this section shall contain—

(1) the requirements under section 8902(d), (f), and (i) made applicable to contracts under