MEMORANDUM FOR HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTORS

FROM: KAREN R. JACOBS
ACTING DEPUTY ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
CENTER FOR TALENT AND CAPACITY POLICY

Subject: OPM Issuance of Revised Qualification Standard for Computer Science Series, 1550

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing a revised Qualification Standard for the Computer Science Series, 1550 to be used in conjunction with the Group Coverage Qualification Standard for Professional and Scientific Positions.

The revised standard recognizes a bachelor's degree in computer science as meeting minimum education requirements. A copy of the standard is attached for your immediate use and supersedes all previous versions for the 1550 occupational series. Additionally, it can be located on the OPM website at http://www.opm.gov/qualifications.

If you have questions please contact Dan Fusco, Manager for Recruiting, Examining and Assessment Group, by telephone (202) 606-2226 or by email daniel.fusco@opm.gov.

Attachment
UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

INDIVIDUAL OCCUPATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR
COMPUTER SCIENCE SERIES, 1550

Use these individual occupational requirements in conjunction with the "Group Coverage Qualification Standard for Professional and Scientific Positions".

Series Definition:
This series includes professional positions which primarily involve the application of, or research into, computer science methods and techniques to store, manipulate, transform or present information by means of computer systems. The primary requirements of the work are (a) professional competence in applying the theoretical foundations of computer science, including computer system architecture and system software organization, the representation and transformation of information structures, and the theoretical models for such representations and transformations; (b) specialized knowledge of the design characteristics, limitations, and potential applications of systems having the ability to transform information, and of broad areas of applications of computing which have common structures, processes, and techniques; and (c) knowledge of relevant mathematical and statistical sciences.

Basic Requirements:
Bachelor's degree in computer science or bachelor's degree with 30 semester hours in a combination of mathematics, statistics, and computer science. At least 15 of the 30 semester hours must have included any combination of statistics and mathematics that included differential and integral calculus. All academic degrees and course work must be from accredited or pre-accredited institutions.

Evaluation of Education:
Applicants should have sufficient knowledge to understand the fundamental concepts and techniques of computer science. Courses designed to provide an introduction to computer science techniques and methodologies, to problems of system design, and to other specialized fields are acceptable. Courses or experience in teaching elementary, business, or shop mathematics are not acceptable.