

## Pay Delayed For 40000 Federal Workers

Monday, September 16, 2013 | Josh Hicks, The Washington Post

More than 40,000 federal employees expecting direct-deposit paychecks Friday did not receive their funds because of an error at one of the government's payroll processing centers, officials said.



The Interior Department's Interior Business Center, which was responsible for the mistake, said in a statement Friday that workers would receive their money Tuesday. The official pay date for the affected employees is the first Tuesday after a pay period ends, meaning their next checks are technically due Sept. 17. But employees whose checks are deposited directly into bank accounts normally

receive their funds early, on the Friday before the official payday. The mistake raised concerns about possible overdrafts for employees who were counting on the funds being available Friday.

The processing center said the federal government cannot compensate employees for overdraft fees, based on past comptroller general decisions. But the agency promised to make requests on behalf of employees that their banks waive any penalties resulting from the mistake. The center said it was contacting more than 1,800 banks to alert them of its error and request that the institutions work with customers to address the situation. Some banks have already agreed to recognize the electronic payments as being made on Friday rather than Tuesday, the agency said. The center "knows that this is a serious matter for those affected and sincerely regrets any inconveniences the error may have caused," the agency said. The processing center entered the wrong date for the electronic transfer of funds, the agency said. Normal processing will resume for the next pay period. The center is developing a plan to catch similar mistakes and prevent the issue from recurring, according to the statement.

The Interior Business Center is one of the federal government's payroll processors. It handles payments for 240,000 employees at 42 agencies, including NASA, the Federal Election Commission, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. and the National Archives and Records Administration. Only 23 of the agencies were affected by the payroll mistake.

The government previously used 26 payroll systems, but the George W. Bush administration consolidated the programs as part of its 2002 management agenda. The initiative took seven years to complete, but processing now takes place through four shared-service providers managed by the Pentagon, General Services Administration, Agriculture Department and the Department of the Interior.

The Office of Personnel Management has estimated that the new system will save \$1 billion over 10 years, largely because it standardizes processes and removes complex agency-specific requirements that had become barriers to modernization.

**Next Generation Sunshine State Standards** adapted from [floridastandards.org](http://floridastandards.org). Standards specifically addressed in this edition are strategically aligned with state standards and annotated adjacent to the respective inquiry.

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1. In appropriate paragraph form, compare and contrast the pros and cons synonymous with one managing personal finances via recognizing patterns or inductive reasoning as opposed to factual deductive reasoning. Provided the inadvertent delay in funding attributed solely a processing error on behalf of the Interior Department's Interior Business Center, should the federal government assume any financial responsibility of potentially 40000 overdrawn personal accounts? Thoroughly explain your reasoning and provide specific artifacts and evidence not limited solely to passage above to support your response. Create and illustrate a Venn Diagram to effectively explore relationships and patterns and to make arguments about relationships between sets. **(LA.910.3.2.2; LA.910.1.6.2; MA.912.D.7.2; MA.912.A.10.1)**
2. Explain the primary differences and similarities as they pertain to theoretical and experimental probability and design a unique example from the passage above of each. Interchangeably as a fraction, decimal, and percent determine the probability of a federally funded agency and an individual employee being affected by a payroll malfunction. What is the absolute value difference of the complements of the two aforementioned events?  
**(MA.912.A.10.1; MA.912.A.5.4; MA.912.A.2.13; MA.912.A.5.1)**
3. To aid in security of an unpopular major federal institution's chief financial officer who conveniently ensured his pay was unaffected, has wisely acquired a superior defensive resource - DAUGHTRY2K14 - an industrial strength geometry disseminating tactical urban assault robot to methodically navigate the external perimeter of his office. Each industrial strength reinforced steel leg is constructed with pair of parallel bars coupled with a necessary iron foot. As the robot proceeds forward, the leg bars remain parallel whereas the foot glides across the plane. Illustrate the diagram. As the legs progress, are there pairs of angles that remain congruent? If so, which angles? Explain how possessing parallel leg bars enables the robot's foot to remain flat on the surface as it moves. Use the applicable theorems and/or postulates to support your reasoning. Determine whether your solution is reasonable in the context of the original situation.  
**(MA.912.G.1.3; MA.912.G.8.3; MA.912.G.8.3)**
4. Identify and thoroughly support your reasoning regarding which of the following that best describes the author's attitude toward the subject matter discussed: flippant disregard, mild frustration, passive resignation or an informed citizen. Explain the intended purpose of this passage and identify any indicators, which suggest the author may possess a bias for or against federal employees who assumed their paychecks would arrive early. What is the central idea and what conclusion might one obtain from this passage? Provide an anyone receiving direct deposit may derive from this passage. The point of view of this passage is best described as first person, second person, third person, or a combination of first and third person. In what regard might the information in this article be used for an independent student research project regarding presumptuous banking habits in the American household? Thoroughly explain your reasoning as appropriate. **(RI.9-10.1 - 10.6)**
5. Using contextual clues only, determine the most complete and accurate definitions of following italicized terms: *standardizes*, *modernization*, *consolidated*, *comptroller*, *initiative*, and *compensate* as obtained from the passage above. Additionally, use each word in a complete sentence to demonstrate further comprehension. **(LA.910.1.6.3; LA.910.1.6.1)**
6. **SARASOTA MILITARY ACADEMY WORD-OF-THE-WEEK** Create a concluding paragraph aligned with the passage above using the following italicized word: *Irascible* v. Easily angered; irritable **(LA.910.1.6.1; LA.910.1.6.5)**

## *Rroftë Times Daughtry*

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