

JOINT TRAVEL REGULATIONS, VOLUME 2 (JTR)**Change 527 — 1 September 2009**

- A. Authorized Personnel. These regulation changes are issued for all Department of Defense civilian employees.
- B. New Regulation Changes. Material new to this change is indicated by an asterisk (*) and is effective 1 September 2009 unless otherwise indicated.
- C. Civilian Principals. The following are the current Civilian Principals:

LYNN S. HEIRAKUJI

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
Manpower and Reserve Affairs
(Personnel Oversight)

LYNDA DAVIS

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy
(Military Personnel Programs)

BARBARA J. BARGER

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force
(Force Management Integration)

D. Applicable CAP Items. This change includes all material written in the following CAP Items: 47-09(I); 50-09(I); and 52-09(I) through 54-09(I).

E. Brief of Revision. The following are this month's major revisions:

C1054 and APP G. Updates wording to clarify that some form of passport is necessary for travel to/from any foreign country.

C5372 and C5634. Removes erroneous language and clarifies no HHT(AE) deduction is made if the TQSE(AE) is authorized for 30 or fewer days.

C5450-A3a; C5515-B3 and B4; C5558, COLUMN 1; C5566-C3; C5570-C; and C5574-B1f. Corrects cross references ICW par. C5570.

APP Q1 and APP Q3. Updates the approval of all dependents to return to Bahrain.

APP R2, Part J revised. Updates the PMR computation example.

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JOINT TRAVEL REGULATIONS

VOLUME 2

CHANGE 527

The following Record-of-Changes chart reflects Joint Travel Regulations, Volume 2, current and historical changes by Part or Section. It is designed to assist readers in verifying the currency of the volume.

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PART B: CONDITIONS/FACTORS

C1050 GENERAL

A. Prohibition Not Stated. There may be circumstances when travel and transportation allowances are prohibited and are so stated. *However, just because a prohibition is not stated does not mean that an allowance exists or may be authorized.*

B. Travel Justification ([FTR §301-71.101](#))

1. Directed Travel. Travel and transportation at GOV'T expense may be directed only:

- a. When officially justified, and
- b. By means which meet mission requirements consistent with good management practices.

2. Employee Expenses. An employee must not be directed to perform official travel:

- a. At personal expense, or
- b. At reimbursement rates/amounts inconsistent with provisions in this Volume.

3. Limited Travel Funds. Limited travel funds is not a basis for:

- a. Denying reimbursement for official travel, or
- b. Reducing allowances.

4. Reassignment/Transfer Advance Notice. The permanent duty reassignment/transfer of any employee from one PDS or DOD component to another, which is outside an employee's commuting area, is effective after the *employee* has been given reasonable advance notice to prepare. See par. C5080-F for short distance moves. Emergency circumstances are taken into account in determining whether the advance notice period is reasonable. A reasonable advance notice period should not be less than 30 days except when:

- a. The employee and both the losing/gaining agencies agree on a shorter period;
- b. Other statutory authority and implementing regulations stipulate a shorter period (see OPM regulations for specified time frames); or
- c. There are emergency circumstances.

C. PCS

1. Authorization/Order. ([FTR §§302-2.102, 2.103, 2.104](#)) When GOV'T-funded PCS is authorized:

- a. A written travel authorization/order must be issued to a new appointee/employee prior to the appointee/employee reporting to the first/new official station. Separate eligible dependent(s) PDT to the new PDS is authorized and effective when the employee's travel authorization/order is issued IAW Agency/Service regulations (par. C5100-A),
- b. An appointee/employee should not incur PCS expenses (in anticipation of a PCS) until the written authorization/order has been received,
- c. The travel authorization/order must indicate the specific allowances authorized as provided in these regulations and provide instructions about procedures for procurement of travel and transportation services. See par. C5080-B for procedural requirements applicable to new appointees.

2. Reimbursement Provisions

a. The reimbursement maximums/limitations that apply to certain allowances are not the same for every employee even though claims may be filed within the same time frame because of:

- (1) Successive changes to these regulations governing PCS allowances, and
- (2) The extended period of time that an employee retains eligibility for certain allowances. See par. C1057.

b. The regulations in effect on the appointee's/employee's appointment/transfer effective date (see APP A) apply for payment/reimbursement purposes.

D. Travel Official. An official responsible for directing travel and/or approving reimbursement also is responsible for ensuring that funds are used for official travel purposes and IAW the conditions prescribed.

C1051 PRIVILEGES WHILE ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL

A. General. A traveler under an official travel authorization/order may use:

1. GOV'T QTRS,
2. Food services,
3. Exchanges, and
4. Recreational facilities owned, operated, or under DOD jurisdiction.

B. Availability/Use. The conditions and limitations relating to facilities availability/use are in AR 60-20, dated 15 December 1992, AAFES Operating Policies, DOD Instruction 1330.09, dated 7 December 2005 Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD (P&R)), Subject: Armed Services Exchange Policy at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/133009p.pdf> and DOD Instruction 1330.17, dated 8 October 2008, Subject: Armed Services Commissary Operations at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/133017p.pdf>, and at the local commander's discretion.

C1052 TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

A. General. An employee's pay and leave status during official travel are subject to the separate departments' regulations about hours of duty, pay, and leave. A new appointee is in a duty status while traveling to the first PDS.

NOTE 1: For regulations governing excused absence and duty status while preparing for and completing a PCS move, see DOD 1400.25-M, Section SC630.7.4.3. Permanent Change of Duty Station (PCS), at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/assets/39e67e3d4e574647b6e63d918606673d/m1400630.chg2.pdf>

NOTE 2: See APP A for definitions of "Different (or Separate) Departments and Agencies," "DOD component," "Foreign OCONUS Area/Country," and "OCONUS" (overseas).

B. Movement between Different Departments and Agencies or DOD Components ([FTR §302-2.105](#))

NOTE: Par. C1052 applies to movement between any of the following: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, DOD Components, to or from non-DOD agencies.

1. General. Except as provided in pars. C1052-B2 and C1052-B3, necessary costs associated with a PCS may be paid by the gaining department/agency/DOD Component. See par. C5005.

2. Reduction in Force (RIF)/Transfer of Functions (FTR §302-2.105). Necessary transfer costs, between different DOD activities, of an employee identified for separation/demotion caused by RIF/transfer of function must be paid by the losing activity. A losing DOD activity must endeavor to have a non-DOD gaining activity pay or share the necessary costs incident to transfers (that involve a RIF/transfer of function) to a department/agency outside DOD. If a non-DOD gaining activity refuses to assume or share the expense, the cost must be paid by the losing activity.

3. Movement under the DOD Priority Placement Program (PPP). When a RIF/transfer of function is not involved, necessary movement costs under the PPP for a move to a different DOD component are funded IAW par. C1052-E3, provided employment is without a break in service after separation from the losing activity. This applies to an employee serving with a service agreement. An employee serving without a service agreement may be authorized PCS allowances by the gaining activity and that activity is responsible for the costs. Necessary movement costs when a RIF/transfer of function is involved are funded as indicated in par. C1052-B2.

C. Movement within the Same DOD Component

1. General. Except as indicated in pars. C1052-C2 through C5, the gaining activity may pay the necessary movement costs associated with a PCS if the move meets the criteria in par. C5005-C. Par. C5070 indicates the allowances that are authorized (mandatory) and the allowances that may be authorized at the gaining activity's discretion when the gaining activity elects to pay necessary movement costs.

2. Reduction in Force/Transfer of Function. The losing activity must pay necessary movement costs.

3. BRAC. Ordinarily the gaining activity should pay the necessary movement costs associated with a PCS. However, the losing activity may, at its discretion, pay necessary movement costs for a PCS move resulting from a BRAC action.

4. From an OCONUS Activity to a CONUS Activity. When an employee transfers from an OCONUS activity to a CONUS activity, the losing OCONUS activity must pay for the costs of transportation for the employee and dependents, including per diem and transportation of the employee's HHG/POV to the employee's actual residence or to the CONUS activity NTE the cost for such transportation to the employee's actual residence. If the gaining activity authorizes PCS allowances it is responsible for the cost of necessary additional transportation for the employee and dependents, including per diem and transportation of the employee's HHG/POV to the new PDS, the MEA, real estate allowances (if the employee is eligible), and at its discretion for a HHT (if the employee is eligible) and TQSE for an:

- a. Employee who completes the prescribed tour of duty under the current service agreement;
- b. Employee released from the period of service specified in the service agreement for reasons beyond the employee's control that are acceptable to the losing DOD component;
- c. Army employee moved under the Civilian Career Management Program referral system who completes an initial OCONUS tour of duty and at least half of an additional tour in excess of 12 months or two-thirds of an additional tour of 12 months; and
- d. Employee with/without a service agreement moved under the PPP. If a RIF/transfer of function is involved, par. C1052-C2 applies.

5. From an OCONUS Activity to an Activity of the Same DOD Component in Hawai'i. Pars. C1052-C2 through C4 apply in funding travel and transportation when an employee transfers from an OCONUS activity to a Hawaiian activity of the same DOD component.

6. Directed Transfer due to Failure to Complete Probationary Period. The losing activity must pay the necessary transfer costs when an employee fails to satisfactorily complete a probationary period.

D. RAT

NOTE: See APP A for the definition of "Actual Residence".

1. Return to the Same OCONUS PDS. When an employee completes a required service period at an OCONUS activity and executes a renewal agreement for an additional tour of duty at the same OCONUS activity, the activity to which the employee is assigned must pay all travel/transportation costs.
2. Return to a Different OCONUS PDS. Except for a DODEA employee, when an employee completes a required service period at an OCONUS activity and executes a renewal agreement for an additional tour of duty at a different OCONUS activity, in the same or another DOD component, the losing OCONUS activity must pay the necessary costs en route to the actual residence or alternate point until return travel begins. The gaining OCONUS activity in the same or another DOD component must pay the necessary costs en route from the actual residence or alternate point to the new OCONUS PDS. The gaining OCONUS activity also must pay the transportation costs of dependents, who did not accompany the employee on the RAT, and the HHG and POV, direct from the old to the new OCONUS PDS ([44 Comp. Gen. 767 \(1965\)](#)). When an employee transfers between activities funded by DODEA, all PCS costs must be paid by the gaining (area) activity.
3. Obtaining a Position while on Leave in the U.S. An employee:
 - a. Who:
 - (1) Returns to the U.S. under a renewal agreement, and
 - (2) Arranges a move to a PDS in the U.S. while on leave,
 - b. Is authorized:
 - (1) Reimbursement for travel and transportation expenses to the new PDS instead of to the actual residence indicated in the OCONUS service agreement. The losing OCONUS activity must pay the necessary travel and transportation costs to the new PDS NTE the cost to the actual residence.
 - (2) If the GOV'T incurs additional expenses because of RAT performed to the actual residence by the employee/dependent, those expenses must be recovered from the employee.
 - (3) Necessary additional travel and transportation costs to the new PDS may be paid by the gaining activity. If the gaining activity does not authorize a PCS move, the losing activity must amend the travel authorization/order to provide for return from the losing activity to the actual residence for separation.
 - (4) The travel and transportation expenses are funded as provided in par. C1052-E.

E. Separation from OCONUS Employment

1. Separation after Travel Begins. The losing activity must pay the necessary en route travel/transportation cost for an employee, eligible for transportation under a service agreement, who returns to the actual residence, or an alternate destination NTE the travel/transportation cost to the actual residence, for separation from the losing OCONUS PDS.
2. Separation before Travel Begins. When an employee eligible for travel/transportation to the actual residence resigns OCONUS before beginning travel from the OCONUS PDS, the eligibility continues and the OCONUS losing activity must pay the movement expenses to the actual residence. This also applies when an employee under the same conditions expects to continue in GOV'T service in a different department/agency in the actual residence geographical locality, provided the employee is not employed or authorized a PCS movement by the gaining activity before departure from the losing OCONUS PDS ([44 Comp. Gen. 767 \(1965\)](#)).

3. Employment in Another DOD Component without a Break in Service after Separation from the Losing Activity

a. When an employee under an agreement:

- (1) Returns to the actual residence or an allowable alternate destination in the U.S. for separation, and
- (2) After arrival at the destination is employed by another DOD component without a break in service,

b. The losing OCONUS activity must pay for the allowable separation NTE travel/transportation costs to the actual residence. For the conditions and limitations regarding payment by the gaining DOD component when additional travel/transportation to the new PDS is necessary and circumstances under which PCS allowances may be authorized and paid, see par. C5085-F ([46 Comp. Gen. 628 \(1967\)](#); [47 id 763 \(1968\)](#); [B-163113, 27 June 1968](#); [B-163364, 27 June 1968](#)).

4. Responsibility for Separation Travel Costs when an Employee is Transferred between OCONUS Activities. When an employee, under an agreement at an OCONUS activity, is transferred to a different OCONUS activity at the same or a different PDS, the gaining activity is responsible for the employee's separation travel cost if the employee is or becomes eligible for separation travel and transportation allowances.

F. DOD Domestic Dependent School Board Members. The SECDEF may provide for reimbursement of a school board member for certain expenses incurred by that individual for travel, transportation, lodging, meals, program fees, activity fees, and other appropriate expenses. The Secretary must first determine the expenses to be reasonable and necessary for the performance of school board duties by that individual. See DOD Instruction 1342.25, par. 5.4.5, dated 30 October 1996, (available at: <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/134225p.pdf>) "*School Boards for Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (DDESS);*" *concerning eligibility for reimbursement for official travel.*

C1053 IDENTIFICATION CARD

A. General. When an employee is authorized OCONUS TDY travel or PCS assignment, identification card issuance is provided in:

1. DOD Instruction 1000.1, Identity Cards Required by the Geneva Conventions (DD Form 489, Geneva Convention Card, for civilians) (available at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/10001p.pdf>), and
2. DOD Instruction 1000.13, Identification (ID) Cards for Members of the Uniformed Services, Their Dependents, and Other Eligible Individuals (available at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/100013p.pdf>).

B. Issuance. Conditions and procedures for issuance and use are prescribed in applicable Service regulations.

C1054 PASSPORTS, VISAS, IMMUNIZATIONS, AND CLEARANCES

A. General. Applicable Service regulations govern the requirements/procedures relating to official travel to foreign countries regarding:

1. Passports,
2. Visas,
3. Immunizations,
4. Advance clearances,
5. Special conditions, and

6. Other restrictions.

B. No-Fee Passport

1. Authorization. DD Form 1056 must accompany an application for a new/renewal passport/visa (including green card). See APP G.

2. Travel Requirements

a. The necessary passport, visa (including green card) when required (see APP G), and record of prescribed immunization (shots) must be in the traveler's possession when traveling, and

*b. A passport for each traveler is required for travel into a:

(1) Foreign country, or

(2) Territory under control of a foreign country. ***NOTE: The Ryukyu Islands require a passport for travel.***

C. Time Limitations

1. A passport is valid for a specific period from the issuance date, requires renewal or re-issuance, and, if practical, should be renewed before it expires.

2. Visas and immunizations also have time limitations.

C1055 GOV'T QTRS USE/AVAILABILITY

A. QTRS Available. ***An employee may not be directed/required to use GOV'T QTRS, nor may lodging reimbursement be limited to the GOV'T QTRS cost (44 Comp. Gen. 626 (1965)).*** In compliance with the requirement to exercise prudence when incurring expenses, an employee should check for GOV'T QTRS availability (e.g., through the CTO/TMC), and are encouraged to use those QTRS when TDY to a U.S. INSTALLATION. ***However, if GOV'T QTRS are available on that INSTALLATION for an employee TDY to a U.S. INSTALLATION, the proper authority under par. C4550-C may prescribe a reduced per diem rate based on the GOV'T QTRS cost. Reduced per diem rates can only be established before travel begins.***

B. QTRS Not Available. An employee is not required to check GOV'T QTRS availability in the following circumstances. GOV'T QTRS are not available:

1. When TDY/delay is at other than a U.S. INSTALLATION;

2. When an AO determines GOV'T QTRS use would adversely affect mission performance ***NOTE: An employee in a Senior Level (SL) position, Scientific and Professional (ST) position and an SES employee (including individuals described under 5 USC §5703) determines personal QTRS availability.***;

3. During en route travel periods; or

4. For TDY/delay of less than 24 hours at one location.

C. Authorization/Approval. Unless a reduced per diem rate is authorized on the travel authorization/order as indicated in par. C1055-A, the AO must authorize/approve reimbursement for the cost of commercial lodgings used not to exceed the locality per diem lodging rate (unless an AEA is authorized/approved).

C1057 TIME LIMITS FOR BEGINNING TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION ([FTR §302-2.110](#))

All travel, including that for a dependent, and transportation, including that for HHG allowed under these regulations, should be accomplished as soon as possible. Allowable travel and transportation must begin within 2 years from the employee's transfer or appointment effective date, except that the 2-year period:

1. Is exclusive of furlough time spent by an employee who begins active military service before the expiration of such period and who is furloughed for the assignment duration to the PDS for which transportation and travel expenses are allowed;
2. Does not include any time during which travel and transportation is not feasible due to shipping restrictions for an employee who is transferred or appointed to or from an OCONUS PDS; and
3. Is extended for up to an additional 2 years when the original 2-year time limitation for residence transactions completion is extended under par. C5750-C. Even when an extension is approved, PCS allowances must be calculated by using the prescribed allowances in effect on the employee's transfer effective date.

C1058 OBLIGATION TO EXERCISE PRUDENCE IN TRAVEL ([FTR §301-70.1](#))

1. A traveler must exercise the same care and regard for incurring expenses to be paid by the GOV'T as would a prudent person traveling at personal expense.
2. A traveler must maintain records to validate individual expenses of \$75 or more and for all lodging costs. All receipts should be maintained as required by financial regulations.
3. Excess costs, circuitous routes, delays or luxury accommodations that are unnecessary or unjustified are the traveler's financial responsibility.
4. A traveler is advised that the Army Lodging Success Program, Navy Elite Lodging Program, and GSA's FedRooms Lodging Program (***NOTE: The FedRooms Lodging Program is indicated by the use of an 'XVU' code as opposed to a 'GOV' or other code.***) provide quality lodging at or below per diem and properties often are close to worksites at TDY locations. Use of lodging facilities in these programs often results in cost savings to the GOV'T. Not every program is available to each traveler.

