MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: UTD for MAP 45-15(E) -- OCONUS COLA – PDS Vicinity vs. PDS

1. SYNOPSIS: Clarifies the OCONUS COLA is reduced after 30 days if the member or dependents depart the PDS vicinity, as opposed to the PDS.

2. These changes are scheduled to appear in the JTR, dated 1 August 2015.

3. This determination is effective when printed in the JTR.

//approved//

TONIA BOCK
Chief, Strategic Planning and Policy Division

Attachment:
Rev 1

Uniformed E-Mail Distribution:
MAP Members P&R Branch PMO-DTS GSA-3FT GSA-OGP(MTT) DTMO PPC

Civilian E-Mail Distribution:
CAP Members P&R Branch PMO-DTS GSA-3FT GSA-OGP(MTT) DTMO CBCA Judges
**JTR REVISIONS:**

**9000-D:**

*D. Vicinity. In Ch 9, the country, state (when in Alaska or Hawai‘i), or U.S. territory or possession within which the member’s PDS is located. When a member resides with the dependent and commutes to the PDS, the dependent is deemed to be residing at/in the PDS vicinity even if at a place in an adjacent country or state. If the member's new PDS is in the same country, state (when in Alaska or Hawai‘i), or U.S. territory or possession as the designated place, if the member is required to maintain two separate households (i.e., the member cannot commute daily from the dependent location to the PDS) a second station allowance may be authorized/approved through the Secretarial Process. In this case, the dependent is not at/in the "vicinity" of the member's PDS even though located in the same country, state or U.S. territory or possession.

**9115-C:**

*C. Leave Periods. If a member without dependents takes leave away from the OCONUS PDS vicinity, COLA continues for the first 30 days and stops on day 31. If COLA is stopped, it starts again the day the member returns to the PDS from leave.

**9130-A: 9130 COLA FOR A MEMBER WITH DEPENDENT**

*A. General. A member with dependent(s) is authorized OCONUS COLA based on the number of command-sponsored dependents at the PDS vicinity (See par. 9210 for authority for member-married-to-member couples) regardless of GOV’T dining facility/mess availability (including aboard ship), except:

*1. When a member is on leave away from the OCONUS PDS vicinity for more than 30 days and is accompanied by all command sponsored dependents;

*2. When any command sponsored dependent departs the OCONUS PDS vicinity for a period of more than 30 consecutive calendar days, the COLA payment beginning on the 31st day is reduced to the rate specified in App J for the number of command sponsored dependents remaining at the PDS;

*3. When a command sponsored dependent departs the PDS vicinity to attend school, the payment is reduced the day following the departure day to the rate specified in App J for the number of command sponsored dependents remaining at the PDS;

*4. When one or more (but not all) command sponsored dependents depart the PDS vicinity for early/advance-return to a location other than the OCONUS PDS, the OCONUS COLA payment is reduced the day following the command sponsored dependents’ departure to the rate specified in App J for the number of command sponsored dependents remaining. If all the command sponsored dependents early/advance-return to a location other than the OCONUS PDS, the member becomes a member without dependents (See par. 9000-B2) and the OCONUS COLA at the with-dependent rate terminates the day before the command sponsored dependents depart the member’s PDS. See par. 9225 for early/advance return of foreign-born command sponsored dependents authorized to travel to their native country; or

*5. When in a confinement status as a result of disciplinary action, the member is authorized OCONUS COLA for command sponsored dependents only at the rate specified in App J for the number of command sponsored dependents who continue to reside in the PDS vicinity.
The following pages are the same policy preceding this page but showing tracked changes.
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JTR REVISIONS:

9000-D:

*D. Vicinity. In Ch 9, the country, state (when in Alaska or Hawai‘i), or U.S. territory or possession within which the member's PDS is located. When a member resides with the dependent and commutes to the PDS, the dependent is deemed to be residing at/in the PDS vicinity even if at a place in an adjacent country or state. If the member's new PDS is in the same country, state (when in Alaska or Hawai‘i), or U.S. territory or possession as the designated place, if the member is required to maintain two separate households (i.e., the member cannot commute daily from the dependent location to the PDS) a second station allowance may be authorized/approved through the Secretarial Process. In this case, the dependent is not at/in the "vicinity" of the member's PDS even though located in the same country, state or U.S. territory or possession. Except as in par. 9130-A1, temporary absences of a dependent from the member's residence, including absences of a dependent child attending school in another OCONUS location, do not affect COLA if the member maintains family-type Qtrs/housing during the absence.

9115-C:

*C. Leave Periods. If a member without dependents takes leave away from the OCONUS PDS vicinity, COLA continues for the first 30 days and stops on day 31. If COLA is stopped, it starts again the day the member returns to the PDS from leave.

9130-A:

9130 COLA FOR A MEMBER WITH DEPENDENT

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*1. When a member is on leave away from the OCONUS PDS vicinity for more than 30 days and is accompanied by all command sponsored dependents.;

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*5. When in a confinement status as a result of disciplinary action, the member is authorized OCONUS COLA for command sponsored dependents only at the rate specified in APP-App J for the number of command sponsored dependents who continue to reside in the PDS vicinity.