

Note: Commands may supplement this briefing sheet to include local housing market characteristics. Additionally, local commands should periodically use every available means to publicize the importance of Service members keeping their DD Forms 2367 current.

Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) Briefing Sheet

This briefing sheet provides Uniformed Service members an overview of the rules that govern the OHA program specified in Chapter 10 of the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR).

OHA Overview

The OHA program provides Uniformed Service members assigned to a location outside of the United States (OCONUS), other than Hawaii and Alaska, an allowance to defray housing costs. If you are authorized to live in privately leased or owned quarters, you must complete and submit all required forms approved by the appropriate local official.

If you are authorized to receive an OHA-based Family Separation Housing (FSH-O) allowance, the monthly amount is equal to the “without dependent” OHA rate at your PDS. The same expense requirement documentation and administrative control procedures that apply to OHA also apply to FSH-O.

OHA is comprised of three separate components: rental allowance, utility and recurring maintenance allowance, and a one-time move-in housing allowance (MIHA).

OHA is updated based on cost data reported by Uniformed Service members. The Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) regularly reviews OHA rates and periodically adjusts OHA payments. These adjustments are based on new cost data or exchange rate adjustments due to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. The [DTMO website](#) contains OHA locality tables with current rate information.

Required Form Submission

Complete a DD Form 2367, “Individual Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) Report,” and submit the completed form with a copy of your lease agreement to the appropriate official for approval. If you qualify for MIHA/Rent, MIHA/Security, or MIHA/Infectious Disease, you must also complete DD Form 2556, “Move-In Housing Allowance Claim.” A new DD Form 2367 must be completed each time your housing information changes.

At some duty stations, you must pay monthly rent at a specified fixed exchange rate (dollar equivalency contract) for the lease duration, rather than at a fluctuating currency exchange rate. When required by law or local custom at your duty station, your commanding officer or designated representative should enter the following statement in Part B - Certifications, DD Form 2367: “Dollar equivalency contract required. No other housing option available to the Service member.” You must enter the U.S. dollar equivalent of your monthly rent in block 5b, DD Form 2367.

Rental Allowances

The maximum rental allowance shown in the locality tables is for a Uniformed Service member with a dependent. However, the maximum rental allowance for a Uniformed Service member without a dependent is 90 percent of the “with dependent” allowance. These rental allowances are designed to cover actual rental costs for 80 percent of Service members with a dependent assigned to a specific area.

Unless you are a “sharer” as defined Chapter 10 of the JTR, you receive the amount of rent limited to the set rental allowance. You are considered a sharer when living with any of the following:

- A spouse or dependent who is either a Service member or a Federal civilian employee authorized a Living Quarters Allowance (LQA).
- Another Service member authorized an OHA, or non-related Federal civilian employee authorized an LQA.
- Any other person, *excluding* the Service member’s dependent, who contributes money toward the payment of rent, mortgage, or utilities.

If you are involved in a sharing arrangement as defined above, proportional rent shares are determined by dividing the total rent for the dwelling by the number of sharers. The proportional rent amount is compared to the appropriate maximum rental allowance. You receive the lesser of the proportional rent share or the maximum rental allowance.

If you are a homeowner, calculate your “equivalent rent” by dividing the original purchase price by 120 (excluding the closing costs, taxes, and similar expenses). If you are in the Azores and purchased your home on or after January 1, 1999, divide your purchase price by 24. Refer to the JTR, Chapter 10 to determine the equivalent rent when you or your dependent inherit a dwelling or residence or otherwise receive it without purchasing it.

Utility and Recurring Maintenance Allowance

The utility and recurring maintenance allowance indicated on the OHA locality tables is for an accompanied Service member with a dependent.

- If you are a sharer but are unaccompanied, the allowance is equal to 75 percent of the amount indicated in the locality table.
- If you are a sharer, divide the accompanied rate allowance by the number of sharers to determine each individual's allowance amount.

If your rent includes all utilities, you do not receive a utility and recurring maintenance allowance. However, the allowance that you would have received is added to your rental allowance. If your rent includes some utilities or services, your utility and recurring maintenance allowance could be reduced. In this case, the amount by which your allowance is reduced is added to your rental allowance.

Move-In Housing Allowance (MIHA)/Miscellaneous Expenses

MIHA is comprised of four components:

- MIHA/Miscellaneous is a fixed-rate, one-time payment that reflects average expenditures made by a Uniformed Service member to make his or her housing habitable.
- MIHA/Rent is an actual expense reimbursement that covers the total amount of reasonable rent-related expenses as specified in Chapter 10 of the JTR. These are fixed, one-time nonrefundable charges, such as a real estate agent's fee. Homeowners are not authorized to receive this MIHA component.
- MIHA/Security is also an actual expense reimbursement that covers reasonable security-related expenses for a Uniformed Service member assigned to an area in which a dwelling requires modifications to minimize exposure to terrorist threat. Only items used to modify the actual physical dwelling are allowable. [The DTMO website](#) specifies qualifying locations.
- MIHA/Infectious Disease is an actual expense reimbursement that covers upgrades to the physical dwelling related to preventing infectious diseases. For example, costs for window or door screens can be reimbursed when the dwelling must be modified to minimize exposure to medical threats related to diseases transmitted through mosquitos. [The DTMO website](#) specifies qualifying locations.

Rental Advances

You may draw an advance housing allowance if your commanding officer authorizes or approves one. The advance amount cannot exceed 3 months' rent allowance unless you are at a location where PDTATAC specifically authorizes larger advances. Advances are not authorized or approved for the purchase of residences or other living accommodations.