C1059 SCHEDULING TRAVEL

Travel should be by the scheduled transportation that most nearly coincides with the departure and arrival times needed to carry out the mission. Consideration should be given to:

1. Duty hours;
2. Duty requirements;
3. Lodging availability at points of origin, destination or intermediate stops;
4. The need for onward transportation;
5. The traveler's comfort and well being;
6. The traveler being scheduled for departures and arrivals between 0600 and 2400 unless travel between 2400 and 0600 is required by the mission;
7. Arranging transportation so that the traveler is scheduled to arrive the day before the TDY actually begins;
8. Scheduling the travel for a departure to enable an en route rest stop or an overnight rest period at the destination under the circumstances in par. C1060-B or C1060-C;

9. Requiring each traveler to identify travel requirements in sufficient time (if known) to arrange coach-class accommodations; and
10. Carefully reviewing requests for first- and business-class accommodations to determine if mission needs may allow for a change in travel dates to support a lower-class accommodation.

C1060 TRAVEL DURING REST HOURS, A REST PERIOD AT A TDY POINT AFTER ARRIVAL, OR AN EN ROUTE REST STOP

NOTE: *When scheduling flights of 14 or more hours (see par. C2204-B4i), the first choice is always to use economy class and arrive the day before the TDY begins to allow for appropriate rest. Second choice always is to use economy class and arrange an en route rest stop (preferably at a no-cost point allowed by the airline) with arrival on the day TDY starts. The last option, and the most expensive option which should be avoided whenever possible, is to use business accommodations arriving on the day the TDY starts.*

A. Starting and Ending Travel

1. General

- a. The travel authorization/order establishes when travel status starts and ends.
- b. Ordinarily, a traveler on official travel is not required to travel during unreasonable hours at night (2400 - 0600).
- c. When travel is between 2400-0600, the only acceptable sleeping accommodations are:
 - (1) Ship staterooms, and
 - (2) Train sleeping cars.

NOTE: *Reclining seats on planes, trains, or buses are not acceptable sleeping accommodations. If a traveler is required to travel overnight (2400 - 0600) without acceptable sleeping accommodations, arrival should be scheduled to provide an en route rest stop or an appropriate rest period (NTE 24 hours) at the TDY point before the traveler is required to perform official duties. See pars. C1060-C and C1060-D.*

- d. A traveler should not be required to use a carrier that requires beginning travel (i.e., leaving home or TDY lodgings and/or arriving at destination) between 2400 hours and 0600 hours, if there is a more reasonable schedule that meets mission requirements.
- e. A prudent AO should confirm lodgings are obtainable for the traveler to retire at a reasonable hour and be ready to perform official business as required ([33 Comp. Gen. 221 \(1953\)](#); [61 id. 448 \(1982\)](#)).
- f. Transportation should be arranged for the traveler to arrive the day before the TDY actually begins.
- g. A traveler should be scheduled for a departure in time for an en route rest stop or an overnight rest period at the destination under the circumstances in pars. C1060-C and C1060-D.
- h. Require each traveler to identify travel requirements in sufficient time (if known) to arrange coach-class accommodations.
- i. Carefully review requests for first- and business-class accommodations to determine if mission needs may allow for a change in travel dates to support a lower-class accommodation.

2. Travel between 0600 and 2400. Travel should be scheduled between 0600 and 2400. To prevent travel between 2400 and 0600, it is reasonable for a traveler to depart the:

- a. PDS (or home as appropriate) early enough to prevent travel between 2400 and 0600, or
- b. TDY station on the earliest available transportation accommodations the day after completing a TDY assignment, provided the traveler is not required to be at the PDS the morning after TDY completion.

3. Additional Per Diem for Travel between 0600 and 2400. Additional per diem may be authorized/approved at a TDY location only if the resulting delay in departing the TDY location permits travel between 0600 and 2400 the day after completing the TDY assignment. ([56 Comp. Gen. 847 \(1977\)](#)).

Example 1. A traveler completes official TDY duty on Friday afternoon. The traveler could leave on Friday when official duty ends (and arrive at the PDS early on Saturday) and receive 75% M&IE for that Saturday travel day. To prevent the traveler from traveling between 2400 and 0600, the AO may authorize or approve departure the next day (in this case, Saturday). The traveler receives per diem (including lodging) for Friday. Saturday is the travel day (assuming arrival at PDS on Saturday) and the traveler receives 75% M&IE for Saturday. Any additional delayed days are the traveler's financial responsibility.

Example 2. A traveler is required to attend a conference that starts at 0800 on Monday morning. If the traveler is authorized to depart the PDS on Friday to travel during regular duty hours, payment of per diem is limited to one travel day as though the traveler had departed for the TDY destination on Sunday (75% M&IE plus lodging) ([56 Comp. Gen. 847 \(1977\)](#)). Expenses for any additional early days are the traveler's financial responsibility.

B. En Route Rest Stop/Rest Period at TDY Point. Authorizing/approving an en route rest stop or rest period at a TDY point must be used only when the circumstances warrant. Such a rest stop should not be automatic. The AO must consider each request for a rest stop/en route rest period at TDY point individually and carefully balance good stewardship of scarce resources with the immediacy of mission requirements. See par. C1059 about scheduled travel and the **NOTE** before par. C1060-A on rest periods. ***A rest stop en route/rest period at a TDY destination may not be provided for official travel for PCS, RAT, emergency leave, R&R, FEML, and personnel evacuations. A rest stop en route/rest period at a TDY point may only be authorized when travel is to the TDY site. A rest stop en route may not be authorized for the return flight if the traveler can rest before reporting back to work.***

C. En Route Rest Stops

1. Travel during Normal Rest Hours. The AO may authorize/approve an en route rest stop when travel must be scheduled:

- a. To start at, near, or after the end of the traveler's regularly scheduled duty hours; or
- b. During usual rest hours and the transportation mode does not provide adequate sleeping accommodations. See the **NOTE** following par. C1060-A1c regarding adequate sleeping accommodations.

2. OCONUS Travel Is Involved. The AO may authorize/approve a rest stop en route when:

- a. The origin or destination is OCONUS; and
- b. Travel is by a usually traveled route; and
- c. Travel is by less than first/business-class accommodations; and

d. The scheduled flight time, including stopovers and plane changes, exceeds 14 hours by a usually traveled route. Scheduled flight time is the time between the scheduled aircraft departure from the airport serving the PDS/TDY point and the scheduled aircraft arrival at the airport serving the TDY point/PDS (the flight(s) between two duty points), *including scheduled non-overnight time spent at airports during plane changes*.

NOTE: The “length of flight (14, 20, 30, 40 hours)” in and of itself is not sufficient justification to authorize/approve an en route rest stop. The justification must include that the TDY mission was so unexpected that the traveler was unable to schedule a flight arriving the day prior to allow rest before starting work. The 14-hour flight time criterion is restricted to TDY travel only and may not be used to justify a rest stop for PCS, RAT, Emergency Leave, R&R, FEML, personnel evacuation, or any other transportation. When using length of flight to justify a rest stop the AO must cause the travel authorization/order to be clearly annotated as to when the TDY travel was identified and when travel reservations were made.

3. En Route Rest Stop Prohibited. An en route rest stop at GOV'T expense is prohibited when:

- a. Travel is authorized by first- or business-class service.
- b. A traveler chooses to travel by a circuitous route, for personal convenience, causing excess travel time.
- c. A traveler takes leave at a stopover.

4. En Route Rest Stop Location. An en route rest stop:

- a. May be authorized/approved at any intermediate point; and
- b. Should be as near to midway in the journey as authorized carrier scheduling permits; or
- c. Scheduled at a point en route at which the carrier permits free stopovers (if possible).

5. En Route Rest Stop Duration. An en route rest stop is for a reasonable rest period, NTE 24 hours, plus necessary time to obtain the earliest transportation to the authorized destination.

6. Per Diem. The rest stop locality per diem rate applies.

D. Rest Period at the TDY Point before Reporting for Duty. A reasonable rest period at the TDY point (NTE 24 hours) is recommended before the traveler reports for duty when:

1. The scheduled flight time, including stopovers and plane changes, exceeds 14 hours by a usually traveled route. Scheduled flight time is the time between the scheduled aircraft departure from the airport serving the PDS/TDY point and the scheduled aircraft arrival at the airport serving the TDY point/PDS the flight(s) between two duty points, *including scheduled non-overnight time spent at airports during plane changes*;

NOTE: The “length of flight (14, 20, 30, 40 hours)” in and of itself is not sufficient justification to authorize/approve a rest period at the TDY point. The justification must include that the TDY mission was so unexpected that the traveler was unable to schedule a flight arriving the day prior to allow rest before starting work. The 14-hour flight time criterion is restricted to TDY travel only and may not be used to justify a rest stop for PCS, RAT, Emergency Leave, R&R, FEML, personnel evacuation, or any other transportation. When using length of flight to justify a rest stop the AO must cause the travel authorization/order to be clearly annotated as to when the TDY travel was identified and when travel reservations were made.

2. An en route rest stop is not authorized/approved;
3. The traveler is not authorized first- or business-class accommodations; or

4. The traveler is required to travel overnight (2400 - 0600) (in which case arrival should be scheduled to provide an appropriate rest period (NTE 24 hours) at the TDY point before the traveler is required to perform official duties). See the **NOTE** following par. C1060-A1c regarding scheduling an early arrival for a rest period at the TDY point if overnight (2400-0600) travel is involved.

E. Delaying Return Travel to Use Reduced Travel Fares. When, to qualify for reduced transportation fares, a traveler elects to stay at a TDY station longer than required by the assignment and the AO authorizes/approves the action, per diem or AEA for the additional time may be paid if the:

1. Transportation savings offsets the additional per diem or AEA cost, yielding an overall savings to the GOV'T; and
2. Delay does not extend the TDY time beyond the time when the traveler is required to be at work at the PDS ([B-192364, 15 February 1979](#); [B-169024, 5 May 1970](#)).

C1062 HOTEL AND MOTEL FIRE SAFETY – APPROVED ACCOMMODATIONS

GOV'T policy is to save lives and protect property by promoting the use of fire-safe hotels and other establishments that provide lodging. Each DOD Component must ensure that not less than 90% of their employees who use commercial lodgings while on official travel in the U.S. or non-foreign OCONUS areas are booked in fire-safe approved places of public accommodation. Lodgings that meet GOV'T requirements are listed on the U.S. Fire Administration's Internet site at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/hotel/index.htm>. Agencies are in compliance with the 90% requirement after 30 September 2002, if travel arrangements are made through use of an agency-designated Travel Management System (see APP A), whenever possible (5 USC §5707a).

C1065 OFFICIAL DISTANCE DETERMINATION

A. POC (Except Airplane). The Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD):

1. Is the only official source for worldwide TDY and PDT distance information.
2. Replaces all other sources used for computing distance (except for airplanes, see par. C1065-B below).

Effective 1 March 2009

3. Uses zip code to zip code distance within the CONUS and non-foreign OCONUS areas and city to city distance elsewhere (e.g., within foreign locations or to and from foreign locations).

NOTE: Each DOD INSTALLATION (CONUS and OCONUS) is listed in the DTOD. Contact DTOD if an INSTALLATION is not found at <https://dtod.sddc.army.mil>.

4. Provides distances which must be rounded to the nearest mile for each leg of a journey.
5. Does not apply to travel distance determined by odometer readings (i.e., travel in and around the PDS or TDY sites; or between home/office and transportation terminal).
6. Website is found at <https://dtod.sddc.army.mil>.

B. Privately Owned Airplane

1. When privately owned airplane use is authorized/approved for transportation, the distance between origin and destination must be determined from aeronautical charts issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
2. If adverse weather, mechanical difficulty, or unusual conditions cause necessary detours, the additional air distance must be explained.

3. If distance cannot be determined from aeronautical charts, the flight time multiplied by the aircraft's cruising speed is used to determine distance.

C1070 APPROPRIATE ACTION FOR FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE REGULATIONS

A command/unit is expected to take appropriate disciplinary action when an employee and/or AO fails to follow the regulations contained in this Volume. Disciplinary action should be for *willful* violations and may be in the form of counseling (oral/written), or other appropriate personnel means. Action must *not* be through refusal to reimburse. See par. C2203-A4 for exceptions when reimbursement is *not* allowed.

SECTION 2: TQSE ACTUAL EXPENSE (TQSE(AE))

C5360 TQSE(AE) OPTION

A. General. TQSE(AE) is an actual expense allowance based on the:

1. \$109 Standard CONUS per diem rate for temporary lodging occupied in any CONUS locality (effective 1 October 2007), or
2. PDS locality (not the lodging location) [per diem rate](#) for temporary lodging occupied in OCONUS localities.

B. AEA. *AEA in Ch 4, Part M may not be authorized/approved for TQSE(AE).*

C5362 AUTHORITY

A. General. The AO, *not the employee*, determines if TQSE(AE) is necessary.

B. Considerations. Before authorizing TQSE(AE), the following factors must be considered. TQSE(AE):

1. May be authorized only for the time period determined necessary by the AO, and
2. Authorization is determined on a case-by-case basis.

C5364 LIMITATIONS

A. Payment Limitation. *Under no circumstances may TQSE(AE) be paid for more than a total of 120 days.*

B. Time Limitations

1. Initial TQSE(AE) Period. TQSE(AE) may be authorized for any number of days, NTE 60 consecutive days, but only for the time that temporary lodging occupancy is necessary.

2. Additional TQSE(AE) Period. AOs may authorize/approve TQSE(AE) for the necessary number of days NTE an additional 60 consecutive days (*i.e., no more than a total of 120 days, including the initial TQSE(AE) may be authorized/approved*). Each of the following factors must be considered when authorizing/approving an additional period of TQSE(AE):

a. The AO must determine there are compelling reasons (due to circumstances beyond the employee's control) for the continued temporary lodging occupancy. Examples of circumstances that might be beyond the employee's control include:

- (1) Delayed HHG transportation and/or delivery to the new permanent private sector housing due to extended transit time incident to ocean transportation, strikes, customs clearance, hazardous weather, fires, floods, or other Acts of God;
- (2) Delayed occupancy of new permanent private sector housing because of unanticipated problems (e.g., unforeseen delays in permanent private sector housing settlement/closing, or unforeseen short-term delay in new dwelling construction); ([GSBCA 15455 -RELO, 26 June 2001](#), and [GSBCA 16646 -RELO, 8 August 2005](#)). Also see par. C5354-B1c.
- (3) Inability to locate permanent private sector housing adequate for family needs because of new PDS housing conditions;
- (4) Sudden illness, injury, or death of the employee or of an immediate family member; and
- (5) Similar factors.

- b. Before an additional TQSE(AE) period is allowed, the employee must provide acceptable written justification and documentation.
- c. TQSE(AE) period extensions are not automatic and must be held to a minimum.
- d. *TQSE(AE) must never be paid for more than a total of 120 days.*

C. Additional TQSE(AE) Period Justification. The employee must provide the AO with written justification that clearly describes the circumstances warranting the extension that are beyond the employee's control. The employee's justification, accompanied by documentation from the AO indicating the reasons for authorizing or denying the requested extension must be retained in a file designated for that purpose in personnel regulations.

D. Occupancy Limitations. If an employee moves HHG into temporary lodging occupied initially at a new PDS and continues occupancy indefinitely, the temporary lodging is permanent private sector housing, unless par. C5354-B1 or C5354-B2 applies, from the date the HHG are delivered.

C5366 ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

A. Starting Temporary Lodging Occupancy. Temporary lodging occupancy:

- 1. May start as soon as the employee has signed a service agreement and TQSE allowances have been authorized in a PCS travel authorization/order.
- 2. Must begin within 2 years after the employee reports for duty at the new PDS, unless that time is extended as indicated in par. C1057.

B. Temporary Lodging Occupancy Time Period

- 1. General. The temporary lodging occupancy period runs concurrently for the employee and all dependents. The employee may occupy temporary lodging at one location while dependents occupy temporary lodging at another location.
- 2. Temporary Lodging Occupancy Interruptions. Once begun, the TQSE period continues to run whether or not the employee and/or dependents occupy temporary lodging except if occupancy is interrupted for:
 - a. Travel between the old and new PDS (actual travel time);
 - b. Necessary official duties such as an intervening TDY assignment/military duty; or
 - c. Non-official necessary interruptions such as hospitalization, approved leave (sick, not annual), or other reasons beyond the employee's control that are acceptable to the AO.
- 3. Temporary Lodging Occupancy Resumption. Under the circumstances cited in par. C5366-B2 above:
 - a. The absence period is excluded from the authorized time for temporary lodging occupancy;
 - b. The employee is eligible for TQSE(AE) when temporary lodging occupancy at the new PDS resumes; and
 - c. Eligibility continues for the balance of the authorized time, if necessary.
- 4. Temporary Lodging Occupancy Interrupted by Official Travel

- a. Exceptions are not made if dependents occupy temporary lodging at the employee's new PDS, or another location, during the employee's TDY or military duty training assignment.
- b. When temporary lodging occupancy is interrupted by official travel, the actual time en route, NTE the authorized allowable travel time, is excluded from the eligibility period, which resumes when temporary lodging is reoccupied.
- c. When an employee retains temporary lodging while on TDY, the cost is reimbursed as part of the TQSE(AE) allowance (in addition to per diem received for the TDY) if the AO determines that the employee acted reasonably in retaining the temporary lodging ([69 Comp. Gen. 72 \(1989\)](#)).

C. Ending Temporary Lodging Occupancy. Temporary lodging occupancy ends when the:

1. Employee or a dependent occupies permanent private sector housing, or
2. Authorized time period expires,

whichever occurs first.

C5368 RECEIPTS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

A. Receipts and Supporting Statement

1. General. Receipts and a written supporting statement must accompany a TQSE(AE) claim as prescribed in pars. C5368-A2 and C5368-A3.
2. Receipts. Receipts are required for:
 - a. Lodging costs paid, showing location, dates, and by whom occupied;
 - b. Any single expense of \$75 or more (including a single meal expense of \$75 or more).
3. Supporting Statement. The supporting statement must include:
 - a. The cost of each meal, for each day, by date, and where and by whom consumed;
 - b. Travel status and temporary lodging occupancy (for subsistence expense purposes) that occur the same day, the date and the arrival and/or departure time at the temporary lodging location; and
 - c. The date that permanent private sector housing occupancy starts, or the date that HHG are moved into permanent private sector housing.

B. Submitting TQSE(AE) Claims. The DD Form 2912, Claim for Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense (TQSE), <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2912.pdf>, is used to document TQSE expenses for reimbursement.

C5370 PAYMENT

A. General. TQSE(AE) reimbursement is for the lesser of the actual allowable expenses incurred for each day of the prescribed period or the maximum allowable amount payable for that same eligibility period. TQSE(AE) is:

1. Not paid for local transportation expenses;
2. Limited to actual expenses incurred, up to the maximum authorized, providing the expenses are:
 - a. Directly related to temporary lodging occupancy within the TQSE eligibility period (par. C5366);

- b. A reasonable amount; and
- c. Substantiated.

