



PER DIEM, TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE COMMITTEE

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PDTATAC/tgh

5 September 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR

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SUBJECT:

UTD for MAP 026-18(R) -- Housing Flexibility for Certain Armed Forces Members with Dependents, Permanent Change of Station (PCS) within the United States,
MAP 065-18(E) -- Housing Flexibility – Remove Tables, and
MAP 066-18(E) -- Housing Flexibility – Clarify Language

1. Synopsis:

a. MAP 026-18(R) uses the authority provided in the 2018 NDAA, Section 603, “Housing Flexibility for Certain Armed Forces Members with Dependents, Permanent Change of Station (PCS) within the United States”. It adds 37 USC §403a stating that a Service member of the Armed Forces on a PCS may be allowed housing flexibility to support the advanced or delayed travel of their dependents for certain reasons. Those reasons include spouse employment, dependent education or enrollment in the Exceptional Family Member Program or caring for a family member with a chronic or long-term illness. The Law has a covered relocation period of 180 days prior to and after the Service member’s departure date from the old duty station and this period may be extended or shortened. The member may request a Basic Allowance for Housing at the old or new permanent duty station or at the dependent’s location before the covered relocation period began.

b. MAP 026-18(R) was approved by the PDTATAC Chair on 5 September 2018 and is the basis for the addition of the language in JTR, par. 100915. While this item was in staffing, two changes were made to the language in MAP 065-18(E) and 066-18(E) to remove the tables from the original text and move pertinent language from the tables to the main body of the text.

c. The language in the attached JTR revision is a combination of all three MAP items and will be the final text which will appear in the 1 October 2018 publication of the JTR.

2. The Committee Chair has approved the attached changes to the Joint Travel Regulations, made in MAP 026-18(R) on 5 September 2018. The additional items were approved by the MAP on 28 August 2018 by a vote of 7-0.

3. This determination is an advance notice of the changes to the JTR. You are requested to disseminate this determination to the appropriate offices within your Service.

4. These changes are scheduled to appear in the JTR publication, dated 1 October 2018

5. This determination is effective 1 October 2018.

6. Action Officer: Timothy G. Haddix (timothy.g.haddix.civ@mail.mil).

//Approved//

JOEL T. RIDENOUR

Chief, Policy, Regulations and Allowance Division

Attachment:
Rev 1

Uniformed E-Mail Distribution:

MAP Members P&R Branch PMO-DTS GSA-3FT GSA-OGP(MTT) PPC

JTR REVISIONS:

Chapter 10, Table of Contents:

100914. *****

100915. **Housing Flexibility for Certain Armed Forces Members with Dependents, Permanent Change of Station (PCS) within the United States ([37 USC §403a](#)).**

100915:

Note to Editor – The following language is a new paragraph to be inserted into the JTR

100915 HOUSING FLEXIBILITY FOR CERTAIN ARMED FORCES MEMBERS WITH DEPENDENTS, PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION (PCS) WITHIN THE UNITED STATES ([37 USC §403a](#)). *Effective for PCS departures on or after 1 October 2018*

- A. **General.** An eligible Armed Forces member with dependents may be permitted certain housing flexibility while under a PCS order within the United States during a covered relocation period ([DoDI 1315.18, Encl 3, par. 10](#)).
- B. **Eligibility.** An Armed Forces member with dependents with PCS orders within the United States that may be authorized housing flexibility under this paragraph is an Armed Forces member who has one of the following:
 - 1. A spouse who is gainfully employed or enrolled in a degree, certificate or license granting program at the beginning of the covered relocation period.
 - 2. One or more dependents attending an elementary or secondary school at the beginning of the covered relocation period.
 - 3. One or more dependents enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program.
 - 4. An immediate family member with a chronic or long-term illness at the beginning of the covered relocation period for whom the member is caring.
- C. **Covered Relocation Period.** The covered relocation period begins 180 days before the date of the PCS, which is the date the Armed Forces member leaves the current PDS and ends 180 days after the date of the PCS. The Secretary concerned may lengthen or shorten the covered relocation period through the Secretarial process based on the needs of the Armed Forces.
- D. **Expiration.** If the Armed Forces member's eligibility expires for any reason during the covered relocation period, that period is terminated and housing is paid at the PDS where the Armed Forces member is assigned at that time. If the Armed Forces member departs the old PDS, and the persons that are the basis of the eligibility do not arrive at the new PDS within the covered relocation period, housing allowances are paid at new PDS location rate beginning the day after the relocation period ends.
- E. **Authority.** The dependents of an Armed Forces member may perform PCS travel at a different time than the Armed Forces member once the PCS order has been issued. Unless otherwise authorized or approved, the Armed Forces member's housing allowance is based on the PDS. However, an eligible Armed Forces member may request a housing allowance based on the

dependents location. If authorized or approved through the Secretarial Process for dependents who relocate in advance or after the Armed Forces member, a housing allowance under this paragraph may be based on one of the following:

1. The new PDS.
2. The location the dependents reside when the Armed Forces member departs for the new PDS (only for the time the dependents reside in that area).
3. The area of the Armed Forces member's former PDS, but only if different than the area the dependent resides.