

**Subject: [CHCOC-EXEC] FY2020 Presidential Rank Awards**

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Dear CHCO Council Member:

As announced on March 20, 2020, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, OPM suspended sine die nominations for the FY2020 Presidential Rank Award (PRA). In view of the Federal Government's ongoing mission critical efforts to reopen the U.S. economy and government offices, and recognizing the financial strain facing many Americans during this time, OPM will recommend to the White House that the PRA awards and bonus payments not be granted to federal employees in FY2020. The last year that the PRA awards were not awarded was FY2013.

Consistent with its administration of the PRA, OPM is requesting that agencies provide a list of candidates for FY2020 PRAs in order to maintain their consideration in the next PRA cycle. Agencies are requested to provide such lists to OPM no later than Friday July 31, 2020. Persons eligible for award in FY2020 will maintain their eligibility for the next award cycle. Likewise, the agencies may amend and/or supplement the FY 2020 agency candidate list in advance of the next award cycle as OPM will instruct. At such time, agencies will be asked to submit the traditional documentation for the candidate packages and commission background investigations. To be clear, OPM is asking agencies to avoid at present both the labor of the application process and the expenditure of costs for background investigations for FY2020 in keeping with OMB guidance.

The continued exemplary efforts of the Federal workforce are not going unnoticed. Federal employees are today serving fellow citizens in need, many of whom have suffered financially or faced unemployment. OPM joins the Administration in continuing to salute the extraordinary efforts being made during these unprecedented times.