3. The AO may deny reimbursement of any claimed TQSE expenses that appear to be unreasonable if the traveler cannot justify the expenses with supporting documentation. If denied, the remaining TQSE expenses of the same TQSE period may be paid. See par. C5352-D4.

a. Example 1. An employee with a dependent was authorized TQSE for 30 days at the new PDS and utilized temporary lodgings with available cooking facilities. The employee claimed TQSE meal expenses for purchased groceries during the 30-day TQSE period. The AO believes the grocery expenses to be excessive without supporting documentation. The AO may request supporting documentation including required receipts for any individual grocery/meal expense of \$75 or more to determine the appropriate reimbursement. See par. C1310-A2.

b. Example 2. An employee was authorized TQSE for 45 days at the new PDS and utilized temporary lodgings without cooking facilities. The employee claimed actual daily TQSE meal expenses equal to (or nearly equal to) the maximum daily M&IE rate for each day during the 45-day TQSE period. The AO believes the same-expenses-every-day meal costs to be unjustified without supporting documentation. The AO may request supporting documentation including receipts for any meal expense of \$75 or more to determine the appropriate reimbursement. See par. C1310-A2.

B. Actual Expenses Allowed. TQSE(AE) daily allowable expenses include:

1. Temporary lodging (including lodging taxes or, if temporary lodging is located in a foreign OCONUS area, the value added tax (VAT) relief certificate cost if the certificate is used to avoid paying the lodging taxes);
2. Meals and/or groceries;
3. Fees and tips incident to meals and lodging;
4. Laundry;
5. Cleaning and pressing of clothing;
6. The cost of moving HHG to the temporary lodging for the sole purpose of furnishing the temporary lodging ([B-217435, 29 August 1985](#)), **NOTE: The cost of removing HHG from SIT and delivering them to the temporary lodging for the sole purpose of furnishing temporary lodging is a TQSE expense.**; and
7. The cost of moving the HHG from the temporary lodging to permanent private sector housing ([B-217435, 29 August 1985](#)).

C. Excess Expenses. Allowable expenses exceeding the total authorized TQSE(AE) amount are the employee's financial responsibility.

D. Lodging with a Friend or Relative. When an official traveler lodges with a friend or relative - with or without charges - the *official* traveler may be reimbursed for additional *lodging* costs the host incurs in accommodating the traveler if the traveler *can* substantiate the costs and the AO determines the costs *are* reasonable. **The traveler may not be reimbursed the cost of comparable conventional lodging in the area or a flat "token" amount.** See [GSBCA 16836-RELO, 5 June 2006](#). A traveler, who lodges with a friend or relative, is authorized the old/new PDS M&IE rate, *if otherwise eligible*.

NOTE: If the friend or relative is in the business of renting on a regular basis the lodgings involved – for example, if that individual is operating a hotel or apartment house – the "friends or relatives" provision does not apply. See [GSBCA 14398-TRAV, 24 Feb 1998](#).

E. Itemization. Actual expenses must be itemized in a manner that permits a review of amounts spent daily for lodging, meals and other allowable items of subsistence expenses. The AO may require use of the DD Form 2912, "Claim for TQSE" (<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2912.pdf>).

F. Conditions Affecting Reimbursement

1. Partial Days of TQSE(AE). Temporary lodging occupancy for less than a whole day is the same as 1 full calendar day for TQSE(AE) reimbursement.

2. En Route Travel. Reimbursement may not be paid under both TQSE(AE) and another subsistence expenses allowance within the same calendar day, *unless* TQSE is claimed on the same day that en route travel per diem ends. In this case, en route travel per diem is computed under applicable partial day rules and TQSE reimbursement is computed for expenses incurred after 6:00 p.m. of that day ([FTR §302-6.110](#)). See par. C5358 for limitations on duplication of allowances.

3. Temporary Lodging Occupancy in All Other Cases. The TQSE(AE) period starts at 0001 of the calendar day that TQSE(AE) reimbursement is claimed, provided temporary lodging is occupied during that calendar day.

4. Temporary Lodging Eligibility Period Termination. The temporary lodging period ends at midnight of the last day of eligibility.

5. Meal Preparation in Temporary Lodging. If the temporary lodging has meal preparation facilities available and those facilities are used, the cost for groceries consumed on a daily basis is allowable. Claims must show the total amount for each daily meal.

G. Mobile Home TQSE Reimbursement. TQSE may be paid for temporary use of a mobile dwelling at the old and/or new PDSs. See [B-191831, 8 May 1979](#), [B-215055, 7 February 1985](#), and [GSBCA 15289-RELO, 1 February 2001](#). A mobile home that becomes/is/is to become the permanent residence at the PDS cannot also be used as a temporary residence.

1. Allowable Expenses. Mobile home lot or marina rental space for the mobile home; utilities connection and disconnection costs for electricity, fuel oil, natural gas, sewer, trash, and water service; and mandatory GOV'T-assessed fees (i.e., local, state, or federal).

2. Computation Rules. **Step 1:** Determine the daily TQSE lodging rate and prorate the total allowable expenses used by the number of TQSE days used. **Step 2:** Compare the actual daily TQSE lodging amount against the Standard CONUS daily lodging rate and pay the lesser amount.

a. Example 1. The employee claimed \$300 for 20 days of an authorized 30-day TQSE period. The TQSE expenses are the mobile home rental space - \$200, utilities - \$60, and mandatory GOV'T fees - \$40. The actual TQSE daily lodging cost is \$15 (\$300/20 days), which is less than the Standard CONUS lodging rate. The employee is paid \$300 (\$15/day x 20 days) for lodging during the authorized TQSE period.

b. Example 2. The employee claimed \$500 for 40 days of an authorized 30-day TQSE period. The TQSE expenses are the mobile home rental space - \$350, utilities - \$90, and mandatory GOV'T fees - \$60. The actual TQSE daily lodging is \$12.50 (\$500/40 days), which is less than the Standard CONUS lodging rate. The employee is paid \$375 (\$12.50/day x 30 days) for lodging during the authorized TQSE 30-day period.

3. Reimbursement Limitation. The factors below may affect the employee's TQSE reimbursement involving mobile home use.

a. TQSE expenses are limited to the temporary expenses listed in par. C5370-G1 when the mobile home is purchased as a temporary residence and used while seeking a primary residence (other than the mobile home that is being used as temporary lodgings) at the new PDS. Real estate expenses (i.e., mortgage, interest) are not authorized temporary lodgings expenses. If the employee's primary residence is/is to become the mobile home that is being used as a temporary residence, see par. C5750-B4 and do not pay TQSE.

b. TQSE may be authorized at the new PDS when the mobile home is the temporary residence while the employee is seeking a permanent residence other than the mobile home. TQSE expenses are limited to the temporary expenses listed in par. C5370-G1. Mobile home transportation is limited to the geographic points listed in par. C5260.

C5372 COMPUTATION

***A. TQSE(AE) Calculation**

*1. HHT Deduction. If an employee is paid/reimbursed for HHT days and authorized TQSE(AE) is subsequently claimed for more than 30 days, the actual number of HHT days (NTE 10) paid/reimbursed (on either a 'Lodgings-Plus' or fixed-amount basis) are deducted from the first authorized 30-day TQSE(AE) period. See Ch 5, Part M for HHT. For example, if an employee is:

*a. Paid for 5 days of a HHT, then deduct 5 days from the first authorized 30 day TQSE(AE) period;

*b. Paid for 6 days of a HHT, then deduct 6 days from the first authorized 30 day TQSE(AE) period; or

*c. Reimbursed for a 10-day HHT, then deduct 10 days (or the actual number of days used/reimbursed, whichever is less) from the first authorized 30 day TQSE(AE) period.

Examples

1. Authorized 10 days for HHT ('Lodgings-Plus' Method) and 60 days TQSE(AE). 9 days were used and reimbursed for the HHT. Pay 9 days for the HHT and reimburse actual expenses for 51 days (60 - 9 day HHT) TQSE(AE) (Since TQSE(AE) was authorized and claimed for more than 30 days, the 9 days paid for the HHT must be deducted from the first 30-day authorized TQSE(AE)) period.

First 21 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed for the first 30 days in par. C5372-A2c.

Next 30 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2d for the second 30 days.

Employee was authorized an additional 60 days TQSE(AE) under par. C5364-B2. Employee occupied temporary lodging for the additional 60 days. Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each of these 60 days in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2d for the 2nd 30 days.

NOTE: The deduction for the 9-day HHT is made from the first 30 days authorized for TQSE(AE). The employee was paid for a 9-day HHT and reimbursed for 111 (51 + 60) days TQSE(AE).

2. Authorized 10 days for HHT ('Lodgings-Plus' Method) and 30 days for TQSE(AE). 5 days were used and reimbursed for the HHT and temporary lodging was occupied for 27 days.

Pay 5 days for the HHT and reimburse actual expenses for 27 days TQSE(AE) that temporary lodging was occupied (authorization for TQSE(AE) was up to 30 days – no deduction is made for the 5 days reimbursed for the HHT since authorized TQSE(AE) was not for more than 30 days).

27 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2c for the first 30 days.

3. Authorized a HHT (Fixed Amount) for the spouse (paid at the 5 multiplier rate (par. C5624-B2b)) and 60 days for TQSE(AE). 10 days were used and reimbursed for the HHT and temporary lodging was occupied for 58 days. Pay HHT allowances as authorized under par. C5624-B2b and TQSE(AE) for 55 days (since TQSE(AE) was authorized for more than 30 days, the 5 days paid for the HHT must be deducted from the first authorized 30-day TQSE(AE) period - the deduction is 5 days when HHT(Fixed Amount) is paid under par. C5624-B2b).

First 25 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2c for the first 30 days.

Next 30 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2d for the second 30 days.

NOTE: The number of days authorized for TQSE(AE) is reduced for the entire family when either the employee or spouse or both make a HHT.

4. Authorized a HHT (Fixed Amount) for the employee and spouse (paid at the 6.25 multiplier rate (par. C5624-B2a)) and 60 days for TQSE(AE). 10 days were used and reimbursed for the HHT and temporary lodging was occupied for 65 days. Pay HHT allowances as authorized under par. C5624-B2a and reimburse actual expenses for TQSE(AE) for 54 days (since TQSE(AE) was authorized for more than 30 days, the 6 days paid for the HHT (Fixed Amount) must be deducted from the first authorized 30-day TQSE(AE) period - the deduction is 6 days in this instance when HHT (Fixed Amount) is paid under par. C5624-B2a).

First 24 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2c for the first 30 days.

Next 30 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2d for the second 30 days.

5. Authorized a HHT (Fixed Amount) for employee and spouse (par. C5624-B2a) and 25 days TQSE(F) for the employee and dependents. 8 days were used and reimbursed for the HHT and temporary lodging was occupied for 20 days. Since there are no HHT deductions from TQSE(F) and the actual number of days spent in temporary lodging is not relevant, pay HHT (Fixed Amount) as indicated in par. C5624-B2a and TQSE(F) for 25 days as indicated in par. C5392.

NOTE: (a) There is no deduction from the number of days authorized for TQSE(F) for the number of days paid under HHT (Fixed Amount) or reimbursed under HHT ('Lodgings-Plus' Method) for a HHT, and (b) TQSE(F) is paid for the number of days authorized not the number of days temporary lodging was occupied.

6. Initially Authorized a 10-day HHT ('Lodgings-Plus' Method) and 30 days for TQSE(AE) and then authorized an additional 30 days TQSE(AE) under par. C5364-B2. 10 days used and reimbursed for a HHT and temporary lodging was occupied for 58 days. Pay HHT allowances for 10 days and reimburse actual expenses for TQSE(AE) for 50 days (since TQSE(AE) was authorized for more than 30 days, the 10 days paid for the HHT must be deducted from the first authorized 30-day TQSE(AE) period).

First 20 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2c for the first 30 days.

Next 30 days TQSE(AE): Reimburse actual expenses (par. C5370-B) for each day in an amount NTE the applicable daily rates prescribed in par. C5372-A2d for the second 30 days.

2. Per Diem Rates. The per diem rates used for computation are:
 - a. CONUS. **\$109**, Standard CONUS per diem rate (*effective 1 October 2007*).
 - b. OCONUS (non-foreign OCONUS and foreign areas). The PDS locality (not the lodging location) per diem rate in effect on the days temporary lodging is occupied.
 - c. First 30 Days
 - (1) Employee/Unaccompanied Spouse. The daily rate cannot exceed the maximum per diem rate for an employee/unaccompanied spouse (the spouse must occupy temporary lodging in a location separate from employee's).
 - (2) Spouse Accompanying the Employee. The daily rate cannot exceed 75% of the daily maximum per diem rate for a spouse who accompanies an employee.
 - (3) Dependent Age 12 or Older. The daily rate cannot exceed 75% of the daily maximum per diem rate for each dependent, other than a spouse, who is age 12 or older.
 - (4) Dependent under Age 12. The daily rate cannot exceed 50% of the daily maximum per diem rate for each dependent who is under age 12.

NOTE: The maximum daily rates for the first 30 days (based on the daily per diem rate of \$109) in pars. C5372-A2a through C5372-A2d are \$109, \$81.75, \$81.75, and \$54.50, respectively, if the temporary lodging is occupied in CONUS.

- d. Second Thirty Days. The maximum allowable daily rate for the second thirty days is:
 - (1) Employee/Unaccompanied Spouse. The daily rate cannot exceed 75% of the daily maximum per diem rate for an employee/unaccompanied spouse (the spouse must occupy temporary lodging in a location separate from employee's).
 - (2) Spouse Accompanying the Employee. The daily rate cannot exceed 50% of the daily maximum per diem rate for a spouse who accompanies the employee.
 - (3) Dependent Age 12 or Older. The daily rate cannot exceed 50% of the daily maximum per diem rate for each dependent, other than a spouse, who is 12 or older.
 - (4) Dependent under Age 12. The daily rate cannot exceed 40% of the daily maximum per diem rate for each dependent under age 12.

NOTE: If the temporary lodging is in CONUS, the maximum daily rates for additional days (based on the daily per diem rate of \$109) in pars. C5372-A2a through C5372-A2d are \$81.75, \$54.50, \$54.50, and \$43.60 respectively.

- e. 60-120 Days. When the AO authorizes a time extension (in TQSE(AE)) for temporary lodging occupancy beyond the first 60 days (*never to exceed an additional 60 days*), the additional days must be computed at the same rates allowed for the second 30-day period in par. C5372-A2d above. ***The total time period for which TQSE(AE) may be paid may never exceed 120 days.***

B. Computation Examples

1. TQSE(AE) Calculation Chart. The Standard CONUS per diem rate (currently \$109) used in the following chart applies when temporary lodging (TQSE(AE)) is in CONUS. Use the applicable locality per diem rate when temporary lodging is located OCONUS. *AEA (Ch 5, Part M) may not be authorized/approved for TQSE(AE).*

Standard CONUS Per Diem Rate	First 30 Days		After 30 Days	
	Formula	Maximum Reimbursement	Formula	Maximum Reimbursement
\$109 (Eff 1 October 2007)				
Employee or Unaccompanied Spouse	\$109	\$109.00	\$109 x 75%	\$81.75
Accompanying Spouse	\$109 x 75%	\$ 81.75	\$109 x 50%	\$54.50
Dependent 12 and older	\$109 x 75%	\$ 81.75	\$109 x 50%	\$54.50
Dependent under 12	\$109 x 50%	\$ 54.50	\$109 x 40%	\$43.60

2. TQSE(AE) Example 1. An employee resides in temporary lodging at a new PDS in Location A, CONUS, for 5 days and incurs daily expenses of \$44.50, \$43.20, \$44.20, \$46.20 and \$45.20. The total is \$223.30. The applicable maximum TQSE(AE) equals \$109 times 5 days (\$545). Since the actual TQSE(AE) expenses are less than the maximum amount authorized, TQSE(AE) reimbursement is \$223.30. If the actual TQSE(AE) expenses are more than the maximum authorized, (e.g., \$600), TQSE(AE) is limited to \$545. If an employee pays allowable TQSE(AE) expenses on a weekly, biweekly, or monthly basis, the amount is apportioned per day.

3. TQSE(AE) Example 2. The AO authorizes TQSE(AE) for NTE 60 days. An employee's dependent delays temporary lodging occupancy until 31 days after the employee starts temporary lodging occupancy. The TQSE(AE) limitation for the first 30 days applies to the employee's allowable expenses. The TQSE(AE) amount limitations for the second 30-day period apply to the employee and dependent. This applies when the employee and dependent occupy temporary lodging at the same or at different locations.

4. TQSE(AE) Example 3. An employee and dependent vacate permanent private sector housing at the old PDS and occupy temporary lodging at that location for 3 days. They then travel to the new PDS. The allowable travel time is 6 days. They are en route 5 days. Upon arrival at the new PDS, they occupy temporary lodging. For determining the TQSE(AE) maximum amount, temporary lodging occupancy resumption at the new PDS is counted as the 4th day. Actual, NTE allowable, travel time is excluded (i.e., the TQSE(AE) clock 'stops' for the en route travel). ***NOTE: This is true for PCS or TCS travel.***

5. TQSE(AE) Example 4. An employee and dependent vacate permanent private sector housing at the old PDS and occupy temporary lodging there. After 3 days, the employee begins travel to the new PDS. The dependent remains in temporary lodging. The employee is en route 5 days and upon arrival at the new PDS occupies temporary lodging. For determining the TQSE(AE) maximum amount, the employee's temporary lodging occupancy resumption is the 9th day, since the dependent continued temporary lodging occupancy for the 5 days the employee was en route, and the time runs concurrently for all.

6. TQSE(AE) Example 5. An employee travels to a new PDS, en route for 5 days. Temporary lodgings were not occupied at the old PDS. The employee occupies temporary lodging upon arrival at the new PDS. The employee requests and is authorized 10 days of annual leave while in a TQSE(AE) status. For determining the TQSE(AE) maximum amount, the employee's temporary lodging occupancy is not interrupted during the authorized leave whether the employee is at or away from the new PDS during the TQSE(AE) eligibility period. See [B-247061, 6 May 1992](#).

