



# LOCAL 777

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS, AFL-CIO  
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May 14, 2026

via [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)

Re: Direct Final Rule, Uniform Allowances  
Docket ID: OPM-2026-0068  
RIN number 3206-AO73

I am writing on behalf of Local 777 of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), AFL-CIO. We represent federal workers in recognized bargaining units in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

We have members and bargaining unit employees who work in uniformed roles such as park rangers, lock and dam operators, maintenance staff, and emergency operations responders.

Our members support this proposed rule. We appreciate the adjustment in uniform allowances; our members have noted that the agency has struggled to provide American-made uniform parts within the previous allowance amounts. We believe this proposed change should be adopted both in regulation, and in agency implementing policy.

We also appreciate the explicit language that clarifies that personal protective equipment (PPE) is not part of a uniform allowance – but instead should be purchased separately. We agree that this is the correct reading of applicable law.

In summary, we appreciate and support the work of the OPM to prepare and promulgate this regulation.

Sincerely,

Colin C. Smalley  
President