

the calendar month preceding the date of such issue, borne by all marketable interest-bearing obligations of the United States then forming a part of the public debt; except that, if such average rate is not a multiple of  $\frac{1}{8}$  of 1 percent, the rate of interest of such special obligations shall be the multiple of  $\frac{1}{8}$  of 1 percent next lower than such average rate. Such special obligations shall be issued only if the Secretary determines that the purchase of other obligations of the United States, or of obligations guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States or original issue at the market price, is not in the public interest.

**(c) Sale of obligations**

Any obligations acquired by the fund (except special obligations issued exclusively to the fund in accordance with subsection (b)(3) of this section) may be sold by the Secretary at the market price, and such special obligations may be redeemed at par plus accrued interest.

**(d) Interest**

The interest on, and the proceeds from, the sale or redemption of any obligations held in the fund shall be credited to and form a part of the fund.

**(e) Availability of fund**

**(1) Stipends**

The fund shall be available to the Foundation for payment of stipends awarded under section 5704 of this title.

**(2) Expenses**

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to pay to the Foundation from the interest and earnings of the funds such sums as the Board determines are necessary and appropriate to enable the Foundation to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

**(f) Disbursements**

Disbursements from the fund shall be made on vouchers approved by the Foundation and signed by the Chairman.

(Pub. L. 102-281, title IV, §426, May 13, 1992, 106 Stat. 143; Pub. L. 111-8, div. D, title VI, §623(1), Mar. 11, 2009, 123 Stat. 678.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Coin Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(5), is subtitle A (§§401-411) of title IV of Pub. L. 102-281, May 13, 1992, 106 Stat. 139, which is classified as a note under section 5112 of Title 31, Money and Finance.

AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (a)(4), (5). Pub. L. 111-8 added par. (4) and redesignated former par. (4) as (5).

**§ 5706. Audits**

The activities of the Foundation under this chapter may be audited by the Comptroller General of the United States. The Comptroller General shall have access to all books, accounts, records, reports, and files and all other papers, things, or property belonging to or in use by the Foundation, pertaining to such activities and necessary to facilitate the audit.

(Pub. L. 102-281, title IV, §427, May 13, 1992, 106 Stat. 144.)

**§ 5707. Executive Secretary of Foundation**

**(a) Duties**

There shall be an Executive Secretary of the Foundation who shall be appointed by the Board. The Executive Secretary shall be the chief executive officer of the Foundation and shall carry out the functions of the Foundation subject to the supervision and direction of the Board.

**(b) Compensation**

The Executive Secretary of the Foundation shall be compensated at an annual rate of basic pay not in excess of the amount payable for Executive Level V.

(Pub. L. 102-281, title IV, §428, May 13, 1992, 106 Stat. 144.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Level V, referred to in subsec. (b), probably means level V of the Executive Schedule, which is set out in section 5316 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

**§ 5708. Administrative provisions**

(a) The Foundation may—

(1) appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter, except that in no case shall employees (other than the Executive Secretary) be compensated at a rate in excess of the rate of basic pay payable for GS-15 of the General Schedule;

(2) procure temporary and intermittent services of such experts and consultants as are necessary to the extent authorized by section 3109 of title 5, but at rates not in excess of the rate of basic pay payable for Executive Level V;

(3) prescribe such regulations as the Foundation may determine to be necessary governing the manner in which its functions shall be carried out;

(4) receive money and other property donated, bequeathed, or devised, without condition or restriction other than it be used for the purposes of the Foundation; and to use, sell, or otherwise dispose of such property for the purpose of carrying out its functions;

(5) accept and utilize the services of voluntary and uncompensated personnel and reimburse them for travel expenses, including per diem, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5;

(6) enter into contracts, grants, or other arrangements, or modifications thereof, to carry out the provisions of this chapter,<sup>1</sup> and such contracts or modifications thereof may, with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members of the Board, be entered into without performance or other bonds, and without regard to section 6101 of title 41;

(7) make advances, progress, and other payments which the Board deems necessary under this chapter without regard to the provisions of section 3324(a) and (b) of title 31;

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.