7. TQSE(AE) Example 6. An employee travels to the new PDS, en route for 5 days. Temporary lodgings were not occupied at the old PDS. The employee occupies temporary lodging upon arrival at the new PDS. The TQSE(AE) eligibility period was interrupted by official travel (TDY) of 5 days and the employee was authorized to retain TQSE(AE) lodging while TDY. The employee may be reimbursed for both lodging expenses (TDY & TQSE(AE)) during the TQSE(AE) eligibility period plus M&IE for the TDY when the AO determines that the employee acted reasonably in retaining the TQSE(AE) lodging. For example, the TDY per diem rate for the 5 days/4 nights is \$109 (\$70/ \$39) and the TQSE(AE) monthly lodging cost at the new PDS is \$900/month. The employee's actual TDY lodging cost \$60 times 4 nights (\$240) making \$240 in TDY lodging expense payable. TQSE(AE) lodging reimbursement of \$30/day (\$900/month divided by 30 days/month) is also payable during the eligibility period. In this example, having the employee stop and start the TQSE(AE) lodgings would have resulted in a TQSE(AE) lodging charge of \$45/day (since the monthly rate would not have been offered) for the actual days in the TQSE(AE) lodging before and after the TDY). The M&IE is for the TDY location while the employee was TDY and as part of TQSE(AE) for the new PDS location when the employee is there but not at both locations for the same days. See [GSBCA 16430-RELO, 13 October 2004](#).

PART J: DEPENDENT EARLY RETURN

C5450 DEPENDENT EARLY RETURN

A. Transportation

1. General. A dependent's return travel to the U.S. may be authorized before the employee's return to the actual residence/alternate destination.
2. Excess Costs. The employee is financially responsible for costs that exceed the most economical route from the OCONUS PDS to the employee's actual residence.
3. Authorization. Early return travel may be authorized when:
 - *a. An employee is eligible for return transportation after completing the PDS service period agreement in par. C5570-C and APP Q, Part III. See pars. C5570-C7 through C11, for exceptions to the PDS service period agreement; *or*
 - b. The OCONUS command determines that it is in the GOV'T's best interest to return the dependent for reasons of a humanitarian/compassionate nature. Examples: physical/mental health, immediate family member death, authority imposed obligations, and other similar circumstances when the employee has no control.

B. Reimbursement

1. When an employee's dependent returns before the employee is eligible for return travel, and for reasons other than those in par. C5450-A3, transportation expenses are the employee's personal financial responsibility.
2. When the employee is eligible for return travel reimbursement, travel expenses are NTE the cost of the dependent travel by the most economical route (including policy-constructed airfare (see APP A) when contract city-pair airfares are not available) from the OCONUS PDS to the actual residence.
3. Reimbursement is NTE the amount allowable for the transportation mode available that would have been used when the employee was eligible for return travel.
4. If available, GOV'T transportation must be used for dependent early return travel,
5. See Ch 2 for transportation modes, accommodations, transportation requests, baggage, and mileage rates ICW dependent early return travel.
6. See par. C1310 for receipt requirements.

C. Limitations

1. A dependent's early return travel under par. C5450-A or C5450-B must not be authorized more than once during each agreed period of OCONUS service.
2. A dependent's return travel at GOV'T expense to the OCONUS PDS is not authorized *except* when incident to the employee's RAT. See par. C5545.
3. A dependent's early return transportation expenses to the OCONUS PDS are reimbursable when an employee:
 - a. Completes an agreed to period of service,

- b. Has received unaccompanied one-way dependent transportation to the actual residence, and
 - c. Has RAT at a later date.
4. Reimbursement must not exceed the GOV'T's cost for the usual transportation mode and route that would have been used had the dependent traveled back to the OCONUS PDS with the employee.
5. See par. C1310 for receipt requirements.

D. Return of Former Spouse and/or Other Dependent ([FTR § 302-3.227](#)). Reimbursement for return travel and transportation allowances to the actual residence (see APP A) is authorized:

- 1. Anywhere in the world for an employee's former spouse and/or former dependent who traveled to the employee's OCONUS PDS as a dependent at GOV'T expense.
- 2. Reimbursement is authorized if, because of divorce/annulment, an individual is no longer a dependent when the employee is eligible for return travel.
- 3. Travel must begin before the end of the employee's current tour of duty.
- 4. If an employee is serving under a 1-year, 2-year or 3-year tour agreement, travel for a former dependent must begin before the end of the 1-year, 2-year or 3-year tour during which the divorce/annulment was finalized.
- 5. If the employee is serving under an administrative tour extension, travel for a former dependent must begin before the end of the administrative extension in effect during which the divorce/annulment was finalized.

PART K: RENEWAL AGREEMENT TRAVEL (RAT)

C5500 GENERAL

An employee, and the employee's accompanying dependents, may be eligible to receive travel and transportation allowances for returning home between OCONUS tours of duty. This Part applies to an employee serving OCONUS tours of duty. *See pars. C5506 and C5509 for an employee serving tours of duty in Alaska or Hawai'i.*

NOTE: *When an employee on a 12-month tour without dependents to a FEML area extends for a consecutive second 12-month tour, the employee is only eligible for one funded leave transportation program, the RAT or the FEML leave transportation program, but not both.*

C5503 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL OCONUS AREAS

A. **Eligibility.** An employee must meet the requirements in par. C5503-B to be eligible for the allowances in par. C5500.

B. **Requirements.** Prior to departure from the OCONUS PDS an employee must have:

1. Satisfactorily completed the prescribed tour of duty (see par. C5570-C and APP Q, Part III for prescribed tours of duty), and
2. Entered into a new written service agreement for another tour of duty at an OCONUS PDS; (the new service agreement covers costs incident to travel to the employee's actual residence or alternate location IAW pars. C5536-A through C5536-C and return and any additional cost paid by the GOV'T as a result of the employee's transfer to another OCONUS PDS at the time of the tour RAT), and
3. (For Hawai'i or Alaska) Eligibility under pars. C5506 and C5509.

C5506 EMPLOYEE STATIONED IN ALASKA OR HAWAI'I ON 8 SEPTEMBER 1982

An employee whose status on 8 September 1982 was any of the situations below, involving a PDS in Alaska or Hawai'i, continues to be eligible to receive RAT travel and transportation allowances provided that the employee continues to serve consecutive tours of duty within Alaska or Hawai'i (as appropriate within the same State). On 8 September 1982, the employee must have been:

1. Serving a tour of duty in Alaska or Hawai'i; or
2. En route to a PDS in Alaska or Hawai'i under a written service agreement to serve a tour of duty; or
3. Engaged in tour RAT and have entered into a new written service agreement to serve another tour of duty in Alaska or Hawai'i.

C5509 EMPLOYEE ASSIGNED, APPOINTED, OR TRANSFERRED TO A POST OF DUTY IN ALASKA OR HAWAI'I AFTER 8 SEPTEMBER 1982

1. The travel and transportation allowances for RAT in this Part may not be authorized for an employee assigned, appointed, or transferred to a PDS in Alaska or Hawai'i after 8 September 1982, unless the DOD Component involved determines that payment of these expenses is necessary for recruiting/retaining an employee for a tour of duty in Alaska or Hawai'i.
2. This authority may be used only when required to fulfill DOD component staffing needs for mission accomplishment. Use of these provisions is intended to ensure the availability of a well-qualified employee or an employee with special skills and knowledge who is not otherwise available in the local area, and to fill remote area positions.

3. DOD Component regulations must prescribe criteria and guidelines to determine the need for RAT.
4. The DOD Component determination that RAT is necessary as a recruiting/retention incentive to fill a particular position in Alaska or Hawai'i must be reviewed and re-confirmed in writing periodically, but not less than every five years.
5. RAT travel and transportation allowances for recruiting/retention purposes is limited to two round trips beginning within 5 years after the employee first begins any period of consecutive tours of duty in either Alaska or Hawai'i. *An employee must be advised in writing of this limitation.*

NOTE: *The successive tours must be in the same State. A tour in Hawai'i followed by a tour in Alaska, or vice versa, does not qualify.*

C5512 ALLOWABLE TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION

An eligible employee and dependents are authorized transportation (including transportation to and from common carrier terminals) from the OCONUS PDS to the employee's actual residence at the time of assignment to the OCONUS PDS. Transportation also is authorized from the actual residence to an OCONUS PDS; except for Alaska and Hawai'i. When Alaska and Hawai'i are involved, the return must be to a PDS in the same State (Alaska or Hawai'i) as the PDS at which the employee served immediately prior to RAT. See par. C5506. *See par. C2203 regarding the mandatory use of CTOs for transportation arrangements.* See par. C5530 for per diem.

C5515 RENEWAL AGREEMENT TRAVEL (RAT) DENIAL/DELAY

A. Renewal Agreement Travel (RAT) Denial. Except for teachers as in par. C5542, RAT may be denied only under the circumstances below. The employee:

1. Is being processed for separation, or
2. Is going to be involved in a RIF, or
3. Has a removal action pending, or
4. Has been reassigned to a U.S. position, or
5. Is to be reassigned to a CONUS position ICW rotation on a similar program that precludes a required period of service completion under a renewal agreement.

B. Renewal Agreement Travel (RAT) Delay

NOTE: *Delay may not be imposed on a DODEA teacher.*

1. General

- a. RAT at GOV'T expense may not be denied to an employee who has earned it except under the circumstances in par. C5515-A.
- b. The time at which leave is granted (to perform RAT) is subject to appropriate personnel regulations.
- c. RAT ordinarily is performed between OCONUS tours of duty. See par. C5572-C2. Travel at a later date, within a tour of duty, may be authorized/approved by the employee's OCONUS commander ([B-232179, 6 October 1989](#)) subject to leave being granted IAW personnel regulations.

2. Delay at Management's Request. Management may request an employee to delay RAT by extending the initial tour (or tour then in effect) NTE 90 days if

- a. The employee is engaged on a project that is scheduled for completion within a reasonable time.
- b. There is a temporary personnel shortage, or
- c. For other good reasons.

Sufficient time must remain in the employee's renewal agreement tour (after adjusting the length of the tour by subtracting the number of days that the initial tour was extended) following RAT to serve at least 12 months upon return to the OCONUS PDS.

*3. Delay at the Employee's Request. An employee may request an extension of the initial tour (or tour then in effect) to permit leave scheduling to accommodate personal/job related reasons acceptable to and permitted by the OCONUS commander concerned. See par. C5570-C3. In this case, the employee's tour after performing RAT and returning to the OCONUS PDS is the greater of:

- a. The renewal agreement tour for the PDS concerned, decreased by the number of days the initial tour was extended; or
- b. 12 months.

*4. Limits on OCONUS Assignments. A delay in performing RAT should not be authorized if the resulting extension to the new tour, or requirement to serve 12 months following return to the OCONUS PDS, requires the employee to remain at the OCONUS PDS beyond any 5- (or other-) year limit on OCONUS assignments contained in personnel regulations, unless the employee is not affected by, or has been released from, the 5- (or other-) year OCONUS service limitation. See par. C5570-C5.

5. Computing the Tour of Duty when Delayed RAT Is Involved and the Employee Is Not Affected by an OCONUS Service Limitation

Example

An employee's initial 36-month tour ended 30 June 2003. The employee was eligible to perform RAT beginning 1 July 2003 after signing a 24-month renewal agreement. The employee departed the PDS on 1 July 2003, performed RAT and returned 31 July 2003. The new tour of duty begins on 1 August 2003 and ends 31 July 2005 (i.e., 24 months after return from RAT).

If the initial tour was extended to 31 August 2003, delaying RAT for 62 days, and RAT for 30 days was performed from 1 to 30 September 2003, the employee's RAT tour after returning to the OCONUS PDS would be for 22 months beginning 1 October 2003 and ending 31 July 2005. The 22 months is computed by decreasing the 24-month tour prescribed for the PDS after RAT completion by the number of days the initial tour was extended (62 days).

C5518 TRAVEL IN FAMILY UNITS NOT REQUIRED

An employee may travel alone or with dependents. A dependent may travel unaccompanied but cannot perform round trip travel under renewal agreement authority if the employee does not, at some point, perform authorized RAT. An unaccompanied dependent must not be allowed delayed use of renewal agreement authority (i.e., start RAT) beyond 6 months after the date the employee begins travel, except for teachers IAW par. C5542.

C5521 RAT NON-CUMULATIVE

RAT is to be used between consecutive periods of continuous OCONUS employment. RAT may be performed between the completion date of one service agreement and prior to serving another tour of duty pursuant to a written renewal agreement ([35 Comp. Gen. 101 \(1955\)](#)). *RAT authorization is not cumulative from one period of service to another if not used.*

C5524 BAGGAGE TRANSPORTATION

See par. C2305 for allowed baggage transportation.

C5527 HHG SIT

See par. C5190 for up to 90 days of HHG storage in transit.

C5530 PER DIEM

A. An Employee is Authorized Per Diem during the Allowable RAT Travel Periods between the OCONUS PDSs and the Authorized RAT Destination. *No per diem is authorized for the employee's dependent incident to RAT when the employee returns to the same OCONUS PDS for duty.* However, when the employee is to report to a different OCONUS PDS for duty, after leave, per diem is allowable for a dependent while en route, limited to the constructed time by the usual transportation mode and route *directly* between old and new OCONUS duty stations. See par. C5512 for allowable travel and transportation allowances.

NOTE: *AEA in JTR, Ch 4, Part M may not be authorized/approved for RAT/PCS travel.*

B. Per Diem Computation Example. The following example illustrates the method used for computing per diem allowances incident to RAT:

Renewal Agreement Travel			
<u>NOTE:</u> See http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/perdiem/pdrates.html or par. C5060-E3 for the current Standard CONUS per diem rate.			
1. An employee and spouse performed RAT from OCONUS to CONUS, and return to the same OCONUS PDS.			
2. Itinerary	9/1	Depart OCONUS residence in Frankfurt, GE, at 0730 Arrive CONUS residence at 2230	
	9/2 – 9/30	Leave	
	10/1	Depart CONUS residence at 1400	
	10/2	Arrive OCONUS at 1015	
3. The employee is authorized per diem since actual time exceeds 12 hours. See. C5060-F1a(1).			
4. Maximum per diem rate at time of travel \$109 (\$70/ \$39). (The destination per diem rate applicable for RAT to CONUS is the Standard CONUS per diem rate.)			
5. Reimbursement:	9/1	75% x \$39 (M&IE) =	\$29.25
	9/2- 9/30	No per diem	0.00
	10/1 – 10/2	75% x \$39 (&IE) =	\$29.25
Total Reimbursement			\$58.50
6. Par. C5060-F1a(1) applies and the destination M&IE rate (\$39) is used for computing per diem for that day since travel from Frankfurt to Chicago began and ended on the same day.			
7. On the return trip, the M&IE rate applicable to the actual residence for RAT is used for computing per diem. See par. C5060-F1a(1).			
8. <i>Per diem for dependents is not authorized for RAT.</i>			

C5533 LEAVE STATUS DURING ABSENCE FROM DUTY

The leave regulations of the separate departments and DOD component apply regarding the employee's leave 'status'. Certain limitations may apply to teachers in the DOD Education Activity IAW par. C5542.

C5536 ALTERNATE DESTINATION

A. Authorization

1. An employee/a dependent is authorized to perform RAT to a destination (other than the employee's actual residence) in:
 - a. A CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location, or
 - b. The country of the employee's actual residence.
2. Either destination listed above is an official travel destination.
3. Contract city-pair airfares may be available for use. *If the employee/dependent travels to a more expensive alternate destination, city-pair airfares are not authorized for any transportation related to the alternate destination and the employee is financially responsible for any excess cost.*
4. The policy-constructed airfare (see APP A) is to be used for constructed cost purposes (see APP P, Part I-B1, [FTR §301-10.112](#) and [62 Comp. Gen. 596 \(1983\)](#)).

B. Examples. The locations and transportation costs used in the following examples are for illustrative purposes only.

1. Example 1

Example 1	
Employee's PDS is in Germany and the actual residence is Ames, IA. There is no city-pair airfare between Germany and Ames, IA.	
The policy-constructed airfare (see APP A) between Germany and Ames (incorporating some city-pair airfare connections):	\$1,200
Employee desires to utilize RAT to Boston, MA.	
City-pair airfare to/from Boston:	\$1,400
Least expensive policy-constructed airfare to/from Boston:	\$1,600
Since transportation to/from Boston, MA, is more expensive than transportation to/from Ames, IA, no city-pair airfare may be used to/from Boston.	
The employee's financial responsibility is \$1,600 of which \$1,200 is reimbursable.	

2. Example 2

Example 2	
Employee's PDS is Germany and the actual residence is Washington, DC.	
Round trip city-pair airfare trip cost:	\$980
Employee desires to utilize RAT to/from St. Louis, MO.	
Round trip city-pair airfare to/from St. Louis:	\$840
Since transportation to/from St. Louis, MO, is less expensive than the transportation to/from the actual residence in Washington, DC, the employee is authorized city-pair airfare to/from St. Louis (\$840) NTE the \$980 cost to the actual residence.	

C. Time and Location Requirement. If an employee's actual residence is in a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location, the employee, and the employee's dependent, must spend the majority of the RAT time in the CONUS or that non-foreign OCONUS location for RAT to be authorized.

D. Alternate Destination Not Authorized. RAT must not be authorized to an alternate destination if the traveler:

1. Does not meet the conditions in par. C5542,
2. Is merely routed through the country of actual residence en route to another country, or

3. Travels to various points for personal reasons (e.g., a "travel tour").

E. Administration. An alternate destination:

1. Is determined in advance of travel and stated in the travel authorization/order,
2. Omitted from the travel authorization/order may be later added to the travel authorization as an amendment, or
3. May be specifically approved on the reimbursement voucher if permitted by finance regulations.

F. Reimbursement. RAT reimbursement for travel to an alternate destination must not exceed the amount allowed for transportation along a usually traveled route between the PDS and the actual residence.

C5539 LIMITATIONS

A. Household Goods (HHG). There is no authority (ICW RAT) for HHG transportation except with regard to necessary accompanied baggage IAW par. C2305. Signing the renewal agreement ICW RAT can be the basis for reestablishing expired authority for HHG and dependent transportation to the extent of a prior authorization/order that was unused ([38 Comp. Gen. 653 \(1959\)](#)).

B. Unaccompanied Dependents. See par. C5518 for an unaccompanied dependent's travel and transportation authority.

C. Destination Point Relocation. RAT authority does not apply if an employee's travel destination is to a place other than in the country or area in which the actual residence is located.

D. Duplicate Eligibility. *Duplicate transportation is not authorized for persons who may be separately eligible for RAT as an employee and as a dependent (i.e., a couple, each with RAT authority, can only travel once. Each may not travel again as a 'dependent' of the other).*

E. RAT ICW other Travel. An employee may not be required to combine RAT with any other funded leave transportation program or travel allowance. An employer may not require that RAT be combined with any other funded leave transportation program or travel allowance.

