

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF A
MENDENHALL POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP APPOINTMENT**

The following conditions of employment with the Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, are applicable to all persons hired under the postdoctoral fellows under the Mendenhall Research Fellowship Program on a not-to-exceed 2 year appointment. These are excepted service appointments made on a time limited basis. Depending on availability of funds and recommendation by the Mendenhall Program Manager, though rare, extensions may be granted for the research project up to a total of 4 years. These employees:

1. Do not acquire permanent status in the Federal Government. Unless other factors provide eligibility, they are not eligible to apply for merit promotion vacancy announcements. This appointment provides no special avenue to career conditional appointment with the U.S. Geological Survey.
2. Are subject to completion of a 2-year trial period except preference eligibles who are subject to completion of a 1-year trial period.
3. Appointment will be terminated on the expiration date; however, should it become necessary to separate an individual prior to the expiration date, appropriate procedures will be used and information provided of any corresponding rights.
4. Are not permitted to be promoted, detailed, changed to a lower grade, reassigned to a different line of work or to another geographic location, reappointed to other jobs, converted to a permanent appointment, or transferred to another Federal agency without selection through competitive procedures.
5. Are eligible for life insurance, health insurance, and retirement benefits. Are subject to retirement deductions.
6. Are eligible for within-grade increases.
7. Are eligible to work on a part-time, intermittent, or full-time basis. All time, whether part-time, intermittent, or seasonal, with periods of non-pay status, counts towards meeting the trial period of 1 year of current continuous service for preference eligibles or 2 years of current continuous service for non-preference eligibles
8. Are eligible to earn annual and sick leave and be paid for holidays if on a full-time or part-time work schedule. If on an intermittent work schedule, are not eligible to earn annual leave or sick leave, or be paid for holidays.

I have read and understand the conditions of my employment as described above.

Signature Date

Print Full Name