C5542 DOD OVERSEAS DEPENDENTS SCHOOL SYSTEM TEACHER

A. Completion of Period of Service RAT. Under RAT authority, a teacher who satisfactorily completes the period of service in the service agreement is authorized travel to a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS actual residence during the summer recess. This travel is authorized whether return is to the same/a different OCONUS area.

B. Exceptions

1. General

- a. A teacher is authorized to travel to a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location on the first portion of RAT authority to attend an accredited college/university.
- b. Travel to the OCONUS area may be accomplished under the return portion of RAT authority upon completion of the study period.
- c. Par. C5518 (Travel in Family Units Not Required) is exclusive of any time the teacher is actively enrolled at the college/university in a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location.

d. The exceptions in par. C5542-A may be authorized/approved during a period of continuous service as provided in pars. C5542-B2 and C5542-B3.

2. Reassignment at Management's Request

a. Under RAT authority, after completing 1 school-year of service on a current service agreement, any teacher who is reassigned at management's request from one 2-year area to another 2-year area, may return to the CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS actual residence during the summer vacation.

b. The normal routing between the two PDSs must be through a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location and the teacher must sign a new renewal agreement for the new area of assignment.

c. Other reassignments at management's request do not qualify for RAT travel and must be limited to travel by direct routing as a PCS movement between the two PDSs.

d. The first school-year of service at the new location completes the second consecutive school-year of required service under the initial service agreement.

3. Attendance at an Accredited College/University

a. When the teacher desires to return to a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location for the summer at the end of the first school-year of service, the teacher may be authorized round trip RAT if the teacher is:

(1) Under an agreement to attend an accredited college/university,

(2) Pursuing courses for professional preparation/advancement that are related to the present/planned needs of the DOD Education Activity, or

(3) Pursuing other specific professional preparations meeting current DOD Education Activity requirements, or

(4) Attending courses that are required for continued certification in the teacher's home State.

b. The renewal agreement is signed before leaving the OCONUS area.

c. The teacher is required to present satisfactory evidence of acceptance by, or an acceptable intent to attend, an institution for an appropriate course of study of not less than 6 semester hours.

d. The teacher becomes financially responsible for previously GOV'T-paid travel costs, when travel was at GOV'T expense to a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location to attend a course of study and there is no satisfactory proof of:

(1) Course(s) completion, or

(2) Reasons for not completing the course(s).

e. A teacher who returns to a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location under the exception in par. C5542-A begins a new 2-school-year cycle under the renewal agreement upon return to the OCONUS area.

4. Attendance at Accredited College/University Incident to Authorized Extended Leave of Absence. Round trip RAT may be authorized for the purpose of furthering professional growth in the case of a teacher who is authorized a leave of absence to attend an accredited college/university in a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS location provided the teacher:

a. Has satisfactorily completed 2 school-years in the DOD Overseas Dependents School System and meets the eligibility conditions for RAT,

- b. Executes a renewal agreement - prior to departure ICW the authorized leave of absence, and
- c. Presents to the appropriate official responsible for authorizing the extended leave of absence and RAT:
 - (1) Acceptable evidence of intent to attend an accredited college/university to pursue a course of study leading to a higher degree or for graduate work in a chosen field,
 - (2) Evidence that the course of study is not feasible through other means,
 - (3) Proof/acceptance of the course of study, and
 - (4) Information regarding successful course completion.

5. Reassignment to 1-year Tour Area. A teacher who requests reassignment at the end of the first school year, and receives management approval for reassignment to a new 1-year tour area, is authorized RAT to the CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS actual residence for the summer recess. See personnel regulations regarding pay/leave status. RAT also is authorized from that CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS actual residence to the new OCONUS PDS indicated in the renewal agreement.

C. HHG Storage between School Years. See par. C5195-C.

- 1. Conditions. See par. C5195-C for HHG storage between school years.
- 2. In Addition to Storage in Transit (SIT). Authority for storage between school years (see par. C5195-C) is in addition to authority for SIT ICW HHG shipment. Storage under these two authorities may overlap in time.
- 3. Substitute and Part-Time Teachers. *Substitute and part-time teachers are not eligible for storage between school years.*
- 4. Administrative Arrangements
 - a. The industrial relations/civilian personnel officer (administrative responsibility) must furnish the transportation officer notification about storage between school years. The notification must specify the storage period beginning and ending dates.
 - b. The transportation officer is responsible for storage arrangements.
 - c. The transportation officer must maintain a record of all storage costs or the reasonable value for storage furnished for each teacher.
- 5. Indebtedness Notification. Appropriate financial regulations address indebtedness and appropriate notification so that collection action can be taken.
- 6. Consecutive School Terms in Different Locations
 - a. If a teacher is at different locations for consecutive school terms, storage costs are paid by the losing command/activity until the HHG are removed from storage for shipment to the new PDS.
 - b. The gaining command/activity pays for any storage costs after the date the HHG arrive at the new PDS.
 - c. Storage may be at either the old or new PDS whichever is most practical with the losing command paying only if storage is at the old PDS.

C5545 DEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION

A. When Authorized

1. Dependent transportation may be authorized ICW the employee's RAT.
2. Subject to the conditions in Ch 5, Part K, the dependent transportation costs must not exceed the GOV'T's cost for transportation to the employee's authorized destination.
3. In these cases, dependent transportation may be as provided in par. C5545.

B. Dependent Eligibility. A dependent is authorized round trip transportation ICW the employee's renewal agreement, provided that the dependent:

1. Traveled to the OCONUS PDS within the prescribed 2 year limit, or
2. Became a dependent at the OCONUS area by marriage, birth, or adoption before the employee began round-trip travel under a renewal agreement,

C. Authorization Limitations. A dependent:

1. At the OCONUS PDS may:
 - a. Accompany the employee, and/or
 - b. Travel before/after the employee ***but only after the employee has met RAT eligibility requirements and the renewal agreement is in place.***
2. Who did not travel to an OCONUS PDS during the preceding tour (including newly acquired dependents), is authorized one-way transportation to the PDS ICW the employee's renewal agreement.
3. Uses RAT to travel to the OCONUS PDS for the first time and may travel at different times than the employee or with the employee on return to the OCONUS PDS.
4. Travels, performed after the employee's RAT, must be completed within 6 months of the employee's RAT start date.
5. ***May be authorized RAT only when the employee performs RAT ([35 Comp. Gen. 101 \(1955\)](#)).***

D. New Tour at Different OCONUS PDS. If the employee's new tour is at a different OCONUS PDS, a dependent who does not accompany the employee on RAT but remains at the old OCONUS PDS is authorized to travel from the old to the new PDS.

E. TDY at the Expiration of Leave Prior to Returning to the OCONUS PDS. When the employee:

1. And dependent travels to the actual residence for leave before beginning a new OCONUS tour, and
2. Performs TDY or attends a training course after the leave but before returning to the OCONUS PDS,

the dependent may return to the OCONUS PDS after the leave.

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SECTION 1: GENERAL

C5550 SERVICE AGREEMENT

A. General ([FTR, §302-2.12](#))

1. A service agreement is a written agreement between the employee and the employee's agency, signed by the employee and agency representative, stating that the employee agrees to remain in GOV'T service for a period of time specified in par. C5570-B, after the employee has relocated.
2. All or a portion of these travel and transportation allowances may be lost under certain conditions. See par. C5576.
3. Agreement forms, their preparation and disposition are in par. C5562.

B. Failure to Sign a Service Agreement ([FTR, §302-2.17](#)). If an employee fails to sign a service agreement, the GOV'T is not financially responsible for the employee's relocation expenses. Those expenses become the employee's financial responsibility.

C. Initial Agreement. An initial agreement establishes eligibility for an employee's travel and transportation allowances, the employee's dependents, and HHG.

D. Renewal Agreement. A renewal agreement establishes eligibility for round trip travel and transportation allowances for an employee and dependents for the purpose of taking leave between consecutive periods of OCONUS employment. A renewal agreement does not establish any HHG transportation authority.

E. Appointment/Transfer to an OCONUS Position

1. The employee agrees to complete a prescribed tour of duty at the OCONUS PDS for return travel and transportation allowances.
2. Completion of the specified tour of duty establishes travel and transportation allowance eligibility and does not terminate the employee's employment.
3. This agreement may be an initial agreement or a renewal agreement.

F. More than One Service Agreement ([FTR, §302-2.19](#)). Service agreements cannot be grouped together and must be adhered to separately. Each agreement is in effect for the period specified in the agreement.

G. Subsequent Service Agreements ([FTR, §302-2.18](#)). Service agreements that are already in effect cannot be voided by subsequent service agreements.

C5552 PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT

A. General. Agreements must be negotiated by personnel designated by the component concerned.

B. Designated Personnel. For all components, the following have authority to negotiate agreements:

1. Commanding officers, and their civilian counterparts having appointing authority to fill positions,
2. Any civilian personnel office employee designated to act for a commanding officer in effecting appointments, and
3. Other personnel designated by the commanding officer to act for the commanding officer in response to specific requests.

C5554 ACTUAL RESIDENCE ([FTR, §302-2.15](#))

An employee, who accepts a transfer to an OCONUS PDS, must provide the agency with the information needed to determine the employee's actual residence to document in the service agreement.

C5556 ACTUAL RESIDENCE DETERMINATION

A. Appointees (Including Student Trainees)

1. Authorized transportation to the first PDS must be from the appointee's actual residence at the time of selection/assignment.
2. The actual residence is the location at which the appointee lived before selection for the appointment/assignment.
3. If the appointee claims another location as the actual residence at the time of selection, the appointee must prove that the residence in the location where the appointee lived at the time of selection is temporary and the actual residence is elsewhere.
4. Whether the college location at which a student is enrolled/lived for 9 or 10 months in each of 3 or 4 years is the actual residence depends on the facts presented.

B. OCONUS Employment

1. General

- a. Actual residence must be determined when an individual is initially appointed/transferred to an OCONUS PDS.
- b. The GOV'T's obligation for travel and transportation allowances for travel to:
 - (1) An OCONUS PDS upon assignment,
 - (2) Round trip travel and transportation allowances under a renewal agreement, or
 - (3) Return travel and transportation allowances for separation

is limited to movement to/from an employee's actual residence at the time of assignment to OCONUS duty.

- c. If, at the time of appointment, the employee is in the OCONUS area temporarily (e.g., as a tourist), the employee subsequently may be eligible for return travel and transportation allowances or RAT.
- d. Eligibility for travel and transportation allowances is determined by actual residence designation, based on factual circumstances of each case.
- e. Before an agreement is negotiated, the employment office must state the actual residence in the agreement.
- f. The actual residence shown in an initial service agreement and the renewal agreement must be the same unless the initial agreement was incorrect. In that event, the correct actual residence must be determined, explained, and stated in the renewal agreement.

2. Consideration Factors

a. Ordinarily, the actual residence is the:

- (1) Fixed residence where dependents and HHG are maintained at the time of an individual's appointment/transfer to an OCONUS position, and/or
- (2) Place from which transferred or appointed.

b. The desire of an appointee/employee to specify an unjustifiable location as actual residence to:

- (1) Establish residence at a certain location, or
- (2) Visit a certain location,

must not be a basis for designating that place as the actual residence for travel and transportation allowances purposes.

c. All facts concerning the employee's residence, before assignment to OCONUS duty, must be considered carefully, including:

- (1) Home ownership;
- (2) Previous residence;
- (3) Temporary employment in city from which recruited;
- (4) Employment requiring residence apart from the family;
- (5) The employee's voting residence; and
- (6) The jurisdiction(s) to which the employee pays taxes.

d. Additional factors, in the case of a local hire, are:

- (1) The length of absence from the claimed place of residence;
- (2) The reasons for such absence; and
- (3) Whether a residence has been maintained to which the individual expects to return.

e. Actual residence in a CONUS/Non-foreign OCONUS area could be negated when the individual has:

- (1) Established residence locally OCONUS,
- (2) Participated in local elections, or
- (3) Obtained waiver of U.S. tax liability based on foreign residence ([35 Comp. Gen. 244 \(1955\)](#); [37 id. 846 \(1958\)](#)).

The conditions in par. C5566 are also used in determining actual residence in the CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS area.

3. Documentation. Actual residence documentation must be in the employee's official personnel folder.

4. Change in Actual Residence

a. When actual residence is determined IAW par. C5556-B2, a change:

- (1) Is not authorized during a continuous period of OCONUS service, and
- (2) May not be approved except in case of an error. ([35 Comp. Gen. 101 \(1955\)](#); [39 id. 337 \(1959\)](#)).

b. Errors must be corrected in the agreement to show the employee's correct actual residence.

C5558 SERVICE AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS ([FTR §302-2.100\(e\)](#); [2.100\(f\)](#))

Agreement requirements are premised on the employee's status as outlined in the following table:

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Agreement</u>
1. Individual locally employed initially by DOD at an OCONUS PDS who does not meet service agreement eligibility conditions (par. C5566).	1. No service agreement requirement
2. Individuals locally employed initially by DOD at an OCONUS PDS who meets service agreement eligibility conditions (par. C5566).	2. Service agreement required for tour of duty applicable to the OCONUS PDS at which employed. The agreement concerns separation travel, in specific instances transportation for dependents and/or HHG from the actual residence and renewal agreement eligibility.
*3. Individual locally employed initially by DOD at an OCONUS PDS who meets service agreement eligibility conditions (par. C5566) and OCONUS prior service credit requirements (par. C5570-C7).	3. Service agreement required to serve for 12 months from date of employment, or a time period which, when added to immediate prior period of civilian/military service, totals the prescribed tour of duty for the area, whichever is greater. The agreement concerns separation travel, in specific instances transportation for dependents and/or HHG from the actual residence and renewal agreement eligibility.
4. DOD employee at an OCONUS PDS who has not completed an initial tour and is transferred to a new PDS of a different DOD component within the same or a different OCONUS geographical locality (par. C5570-C3).	4. Service agreement required to serve for 12 months from the date of reporting for duty at a new PDS or the difference between the tour of duty at the old PDS and the prescribed initial tour of duty at the new PDS, whichever is greater. The agreement concerns PCS allowances, separation travel and renewal agreement eligibility.
5. Employee initially hired locally by DOD at an OCONUS PDS not serving under a service agreement who is transferred to a new PDS within the same OCONUS geographical locality (either within the same or to a different DOD component).	5. Service agreement required to serve for 12 months from the date of reporting for duty at the new PDS. The agreement concerns eligibility for PCS allowances to the new PDS. There is no other eligibility.
*6. Employee initially hired locally by DOD at an OCONUS PDS not serving under a service agreement who is transferred to a new PDS in a different OCONUS geographical locality (either within the same or to a different DOD component) (par. C5570-C7).	6. Service agreement required to serve for 12 months from the date of reporting for duty at the new PDS or the difference between the tour of duty at the old PDS and the prescribed tour of duty at the new PDS, whichever is greater. The agreement concerns PCS allowances, separation travel, and renewal agreement eligibility.

<p>*7. DOD employee at an OCONUS PDS who is serving under a service agreement and is reassigned or transferred to a new PDS at the same geographical locality (either within the same or to a different DOD component). See par. C5570-C8.</p>	<p>7. The current service agreement (x) continues in effect for all eligibility purposes. However, if less than 12 months of service remain under the current agreement (x) and PCS costs are incurred, a new agreement (y) for 12 months' service is required for PCS allowance authorization to the new PDS. A release from the tour of duty requirement for the GOV'T's convenience without penalty provisions (par. C5574) applies to any incomplete service under the 12 months agreement (y) when allowing authorization upon completion of tour of duty under the agreement (x) in effect at the time of reassignment/transfer. Unless released from the tour of duty requirement, failure to meet the service conditions in the continued current agreement (x) may result in indebtedness for PCS expense to the new PDS.</p> <p><u>Example 1.</u> If the employee completes the initial service agreement (x) but fails to complete the 12 months service agreement (y) then they may be indebted for the PCS expense to the new PDS based on failure to complete the 12 month agreement not on failure to complete the initial agreement (x). Employee was under 36 month initial agreement (x) & completes 30 months service prior to another PCS move. New 12 months service agreement (y) is signed to cover PCS costs of this second PCS move. Employee completes 40 months OCONUS federal service & resigns at second PDS. The employee may be indebted for the second PCS move as they served only 10 of the 12 months service agreement (y) but did complete the initial service agreement (x).</p> <p><u>Example 2.</u> If the employee fails to complete both the initial agreement (x) and the 12 months service agreement (y) then they may be indebted for the second PCS move & return to CONUS if appropriate. Employee was under 24 month initial agreement & completes 13 months service prior to PCS move. New 12 months service agreement (y) is signed to cover PCS cost of this second PCS move. Employee completes 20 months OCONUS federal service & resigns at second PDS. The employee may be indebted for the second PCS move as well as return to CONUS if appropriate for failure to complete both service agreements.</p>
<p>8. DOD employee at an OCONUS PDS who completes a prescribed tour of duty, does not perform RAT (par. C5075), and is transferred to a new PDS in the same OCONUS geographical locality within the same DOD component.</p>	<p>8. Service agreement required to serve for 12 months from the date of reporting for duty at the new PDS. The service agreement concerns PCS allowances only. Authorization under the completed tour of duty agreement remains unchanged.</p>
<p>9. A DOD employee at an OCONUS PDS, who completes a prescribed tour of duty, does not perform RAT (par. C5075), and is transferred to a new PDS in a different OCONUS geographical locality within the same DOD component.</p>	<p>9. Service agreement required to serve the tour of duty in (a) or (b), whichever is greater:</p> <p>(a) 12 months from the date of reporting for duty at the new PDS or</p> <p>(b) The prescribed initial/renewal tour of duty, as applicable, at the new PDS less the tour of duty served at the old PDS. (If the current tour at the old PDS is the initial tour, the applicable tour is the initial tour at the new PDS. Similarly, if the current tour at the old PDS is the renewal tour, the applicable tour at the new PDS is the renewal tour.)</p> <p><u>Example 1:</u> An employee completed 18 months of the initial tour at the old PDS. The initial tour at the new PDS is 36 months. An agreement to serve 18 months is required from the date of reporting for duty at the new PDS since the initial tour at the new PDS (36 months) less the tour of duty at the old PDS (18 months) is 18 months.</p> <p><u>Example 2:</u> An employee completed 18 months of a renewal tour at the old PDS. The renewal tour at the new PDS is 24 months. An agreement to serve 12 months is required at the new PDS since the renewal tour at the new PDS (24 months) less the tour of duty served at the old PDS (18 months) is only 6 months.</p> <p>If the tour of duty at the old PDS exceeds the applicable initial/renewal tour at the new PDS, an agreement is required to serve 12 months from the date of reporting for duty at the new PDS.</p> <p>The agreement concerns PCS allowances, separation travel, and renewal agreement eligibility.</p>
<p>10. A DOD employee at an OCONUS PDS who completes the prescribed tour of duty, performs RAT (Ch 5, Part K), and returns to the same or a different OCONUS PDS (within the same or to a different DOD component).</p>	<p>10. Renewal agreement required. The tour of duty under the new agreement must be the tour of duty applicable for the area in which the PDS, upon return, is located. See par. C5570-C1.</p>

<p>11. A DOD employee at an OCONUS PDS serving under a service agreement completes the prescribed tour of duty and is returning to the actual residence in CONUS for separation from GOV'T service.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Separation travel applies when an employee is separating from an OCONUS activity (for instance for the purpose of retiring from GOV'T service) and returning to the employee's actual residence or an alternate location. Separation travel also applies when an employee is separating from an OCONUS activity to continue in GOV'T service at the location of the employee's actual residence or at a different location. See situation #12.</i></p>	<p>11. No service agreement requirement. The employee is authorized separation travel to the actual residence. Separation travel includes (1) transportation for the employee and dependents to the actual residence, (2) per diem for the employee only (3) shipment for the employee's HHG from the OCONUS PDS to the actual residence and SIT (4) drayage for HHG from NTS to the actual residence, (5) return shipment of the employee's POV from the OCONUS PDS to the port/VPC serving the employee's actual residence (6) allowances for POV delivery to the POV port facility/VPC from the old PDS/POV pick up from the POV port facility/VPC to the actual residence if the employee makes a separate trip for that purpose. See par. C5085.</p>
<p>12. A DOD employee at an OCONUS PDS serving under a service agreement completes the prescribed tour of duty and is returning to CONUS where the employee is employed without a break in service with the same or another DOD component.</p>	<p>12a. No service agreement requirement if the gaining activity does not authorize PCS allowances. In such case the employee is authorized allowances limited to separation travel allowances to the actual residence. See item 11 above for what is included in separation allowances.</p> <p>12b. Service agreement required to serve for 12 months in GOV'T service from the date of reporting for duty at the new PDS if the gaining activity authorizes PCS allowances. In such case the employee is authorized separation travel allowances and PCS allowances. The separation allowances are described in item 11. The PCS allowances include: (1) transportation (in addition to transportation provided under separation travel) required to move the employee, dependents, HHG and POV to the new PDS, (2) Per diem for the employee and dependents (3) MEA, (4) Real Estate allowances if the employee is eligible, (5) a House hunting Trip if authorized by the gaining activity (if the employee is eligible – see par. C5602) and (6) TQSE if authorized by the gaining activity - see par. C5070.</p>

C5560 SERVICE AGREEMENT AUTHORIZATION AND LIMITATIONS DOCUMENTATION

A. Transportation and Storage. A record must be maintained in the employee's official personnel folder of transportation and storage authority, authorizations, and limitations.

B. Record Maintenance. Record maintenance is limited to information and for the time period necessary to meet the requirements and restrictions in this Part. Record material may be removed when it no longer applies.

C5562 SERVICE AGREEMENT PREPARATION AND DISPOSITION

A. General. To establish an employee's eligibility for certain travel and transportation allowances incident to PDT, statutory authority requires that a service agreement be completed.

B. Preparation and Disposition

1. The signed service agreement or a faxed copy of the signed service agreement is:

- a. Placed in the employee's personnel folder, or
- b. As otherwise directed in appropriate personnel directives,

and the employee is furnished a copy of the signed original.

2. The provisions of par. C5556 apply when determining the actual residence.

3. Service agreement forms, DD Form 1617 (Transfer of Civilian Employees OCONUS) and DD Form 1618 (Transfer of Civilian Employees To and Within CONUS), are available through the Washington Headquarters Service DOD Forms Program at: <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/>.

C. Service Agreement for OCONUS Employees other than School Teachers. DD Form 1617 (DOD Service Agreement - Transfer of Civilian Employees OCONUS), is used ICW:

1. An employee transferred/assigned to an OCONUS PDS,
2. New appointees appointed to OCONUS positions (see par. C5080-B3 concerning appointments and assignments to the first PDS),
3. Renewal agreement for round trip travel to take leave between consecutive tours of OCONUS employment, and
4. Return transportation of eligible OCONUS local hires.

D. DOD Service Agreement - Transfer of Professional School Personnel OCONUS (DD Form 1616). This form is

1. Used ICW travel of DODEA teachers, and
2. Available through the Washington Headquarters Service DOD Forms Program at:
<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/>.

E. DOD Service Agreement - Transfer of Civilian Employees to and within CONUS (DD Form 1618). This form is used ICW civilian employee travel when transferred to/within CONUS, including appointees/student trainees eligible for travel to the first CONUS PDS.

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PART L: SERVICE AGREEMENTS

Section 2: Initial Agreements

C5564 INITIAL AGREEMENT NEGOTIATION

Initial agreements must be negotiated with a/an:

1. New appointee to a first PDS;
2. Student trainee, when assigned on completion of college work, to a first PDS
3. Employee transferred/reassigned from one OCONUS PDS to another OCONUS PDS;
4. New appointee recruited for OCONUS service at a geographical locality other than that in which the actual residence is located;
5. Employee transferred to and within CONUS;
6. Employee transferred to an OCONUS PDS; and
7. Employee recruited OCONUS for assignment to an OCONUS PDS.

C5566 OCONUS LOCALLY HIRED EMPLOYEE INITIAL AGREEMENTS

A. General

1. An initial agreement is not an entitlement for a locally hired person.
2. An initial agreement is a recruitment incentive for locally hiring a civilian employee with an actual residence in a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS area, outside the PDS geographical locality, to accept Federal employment in an OCONUS area.
3. An individual must not automatically be granted an initial agreement because the individual meets eligibility requirements.

B. Local Commander Negotiation Restrictions

1. Foreign Areas. A foreign area local commander may negotiate an initial agreement with a locally hired employee if the conditions in par. C5566-E are met.
2. Non-foreign OCONUS Areas. A non-foreign OCONUS local commander may negotiate an initial agreement with a locally hired person for recruitment purposes if the conditions in par. C5566-E are met, ***but only if the position is one for which qualified local applicants are not readily available.***

C. Eligibility Determination

1. Eligibility for travel and transportation allowances for dependents and/or HHG from the employee's actual residence to the foreign OCONUS PDS and/or return transportation to the actual residence must be determined at the time:
 - a. Of appointment, or
 - b. The employee loses eligibility for return travel and transportation allowances.

2. The eligibility decision must be recorded in the initial agreement.
- *3. See par. C5570-C7 ICW credit for prior service.
4. See par. C5572-C1 ICW when a tour of duty begins.

D. Travel and Transportation Authorization

1. An OCONUS locally hired employee who is granted an initial agreement is authorized the same travel and transportation allowances as a traveler transferred/appointed from CONUS.
2. Pars. C7002-B3 and C5167-B1 prescribe the conditions for authorizing travel and transportation allowances for dependents and HHG from the traveler's actual residence to the OCONUS PDS.
3. See par. C5212-A5 ICW local hire POV transportation prohibitions and exceptions.

E. Initial Service Agreement Requirements. An initial service agreement may be negotiated with an eligible local hire only if the specific requirements noted below are met.

1. Requirements

- a. The commanding officer/designated representative, must determine that another candidate would have to be transferred/appointed from a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS area to fill the position involved unless an initial agreement is offered to a locally hired candidate; ***NOTE: A locally hired candidate is not eligible for an initial agreement if the position is one for which out-of-country recruitment normally is not undertaken.***
- b. At the time of appointment/assignment, or at the time eligibility for return travel is lost, the locally hired candidate must be able to prove actual residence in a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS area. The residence must be outside the PDS geographical locality.

2. Eligible Locally Hired Employees

a. Requirements 1 and 2. Requirements 1 **and** 2 must be met for the following eligible locally hired employees:

(1) Former Military Member. A former military member must be:

- (a) Separated/retired locally (within the foreign OCONUS country in which the civilian position is located to which the individual is appointed) while serving in a foreign OCONUS area, and
- (b) Appointed to a vacant appropriated-fund civilian position before expiration of that individual's authorization for return travel and transportation to a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS area accruing from the prior military service.

(2) Employee Operating in U.S. Support. An employee of another Federal department, agency, or instrumentality, GOV'T contractor, Red Cross, non-appropriated-fund activity, international organization in which the U.S. participates, and any other activity/agency which the foreign OCONUS area command determines to be operating in support of the U.S. or its personnel in the area, provided the individual was:

- (a) Recruited in a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS area under employment conditions that provided for return travel and transportation allowances,
- (b) Committed to a specific vacant position before separation from prior employment, and

- (c) Is appointed not later than 1 month after termination of such employment.
- b. Requirement 2. Requirement 2 must be met for the following eligible locally hired employees:
 - (1) Former Employee. A former employee of the same/another Federal department/agency who:
 - (a) Was separated by reduction in force during the previous 6 months,
 - (b) Is on a reemployment priority list, and
 - (c) Has been authorized delay in return travel for the primary purpose of exercising reemployment priority rights;
 - (2) Dependent of a Member/Employee. An individual, who accompanied/followed a spouse to the foreign OCONUS area and, at the time of hiring, had authorization for return transportation as a dependent of a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a civilian GOV'T employee serving under an initial agreement providing for return travel, if one of the following circumstances occurs:
 - (a) The spouse dies,
 - (b) The sponsoring spouse becomes physically or mentally incapable of continued GOV'T employment,
 - (c) Divorce or legal separation, (A legal separation exists at such time as either the employee or the spouse initiates legal action to dissolve the marriage or one separates from bed and board short of applying for a divorce.), or
 - (d) The spouse permanently departs the post/area.

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SECTION 4: TOUR OF DUTY REQUIREMENTS

C5570 TOUR OF DUTY REQUIREMENT

A. General. An employee must complete a minimum period of service when transferred to any PDS or when performing RAT.

B. Minimum Periods of Service

1. CONUS Transfer. A tour of duty not less than 12 months following the transfer effective date.
2. OCONUS Transfer. An agreed-upon tour of duty not more than 36 months nor less than 12 months following the effective date of transfer.
3. First PDS Appointment. A tour of duty not less than 12 months following the effective date of transfer ICW appointment/assignment to a first PDS in a CONUS/non-foreign OCONUS area.
4. DODEA Teachers. A tour of duty not less than one school year, as determined under 20 USC, Chapter 25.
5. RAT. A tour of duty not less than 12 months from the return date to the same/different OCONUS PDS.

C. OCONUS

1. Tour of Duty

- a. Tours of duty established by PDUSD (P&R) for DOD civilian employees in OCONUS localities are uniform within each area to the fullest practicable extent.
- b. A standard tour of duty is 36 months for an initial agreement, and 24 months under a renewal agreement.
- c. Exceptions to the standard tours of duty are in APP Q, Parts III and IV.
- d. APP Q, Part IV, par. B, provides instructions for requesting a change in a tour of duty length.
- e. Initial service agreement and renewal agreement tour lengths are the same for the non-standard tour locations listed in APP Q, Part III (e.g., the initial agreement and renewal agreement tour length are both 18 months for Greenland).

2. Administratively Reduced Tours

- a. A 24-month tour of duty may be administratively reduced by 2 months for an employee signing a renewal agreement to serve an additional tour of duty at the same/another post.
- b. A 36-month tour of duty may be reduced up to 6 months to begin RAT, provided that the renewal agreement is for duty in a 24-month tour of duty area.
- *c. Except as provided in par. C5570- C4, when an agreed tour of duty of 24 or 36 months is administratively reduced, the tour of duty under a renewal agreement must be increased by the length of the reduction.

Use of these reduced tours of duty is authorized to permit scheduling leave at regular intervals, such as known low intensity periods or during school vacation periods for an employee having dependents attending school OCONUS.

3. Administratively Extended Tours of Duty

a. A 24-or 36-month tour of duty may be extended, allowing an employee to perform RAT after the extended tour.

*b. Except as in par. C5570- C4, the length of the renewal tour of duty must be equal to 24 months minus the tour of duty completed under the initial agreement extension, or 12 months, whichever is greater.

c. A DOD Component must not execute an initial agreement extension to negate an employee's authorization for separation travel and transportation allowances.

d. Statutory authority provides separation travel and transportation allowances after the employee has served the minimum period in the initial agreement.

e. The employee and the DOD component authority must sign the initial agreement extension. See [B-199643, 30 September 1981](#).

4. Length of Renewal Tour of Duty for an Employee Subject to the 5-Year OCONUS Limitation

a. When an initial 36-month agreement is reduced (up to 6 months) for an employee subject to the 5-year OCONUS limitation, provided the renewal agreement must prescribe a tour of duty that, when added to the number of months completed under the initial agreement, plus the number of months authorized as leave (incident to the renewal agreement) equals 60 months; and

b. A 36-month tour of duty may be extended, allowing an employee to perform RAT after the extended tour of duty, provided the employee serves at least 12 months after returning to the OCONUS area.

c. The renewal tour of duty must be equal to 60 months (5 years) minus the sum of the:

(1) Tour of duty completed under an initial agreement;

(2) Tour of duty completed under the extension of the initial agreement, and

(3) Time authorized as leave, incident to the renewal agreement; or 12 months, whichever is greater.

5. Employee Released from 5-Year OCONUS Limitation

*a. If the 5-year OCONUS limitation is extended so the employee can perform RAT following completion of the initial tour of duty *and* an initial tour extension (example: 36 month initial tour of duty plus 15 month extension), the length of the renewal tour of duty is determined in par. C5570-C3.

b. The renewal tour of duty must be equal to 24 months minus the time completed under the initial tour extension (example: 15 months), or 12 months, whichever is greater. In the example, the renewal tour would be 12 months, since 24 months minus 15 months is less than the required 12 months.

6. Employee Serves Additional Tour(s) of Duty after the 5-Year OCONUS Limitation

*a. The length of renewal tour(s) of duty served after the 5-year limitation is determined in pars. C5570-C2 and C5570-C3, except that a 12 month renewal tour of duty may not be further reduced for an employee signing a renewal agreement to serve an additional tour at the same/another post ([37 Comp. Gen. 62 \(1957\)](#)).

*b. DOD component policies on OCONUS extensions beyond 5 years must be applied ICW pars. C5570-C5 and C5570-C6.

Part L: Service Agreements/Section 4: Tour of Duty Requirements

7. Credit for Prior Service. The following personnel must serve the employing DOD component for 1 year (1 school year for DODEA teachers) from the employment date of the service agreement or a time period which, when added to their immediate prior civilian/military service before signing the agreement, totals the prescribed area tour of duty, whichever is greater. See par. C5572-C1 for when tour of duty begins.

- a. An employee appointed by transfer from another GOV'T agency whose immediate prior service has been in an OCONUS area and who transfer without performing RAT;
- b. A military member who separates locally and accept GOV'T employment, and with whom an agreement is negotiated;
- c. A GOV'T contractor employee who separates locally to accept GOV'T employment and with whom an agreement is negotiated;
- d. A locally hired dependent of a military member/civilian employee with whom an agreement was negotiated;
- e. An employee of an international organization in which the U. S. GOV'T participates, who is separated OCONUS to accept DOD employment and with whom an agreement is negotiated;
- f. A non-appropriated fund employee who separates OCONUS to accept other DOD employment and with whom an agreement is negotiated under the conditions in par. C5566-E2a(2); and
- g. An individual reemployed from a priority placement list with whom an agreement is negotiated as in par. C5566-E2a(3).

8. Reassignment/Transfer in Same Geographical Locality

a. PCS Costs Not Incurred

(1) When an employee:

- (a) Is reassigned within a DOD component/transferred to another DOD component in the same OCONUS geographical locality, *and*
- (b) Does not complete the tour of duty, *and*
- (c) Incurs *no* PCS costs,

the tour of duty, specified in the service agreement at the time of reassignment/transfer, continues in effect.

(2) At the end of the tour of duty, the employee is eligible for:

- (a) Return travel and transportation allowances for separation, or
- (b) Renewal agreement negotiation,

regardless of how long the employee has served the activity to which reassigned/transferred. See par. C5558, situation 7.

b. PCS Costs Incurred

(1) When an employee:

(a) Is reassigned within a DOD component/transferred to another DOD component in the same OCONUS geographical locality, *and*

(b) Does not complete the tour of duty, *and*

(c) At the time of reassignment/transfer, has less than 12 months remaining under the existing service agreement after reporting for duty at the new PDS, *and*

(d) Incurs PCS costs,

a new service agreement for a minimum of 12 months is required for authorization of PCS allowances to the new PDS.

(2) The tour of duty specified in the service agreement at the time of reassignment/transfer remains in effect for return travel and transportation allowances for separation or renewal agreement negotiation.

9. Reassignment to Different OCONUS Geographical Locality

a. With No Service Agreement. An employee:

(1) At an OCONUS PDS without a service agreement,

(2) Who is reassigned within a DOD component/transferred to another DOD component, to a different OCONUS geographical locality

is required to negotiate a service agreement for the full tour of duty prescribed for the new PDS.

b. With a Service Agreement

(1) When an employee:

(a) Is serving under a service agreement at an OCONUS PDS, *and*

(b) Is reassigned within a DOD component/transferred to another DOD component, in a different OCONUS geographical locality, *and*

(c) Does not complete the tour of duty,

credit is given for service completed at the old PDS.

(2) A new agreement is required with:

(a) A new 12-month tour of duty, or

(b) The difference between the new PDS tour of duty and the time completed at the old PDS, whichever is greater. See par. C5075.

(3) The new agreement concerns PCS allowances:

(a) To the new PDS, and

(b) Any additional separation travel and transportation allowances from, the new PDS.

(4) The service agreement tour of duty at the time of reassignment/transfer remains in effect for return travel and transportation allowances for separation from the old PDS or for renewal agreement negotiation.

(5) Before performing RAT, a renewal agreement to serve a tour of duty applicable to the new PDS area must be signed.

10. Employee Not Needed for Full Tour of Duty

a. When it is known in advance that an employee is not needed for the full OCONUS tour of duty, employment may be for a lesser period without affecting travel and transportation allowances to the OCONUS PDS, and return, for the purpose of separation ([26 Comp. Gen. 488 \(1947\)](#)).

b. The agreement must prescribe a 12 month tour of duty IAW 5 USC §5722.

c. Employment may be terminated when the employee's services are no longer needed.

11. Effect of Increased/Decreased Tour of Duty

a. Increased Tour of Duty. When an OCONUS area's tour of duty is increased:

(1) The tour of duty specified in a currently assigned employee's service agreement governs, and

(2) The increased tour of duty only affects any employee who executes an agreement after the date the increased tour of duty is approved.

b. Decreased Tour of Duty. If a tour of duty is decreased, the shorter tour of duty applies to any currently assigned employee whose service agreement provide for a longer tour of duty.

c. Modified Tour of Duty Type. If an employee executing an unaccompanied tour requests approval from the appropriate authority to change the tour of duty type to an accompanied tour, the tour of duty must be equal to the accompanied tour for that location, minus the tour of duty completed/served under the initial (unaccompanied) agreement, or 12 months, whichever is greater. These changes are ordinarily to permit dependents to travel to the OCONUS PDS and for HHG to be transported there.

Unaccompanied to Accompanied Example:

Location B tour lengths are 24-month accompanied, 12-months unaccompanied. If the employee requests to change the tour of duty type from unaccompanied to accompanied after serving 11-months; they must serve an additional 13-months of service to complete the tour of duty. (Modified tour of 24-months minus 11-months served, equals 13-months, exceeding the 12-month minimum.)

C5572 STARTING TOUR OF DUTY

A. Transfer to and within CONUS. A tour of duty ICW transfers to/between CONUS PDSs begins on the date the employee reports for duty at the new PDS.

B. Appointment to First PDS. A tour of duty ICW a first PDS appointment in the U.S., begins on the date the appointee reports for duty at the PDS.

C. OCONUS Agreements

1. Initial Agreements

a. Individuals Recruited Outside the Geographical Locality of the OCONUS Activity. The tour of duty begins on the date the individual reports at the OCONUS activity.

b. Individuals Recruited Locally. The tour of duty begins on the date the individual begins duty.

c. Locally Hired Married Individuals in the Circumstances Described in Par. C5566-E2a(4). The tour of duty begins on the date the individual executes an agreement.

2. Renewal Agreement. The tour of duty, under a renewal agreement, begins on the date the employee reports for duty at the OCONUS PDS following completion of RAT unless that travel is delayed and authorized/ approved to be performed within a tour of duty. See par. C5515-B.

C5574 ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR RELEASE FROM A TOUR OF DUTY

A. General. An employee, serving under a service agreement at any PDS, may be released from the tour of duty requirement specified in the agreement for reasons beyond the employee's control that are acceptable to the DOD component. Except as provided in par. C5574-C, the commanding officer/designee at the employee's assigned activity must make the determination of acceptability.

B. Acceptable Reasons for Release from Tour of Duty Requirements

1. General. Examples of acceptable reasons for release from tour of duty requirements include:

a. Illness not induced by misconduct;

b. Enlistment/call to active duty in the Armed Forces;

c. Exercise of statutory re-employment rights within a time limitation that precludes completion of a tour of duty;

d. Release for the GOV'T's convenience (e.g., separation because of physical/mental disqualification, lack of skill to perform duties for which recruited or any other duties to which the employee could be assigned); ***NOTE: An employee separated because of illness induced by misconduct or because of misconduct is not separated for the GOV'T's convenience.***

e. Separation as a result of reduction in force;

*f. See par. C5570-C10 when employee's services not required for entire tour of duty period.

2. OCONUS. In addition to the examples listed in par. C5574-B1, the following are acceptable reasons for an ***OCONUS employee:***

a. The employee's immediate presence is required in the geographical locality in which the actual residence is located because of an unforeseen emergency;

b. Completion of the agreed tour of duty would result in extreme personal hardship because of circumstances beyond the employee's control, such as conditions seriously affecting the health, welfare, and safety of the employee, serious illness/death in the immediate family, imminent breakup of the family group. ***NOTE: Falsification of facts ICW employment is not a reason beyond the employee's control.;*** or

c. There are significant changes in the employee's employment situation or loss of economic benefits such as a significant salary loss resulting from a downgrading of the grade level the employee accepted upon assignment, or a significant loss in OCONUS quarter allowance payments resulting from a downgrade as distinguished from a reduction in QTRS allowance payment which may be reduced for other reasons.

C. Transfer to Other Departments/Agencies

1. Except as indicated in par. C5005-C, an employee, serving under a service agreement who transfers to another DOD component/GOV'T agency, must be released from the tour of duty requirement specified in the employee's current agreement.
2. If the transfer involves PCS allowances to a new PDS, the gaining activity is responsible for all PCS costs.
3. The employee must continue in GOV'T service for at least 12 months after the employee reported at the PDS from which departing to satisfy the obligation for costs incurred by the losing activity in moving the employee to that PDS.

D. Verification. The nature and extent of the "unforeseen emergency" or "extreme personal hardship" must be established to the determining official's satisfaction. Verification must be received from a reliable and trustworthy source such as private, state, or local welfare agencies; an attending physician; or a local cleric.

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PART M: HHT ([FTR §302-5](#))

C5600 GENERAL ([FTR §302-5.1-2](#))

A HHT:

1. Is discretionary. *The AO, not the employee, determines if a HHT is necessary.*
2. May only be authorized on a case-by-case basis, when an employee has accepted a permanent transfer, and the circumstances indicate the need.
3. May not be authorized to assist an employee in deciding whether or not to accept a transfer.
4. May be authorized only for an employee and/or spouse. Employee/spouse may perform separate HHTs to the new PDS at GOV'T expense NTE the cost that would have been incurred on one round trip when the employee's travel authorization/order is issued IAW Agency/Service regulations. See par. C5606.
5. May be authorized for an attendant or escort within this Part when Ch 6, Part L or APP E, Part I, par. A21 apply ([59 Comp. Gen. 461 \(1980\)](#)).

If the HHT is allowed, it should lower the GOV'T's relocation costs by reducing the time in temporary lodging.

C5602 ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE ([FTR §302-5.3](#))

An employee may be authorized a HHT when:

1. A PCS is authorized;
2. Both the old and new PDSs are located within CONUS and/or a non-foreign OCONUS area (e.g., one PDS could be in Nebraska and the other in Guam);
3. GOV'T/other prearranged housing is not going to be assigned at the new PDS; and,
4. The old and new PDSs are 75 or more miles apart (as measured by map distance) via a usually traveled surface route.

C5604 INDIVIDUALS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A HHT ([FTR §302-5.4](#))

A HHT may not be provided for a/an:

1. New appointee or the new appointee's spouse if par. C5080-B applies; or
2. Employee authorized dependent and/or HHG transportation to/from a training location to which transportation is authorized under par. C4500 instead of per diem/AEA while at the training location; or
3. Employee's children, [GSBCA 16907-RELO, 14 August 2006, http://www.gsbca.gsa.gov/relo/s1690714.pdf](#)

C5606 SEPARATE TRIPS BY EMPLOYEE AND SPOUSE ([FTR §302-5.9](#))

A. Separate HHT round trips by the employee and spouse are allowed; however, the GOV'T's overall cost is limited to the cost of one round trip for the employee and spouse traveling together. The GOV'T's overall cost for comparison and computation purposes includes per diem, transportation costs, and miscellaneous reimbursable expenses. The HHT trip duration including travel time is limited to 10 days. Separate spouse HHT does not increase the 10-day limitation regardless of the circumstances (par. C5618). AEA is not authorized for HHT (par. C5624-B).

1. For example, if the GOV'T's overall round trip cost of one HHT for the employee and spouse between the old/new PDSs is \$800; and the employee/spouse each performed a separate round trip HHT for a combined total of \$1,200 – the GOV'T overall reimbursement for both HHT trips is limited to \$800. The excess HHT trip cost of \$400 is borne by the employee.
2. HHT(F) cost comparison, computations or lodging receipts are not required for separately performed HHT trips by the employee and spouse (par. C5624-B). HHT(F) is irrevocable once the employee signed the service agreement.

C5608 WHEN A HHT MAY BEGIN ([FTR §302-5.10](#))

When authorized, a HHT may begin after the:

1. Employee signs a service agreement; and
2. DOD component establishes, and informs the employee of, the reporting date to the new PDS.

NOTE: *The maximum time for beginning allowable travel and transportation is ordinarily 2 years from the date the employee reports for duty at the new PDS. See par. C1057 for extensions.*

C5610 WHEN A HHT MUST BE COMPLETED ([FTR §302-5.12](#))

Round-trip house-hunting travel must be completed by the:

1. Employee on the day before the day the employee reports to the new PDS, and
2. Spouse:
 - a. On the day before the family begins relocation to the new PDS, or
 - b. The expiration of the maximum time for beginning allowable travel and transportation.

C5612 HHT AUTHORIZATION ([FTR §302-5.5](#))

After considering par. C5614-A, an AO/AO designee may authorize a HHT. The AO/AO's designee must determine:

1. If a HHT is necessary;
2. Whether subsistence reimbursement is per diem under the Lodgings-plus method (par. C5624-B1) or a fixed amount (par. C5624-B2);
3. The appropriate HHT duration (NTE the maximum IAW C5618);
4. The authorized transportation mode(s) for:
 - a. The HHT to/from the new PDS location; and
 - b. Local travel while house-hunting at the new PDS location.

C5614 CONSIDERATIONS

A. General. *The HHT must be minimized/avoided when other satisfactory and more economical alternatives are available.* An AO/AO designee must consider pars. C5614-B through C5614-F before authorizing a HHT.

B. Arranging a Permanent Residence before a Move. If the employee has a large family and must promptly vacate

the residence at the old PDS, it might be less costly to the GOV'T, as well as more convenient to the employee, to complete arrangements for a new residence before the move actually takes place.

C. Arranging a Permanent Residence while in Temporary Quarters. If the employee has no family or a small family, it might be less costly to allow the employee (and family) to remain in temporary quarters at the new PDS for a somewhat longer period than might otherwise be required, subject to limitations until the employee finds a permanent residence.

D. Avoiding an Advance Trip. If TQSE is authorized, a HHT possibly may be avoided. It might be more advantageous to the GOV'T and the employee for the employee's dependents to remain at the former residence while the employee occupies temporary lodging at the new PDS. During that time the employee can select a permanent residence after becoming familiar with the new PDS area.

E. TDY at the New PDS. When an employee is TDY at what is already known to become a new PDS - before the permanent transfer is effective - a HHT should not be necessary.

F. Housing Information Assistance. It might be possible for the DOD Component to avoid/shorten the HHT duration by providing assistance and information to an employee concerning housing conditions and markets at the new PDS location.

C5616 PROHIBITIONS

A HHT is not authorized when the:

1. Employee will be assigned to a GOV'T/other prearranged permanent residence at the new PDS location.
2. Employee has not formally agreed to transfer to the new PDS.
3. Old and/or new PDS, are located in a foreign OCONUS area. See APP A.
4. Distance between the old and new PDSs is less than 75 miles (as measured by map distance) via a usually traveled surface route.

C5618 TRIP DURATION ([FTR §302-5.11-12](#))

A HHT, when authorized, should be for a reasonable time period considering the distance between the old and new PDSs, transportation mode, and the housing situation at the new PDS. ***A funded HHT, including travel time, must not exceed 10 calendar days.***

C5620 TRANSPORTATION TO AND/OR FROM A NEW PDS LOCALITY ([FTR §302-5.14](#))

1. When authorizing/approving a particular transportation mode, the objective is to minimize the time en route and maximize the time at the new PDS.
2. If POC use is authorized (thereby making POC transportation 'in the GOV'T's interest'), the MALT rate in par. C2505 applies.
3. If the employee travels by other than the authorized transportation mode, reimbursement is for the lesser of the actual transportation expenses or the authorized transportation cost.
4. The employee is authorized transportation expenses (including transportation between carrier terminals).

C5622 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

A. General Expenses. Reasonable expenses for local transportation at the new PDS are allowed.

B. Local Transportation

1. Local transportation by common carrier, local transportation systems, DTMO-negotiated car rental agreement (see par. C2102-B regarding mandatory CTO use), commercially rented automobile, or a POC at the applicable MALT rate in par. C2505 may be authorized.
2. The local transportation mode must be consistent with the transportation mode authorized for travel to/from the PDS (e.g., a rental car should not be authorized if POC transportation to the new PDS is authorized).

C. Special Conveyance (Taxi/Cab) Use. Special conveyance reimbursement is limited to transportation between carrier terminals and the places of lodging.

C5624 SUBSISTENCE

A. General

1. HHT subsistence expenses are ordinarily reimbursed under the Lodgings-plus method as in par. C5624-B1.
2. A DOD component may, however, offer to pay a fixed amount for subsistence expenses. See par. C5624-B2. The following are factors in determining whether or not to offer fixed amount reimbursement:
 - a. Administration Ease. Per diem payment under par. C5624-B1 ('Lodgings-Plus' method) requires submission of a travel claim for lodging expense amount validity review, accuracy, and reasonableness. A fixed amount paid under par. C5624-B2 is easier to administer because an expense review is not required.
 - b. Cost Considerations. The cost of each subsistence reimbursement option must be considered on a case-by-case basis. *A single 'generic' decision for all PCS moves is not authorized.*
 - c. Employee Treatment. Employee morale and productivity should be considered as well as direct costs.

B. Methods. An employee's subsistence allowance may be calculated under par. C5624-B1 or C5624-B2.

1. 'Lodgings-Plus' Computation Method. The applicable per diem is authorized, as prescribed in pars. C4553 and C5125, for one round trip of the employee and/or spouse for up to 10 calendar days between the old and new PDS.

NOTE: AEA in Ch 4, Part M, may not be authorized/approved for a HHT.

2. Fixed Amount. The amount calculated using par. C5624-B2a or C5624-B2b, as applicable:
 - a. The employee and spouse both travel (together or separately), multiply the applicable locality [per diem rate](#) by 6.25, or
 - b. If only one person (the employee or the spouse) travels, multiply the applicable locality [per diem rate](#) by 5.
3. Fixed Amount Payment
 - a. The fixed amount determined in par. C5624-B2a or C5624-B2b applies for the entire trip without regard to the number of days authorized for the HHT.
 - b. Any balance from the determined fixed amount not used by the employee for expenses:
 - (1) Belongs to the employee,
 - (2) Is not subject to being collected back, and

(3) May be taxable ([FTR §302-5.18](#)).

C. Subsistence Calculation Examples

1. General. An employee and spouse are authorized a 10-day HHT to Arlington, VA. For the examples below the following information is applicable:

- a. Per diem for Arlington, VA, at the time of travel is \$201 (\$150/ \$51).
- b. The single occupancy lodging cost is \$130.
- c. The DOD component offers a HHT and the option of either the fixed amount option (par. C5624-B2) or the ‘Lodgings-Plus’ option (par. C5624-B1).
- d. When the employee elects per diem under the ‘Lodgings-Plus’ computation method for a HHT, and the spouse accompanies the employee, the employee’s computation for the lodging rate is computed at the *single room rate*.

2. Example 1. The traveler is authorized a 10-day HHT with per diem computed under the ‘Lodgings-Plus’ computation method. See par. C5624-B1. The traveler and spouse travel together. *The traveler must provide lodging receipts.*

Employee’s Per Diem		
Travel day to Arlington:	75% x \$51 = \$38.25 + \$130 (single lodging cost) =	\$ 168.25
8 days in the Arlington Area:	\$130 (Lodging) + \$51 (M&IE) = \$181/day x 8 days =	\$1,448.00
Travel day back to the PDS:	75% x \$51 =	+ \$ 38.25
Total Per Diem for Employee		\$1,654.50
Spouse’s Per Diem		
Using par. C5125-C, the maximum amount allowable is 75% of the per diem rate to which the employee is authorized under par. C4553.		
Total Per Diem for Spouse	75% x \$1,654.50 (employee’s per diem) =	\$1,240.88
Total Per Diem Payment		
Employee’s per diem		\$1,654.50
Spouse’s per diem		+ \$1,240.88
Total Per Diem for Employee and Spouse		\$2,895.38

3. Example 2. The employee is authorized a fixed amount HHT. See par. C5624-B2a. *No lodging receipts are required.*

Total Fixed Subsistence for the Employee and Spouse	\$201 (locality rate) x 6.25 (fixed rate for employee and spouse) =	\$1,256.25
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4. Example 3. The employee reports to the new PDS without performing a HHT. The spouse performs a HHT alone.

Situation A:		
The employee elects the 10-day HHT with per diem computed under the ‘Lodgings-Plus’ computation method (par. C5624-B1). Using par. C5125-C, the employee is authorized per diem for the spouse up to the maximum rate. The employee must provide lodging receipts. NOTE: If the spouse lodges with the employee at the new PDS location, there is no lodging reimbursement unless there is an additional charge for the spouse.		
Travel day to Arlington:	\$130 (lodging) + \$38.25 (75% x \$51) =	\$ 168.25
8 days in the Arlington area:	\$130 + \$51 = \$181/day x 8 days =	\$1,448.00
Travel day back to the PDS:	75% x \$51 =	+ \$ 38.25
Total Per Diem for Spouse		\$1,654.50
Situation B:		
The employee elects the fixed-amount HHT (par. C5624-B2b) for the spouse. <i>No lodging receipts are required.</i>		
Total Fixed Subsistence for the Spouse	\$201 x 5 (fixed rate for one person)=	\$1,005.00

5. **Example 4.** The employee is authorized a 10-day HHT with per diem computed under the ‘Lodgings-Plus’ computation method. See par. C5624-B1. The employee and the spouse perform separate HHTs. *The employee must provide lodging receipts.*

Employee’s Per Diem		
Travel day to Arlington:	\$130 (single lodging cost) + 75% x \$51 = \$38.25 =	\$ 168.25
5 days in the Arlington Area:	\$130 (lodging) + \$51 (M&IE) = \$181/day x 5 days =	\$ 905.00
Travel day back to the PDS:	75% x \$51 =	+ \$ 38.25
Total Per Diem for Employee		\$1,111.50
Spouse’s Per Diem		
Using par. C5125-C, the maximum amount allowable is 100% of the per diem rate to which the employee is authorized under par. C4553.		
Travel day to Arlington:	\$130 (single lodging cost) + 75% x \$51 = \$38.25 =	\$ 168.25
4 days in the Arlington Area:	\$130 (lodging) + \$51 (M&IE) = \$181/day x 4 days =	\$ 724.00
Travel day back to the PDS:	75% x \$51 =	+ \$ 38.25
Total Per Diem for Employee		\$ 930.50
Total Per Diem Payment		
Employee’s per diem		\$1,111.50
Spouse’s per diem		+ \$ 930.50
Total Per Diem for Employee and Spouse		\$2,042.00

C5626 EXPENSE DOCUMENTATION

A. **Transportation.** To receive reimbursement for HHT transportation expenses, an employee must itemize the transportation expenses and have appropriate receipts. See par. C1310.

B. **Subsistence Expenses**

1. Lodgings-plus method. An employee paid per diem under par. C5624-B1, using the Lodgings-plus method must itemize lodging expenses and have lodging receipts. See par. C1310.
2. Fixed Amount. An employee paid for a HHT using the fixed amount computation under par. C5624-B2, does not require itemization or receipts for payment.

C5628 STATUS WHILE ON HHT

An employee is in a travel status (see APP A) while performing house-hunting travel during the authorized absence period.

C5630 NO RETURN TO OLD PDS

A HHT consists of travel to the new PDS vicinity to locate permanent housing and return to the old PDS before performing en route PCS travel to the new PDS. If a HHT is authorized under the ‘Lodging-Plus’ method (HHT(AE)) and the employee reports for duty at the new PDS instead of returning to the old PDS, TQSE, if authorized, are payable in lieu of house-hunting subsistence for the days spent seeking permanent housing up to the day before reporting for duty at the new PDS, NTE the number of days authorized for the HHT. The one-way transportation is PCS travel ([GSBCA 16339-RELO, 18 February 2004](#)). Under the circumstances in par. C5630 an employee is *not* in a duty status while house-hunting. See DOD 1400.25-M, SC630.7.4.3 about granting an excused absence for PCS purposes.

C5632 HHT ADVANCE ([FTR §302-5.16](#))

1. A HHT expenses advance may be paid if a HHT under the ‘Lodgings-Plus’ method is offered and elected.
2. The advance may not exceed the sum of the anticipated transportation costs and the maximum per diem allowable under the ‘Lodgings-Plus’ method in par. C5624-B1 for the HHT location and duration.

3. If a HHT using the fixed amount under par. C5624-B2 is offered and elected, 'subsistence-related' expenses payment does not constitute an advance, whereas the transportation-related expenses may be paid in advance just as for the HHT under the 'Lodgings-Plus' method.
4. See also par. C1101-G for house-hunting travel and transportation advances.

C5634 HHT ICW TQSE

*A. TQSE(AE). If an employee is paid/reimbursed for HHT days and authorized TQSE(AE) is subsequently claimed for more than 30 days, the actual number of HHT days (NTE 10) paid/reimbursed (on either a 'Lodgings-Plus' or fixed amount basis) are deducted from the first authorized 30-day TQSE(AE) period. See par. C5372. For an reimbursed:

- *1. 5-day HHT, deduct 5 days from the first authorized TQSE(AE) 30 day period,
- *2. 6-day HHT, deduct 6 days from the first authorized TQSE(AE) 30 day period, or
- *3. 10-day HHT, deduct 10 days (or the actual number of days used, whichever is less) from the first authorized TQSE(AE) 30 day period.

B. TQSE(F). *The number of days paid/reimbursed for a HHT are not deducted from TQSE(F)*. See par. C5392.

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APPENDIX G: MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL

A. General. This Appendix addresses the more commonly incurred miscellaneous reimbursable expenses. *Incidental Expenses (defined as part of per diem in APP A) are different than these expenses.* Finance regulations should be consulted regarding any required expense description/documentation on the travel voucher.

B. Transportation Expenses Incurred in or around a PDS or TDY Location. Reimbursement of these expenses is covered in JFTR, Ch 3, Part F, and JTR, Ch 2, Part H.

C. Voucher Submission. [DODFMR, Vol. 9, Travel Policy and Procedures](http://www.dtic.mil/comptroller/fmr/) at <http://www.dtic.mil/comptroller/fmr/> prescribes the voucher submission requirements, with supporting authority. Funds must be obligated IAW finance policy (ordinarily prior to/at the time the expense is incurred).

D. Miscellaneous Reimbursable Expenses Table. Travelers are authorized certain necessary travel and transportation-related miscellaneous reimbursable expenses incurred on official business. Some miscellaneous reimbursable expenses are authorized for reimbursement by this APP; other miscellaneous reimbursable expenses require AO authorization/approval. Miscellaneous reimbursable expenses include the following (listed in alphabetical order):

MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL	JFTR		JTR		APP O	
	PCS	TDY	PCS	TDY	Mil	Civ
<p><u>ATM Use (Civilian Employee)</u>.</p> <p>1. <u>Reimbursable</u>. Administrative fees for ATM use to obtain money with the GTCC up to the amount authorized/approved by the AO for an ATM travel advance.</p> <p>2. <u>Not Reimbursable</u>. Administrative fees for an ATM use of a personal charge card.</p> <p>3. See OSD Comptroller memo dated 19 July 2002, and the DOD Financial Management Regulations (DODFMR), Volume 9, Chapter 3 available at: http://www.dtic.mil/comptroller/fmr/09/09_03.pdf, for information on personnel exempt from the requirement to use the GTCC.</p>			X	X		X
<p><u>ATM Use (Uniformed Member)</u></p> <p>1. Reimbursement is authorized for administrative fees for ATM use to obtain money with:</p> <p>a. The GTCC, or</p> <p>b. An ATM or personal charge card used by personnel exempt (and the traveler must provide the exemption authority) from GTCC use for official travel,</p> <p>up to the amount authorized/approved by the AO for an ATM travel advance.</p> <p>2. Reimbursement for ATM administrative fees related to use of an ATM or personal charge card is at the rate applicable to that card if an advance is not otherwise provided by cash or check.</p> <p>3. See OSD Comptroller memo of 19 July 2002 and the "DOD Financial Management Regulations", Volume 9, Chapter 3 available at: http://www.dtic.mil/comptroller/fmr/09/09_03.pdf, for information on personnel exempt from the requirement to use the GTCC.</p>	X	X			X	
<p><u>Baggage, Excess Accompanied (Transportation Cost)</u>. Excess accompanied baggage transportation costs may:</p> <p>1. Be authorized in advance/approved after the fact by the Secretarial Process (ordinarily a major personnel command (e.g., Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) (Navy), Human Resources Command (HRC) (Army)) after any PCS or civilian employee TCS travel.</p> <p>2. Be authorized in advance of any PCS or civilian employee TCS travel for DOD travelers IAW the Service/Agency regulations.</p> <p>3. Be authorized/approved for the <i>non-DOD travelers</i>.</p> <p>4. <i>Not</i> be paid for with a Miscellaneous Charge Order (MCO), a coupon used as a general-purpose voucher for services (such as excess accompanied baggage) ICW PCS travel unless authorized by the Secretarial Process in</p>	X		X			

MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL	JFTR		JTR		APP O	
	PCS	TDY	PCS	TDY	Mil	Civ
advance of travel. See JFTR, par. U3015 and JTR, par. C2302						
Baggage Expenses. Reimbursement is authorized for necessary travel and transportation-related miscellaneous reimbursable expenses incurred on official business. These expenses include: 1. <u>Excess Baggage.</u> See Baggage, Excess Accompanied. 2. <u>Baggage Transfer.</u> NTE the customary local rates, and necessity for the transfer must be explained. 3. <u>Baggage Storage (with explanation).</u> 4. <u>Baggage Checking.</u> NTE the customary local rates. 5. <u>Curbside Baggage Check-in Fee</u> a. Uniformed Member. <i>Reimbursement of a fee charged for the use of optional curbside baggage check-in service is <u>not</u> authorized.</i> A tip, separate from the fee itself, is reimbursable. b. Civilian Employee. Reimbursable only when authorized under JTR, par. C7460-4, for a traveler with a disability/special need.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Baggage Handling Tips 1. Uniformed Member a. <u>Transportation Terminal.</u> Reimbursement is authorized for customary tips for handling <u>any</u> baggage (personal and/or GOV'T) at a transportation terminal. b. <u>Lodging Establishment.</u> Reimbursement is authorized <i>only</i> for transportation-related tips for handling GOV'T property at lodging establishments. 2. Civilian Employee. Baggage handling tips at transportation terminals or lodging establishments are covered by the IE portion of per diem and are <i>not</i> items for separate reimbursement <i>except</i> for the following: a. A traveler with a disability/special need (see JTR, par. C7460-4), b. Handling of GOV'T property, c. Handling of a dependent's personal baggage when the dependent is not authorized per diem while traveling at GOV'T expense when unaccompanied by the sponsor, and d. Handling of a dependent's personal baggage that the sponsor cannot handle when the dependent is traveling with the sponsor.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Birth Certificates. The cost of birth certificates or other acceptable evidence of birth for OCONUS travel.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Carrier Terminal Fees. Airport transit, service charge/tax, landing, port tax, embarkation/debarkation or similar mandatory charge assessed against a traveler on arrival/departure from a carrier terminal is authorized when not included in the ticket cost (52 Comp. Gen. 73 (1972)).	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cell Phone Use. When a cell phone is used for official communication, each call must be documented showing the additional cost incurred outside of the normal usage covered in the cell phone contract. <i>Prepaid communication services (i.e., prepaid phone cards, cell phones) are not reimbursable unless the AO can determine they were used for official business.</i>		X		X	X	X
Check Cashing. 1. <u>Reimbursable.</u> Fees for cashing U.S. GOV'T checks/drafts issued for travel expense reimbursement in a foreign country. 2. <u>Not Reimbursable.</u> Fees for cashing salary checks/drafts are not authorized.	X	X	X	X	X	X

MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL	JFTR		JTR		APP O	
	PCS	TDY	PCS	TDY	Mil	Civ
Check Costs. The cost of traveler's checks, money orders, or certified checks for up to the amount of estimated per diem, and/or AEA, and/or travel expenses for the authorized travel.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Clerical Assistance. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO.		X		X	X	X
Communication Services. GOV'T-owned/leased services should be used for official communications, but when GOV'T services are not available commercial communications services may be used. <i>Prepaid communication (i.e., prepaid phone cards, cell phones) or in-flight communication services are not reimbursable unless the AO can determine they were used for official business.</i>		X		X	X	X
Computer Connections. Connections (e.g., Internet connection) used for computers to perform official GOV'T business is reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO. <i>In-flight computer connections are not reimbursable unless the AO can determine they were used for official business.</i>		X		X	X	X
Conveyance Costs. Public or special conveyance costs to and from the transportation terminal. See JFTR, Ch 3, Part E and JTR, Ch 2, Part C.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Currency Conversion Fees 1. Reimbursable. The 1% "international transaction fee" for official qualifying transactions charged by the GTCC vendor. This charge is listed as a separate line item on the credit card billing statement. 2. Not Reimbursable. Losses resulting from currency conversions (63 Comp. Gen. 554 (1984)). NOTE: A traveler is not liable for gains resulting from currency conversion. 3. Travel Claim Submission. A traveler who pays with a credit card for OCONUS expenses should check with the credit card vendor to determine the final bill in U.S. currency prior to travel claim submission. The currency exchange rate at which the credit card bill was settled may be used to determine OCONUS expenses charged to the card. 4. Supplemental Vouchers. A traveler may have to submit a travel voucher prior to having access to the actual amount billed on the credit card. When the actual amount in U.S. currency is not known until after the required travel claim submission date, a traveler should be personally aware of any financial regulations that require submission of a supplemental voucher if the amount(s) submitted as expenses differ(s) from the actual amount billed on the initial travel claim.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Driver (Vehicle) Services. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO.		X		X	X	X
Energy Surcharge Fees	X	X	X	X	X	X
Global Positioning System (GPS) for a Rental Car. <i>The optional Global Positioning System (GPS) for a rental car is not reimbursable unless the AO can determine it was necessary for official business.</i>		X		X	X	X
Green Card. See Passport, Visa, Green Card, Photographs, Physical Examinations, and Legal Services.						
GTCC 1. Late Payment Delinquent Fees. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO only for a traveler in a mission critical travel category or who, through no personal fault, is unable to file a travel voucher and pay the GTCC bill because of circumstances specific to the travel. See DODFMR, Volume 9 , Chapter 3, found in USD(C) memorandum dated 7 May 2002 for definition of mission critical personnel and processing requirements. 2. Expedited Delivery. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO.		X		X	X	X
Guide Services. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO.		X		X	X	X
Inoculations. Charges for inoculations that are not available through a Federal dispensary for OCONUS travel (this does not include travel expenses incurred for obtaining the required inoculations) when authorized/or approved.	X	X	X	X	X	X

MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL	JFTR		JTR		APP O	
	PCS	TDY	PCS	TDY	Mil	Civ
Insurance, Driving-Related. Driving-related insurance is reimbursable when a Service-designated official determines that legal requirements/procedures of the foreign country involved make it necessary to carry driving-related insurance (55 Comp. Gen. 1343 (1976)) to cover potential liability for damage, personal injury, or death to third parties when travel is authorized by GOV'T conveyance/POC/rental car.		X		X	X	X
Interpreter Services. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO.		X		X	X	X
Laundry/Dry-Cleaning Expenses (Civilian Employee Only) 1. Reimbursable for CONUS Travel. Costs for personal laundry, dry-cleaning and/or pressing of clothing incurred during TDY or PCS travel (not after returning to/arriving at PDS) are a separately reimbursable travel expense when travel within CONUS requires at least 4 consecutive nights lodging. 2. Not Reimbursable for OCONUS Travel. <i>Laundry/dry-cleaning and/or pressing of clothing is not a separately reimbursable travel expense for OCONUS travel.</i> It is part of the IE allowance included within the per diem rates/AEA authorized/ approved for OCONUS travel.			X	X		X
Laundry/Dry-Cleaning Expenses (Uniformed Member Only) 1. Reimbursable for CONUS Travel. Costs for personal laundry, dry-cleaning and/or pressing of clothing incurred during TDY travel (not after returning to/arriving at PDS) are a separately reimbursable travel expense up to an average of \$2 per day, in addition to per diem/AEA, when travel within CONUS requires at least 7 consecutive nights of TDY lodging in CONUS (e.g., 6 nights, no laundry, 7 nights, NTE \$14, 8 nights, NTE \$16). 2. Not Reimbursable for OCONUS Travel. <i>Laundry/dry-cleaning and/or pressing of clothing is not a separately reimbursable travel expense for OCONUS travel.</i> It is part of the IE allowance included within the per diem rates/AEA authorized/ approved for OCONUS travel.		X			X	
Legal Service Fees. See Passport, Visa, Green Card, Photographs, Physical Examinations, and Legal Services.						
License/Permit, International Driver's 1. Reimbursable when traveling TDY to a country that requires an international driver's license/permit. 2. The cost of license/permit photos is reimbursable. 3. See http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1179.html for information on driving abroad. 4. <i>This reimbursement applies only to members/employees but not their dependents.</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lodging, Dual. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO. Reimbursement must not exceed the amount of per diem/AEA plus appropriate lodging tax (when separately reimbursable) that would have been paid had the traveler remained overnight. See JFTR, par. U4135 and JTR, par. C4555-F.		X		X	X	X
Lodging Fees/Daytime Lodging Charges. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO. These include room occupancy lodging charges for late departure, early arrival, or airport daytime lodging facilities due to travel arrangements that are not for the traveler's convenience.		X		X	X	X
Lodging Reimbursement while on Leave (Uniformed Member Only). Reimbursement is authorized for the actual cost of lodging retained at the TDY location during leave, NTE the per diem rate lodging portion for the TDY location, for each day during contingency operations (JFTR, par. U7225), or authorized/ordered evacuations (JFTR, par. U7226-C).		X			X	
Lodging Tax (except when 'MALT-Plus' for POC travel is paid) in the CONUS and non-foreign OCONUS areas (see APP A). 1. Reimbursable. Lodging tax reimbursement (CONUS and non-foreign OCONUS only) is limited to the tax on reimbursable lodging costs. Example: if the authorized maximum lodging rate is \$60/night, and lodging that costs \$110/night is chosen, tax on \$60 may be reimbursed, which is the maximum authorized lodging amount. 2. Not Reimbursable. Lodging tax in foreign OCONUS areas is part of per diem/AEA and is <i>not separately</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X

MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL	JFTR		JTR		APP O	
	PCS	TDY	PCS	TDY	Mil	Civ
<i>reimbursable.</i>						
Medical Fees. See Passport, Visa, Green Card, Photographs, Physical Examinations, and Legal Services.						
Mission-Related Expenses. Mission-related expenses <i>are not reimbursable as travel expenses</i> . These include (but are not limited to) equipment and materials (e.g., batteries, tools, film, paper, books, medical supplies), gifts for child care, pet care, hotel concierge, workout room/gym fees, and similar items.						
Nonrefundable Room Deposits, Forfeited Rental Deposits or Prepaid Rent, and Early Checkout Penalties when TDY is Curtailed/Canceled/Interrupted. 1. When advance lodging arrangements (including deposits for rental units) are made and TDY is curtailed/canceled/interrupted, lodging cost reimbursement may be authorized/ approved by the AO. 2. Reimbursement must not exceed the remaining amount of per diem/AEA plus appropriate lodging tax that would have been paid had the TDY not been curtailed/ canceled/interrupted. 3. See 59 Comp. Gen. 609 (1980) , 59 id. 612 (1980) , 60 id. 630 (1981) , and cases cited therein. 4. The AO should consider if the: a. Traveler acted reasonably and prudently in incurring lodging expenses; b. Traveler had a reasonable expectation of completing the TDY as authorized; c. Assignment was changed for official purposes or for an acceptable reason beyond the traveler’s control; and d. Traveler took reasonable steps to obtain a refund once the TDY was officially canceled/curtailed.		X		X	X	X
Packer Services. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO.		X		X	X	X
Paper Tickets. Any additional paper tickets cost is authorized when authorized/approved by the AO as necessary to meet GOV'T requirements (e.g., potential work stoppage by the airline or special circumstances involving international travel to foreign countries). <i>Paper tickets bought for personal convenience are the traveler’s financial responsibility.</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
Parking Fees at a Terminal. Transportation terminal parking fees (while TDY), NTE the cost of taxi fares (including associated tips) for one round-trip to the terminal are authorized. See JFTR, par. U3320 and JTR, par. C2192.		X		X	X	X
Passport, Visa, Green Card, Photographs, Physical Exams, and Legal Services. 1. <u>Reimbursement Eligibility</u> a. <u>General.</u> Reimbursement is authorized for a: (1) Member, (2) Employee, and (3) Dependent (member’s and/or employee’s). b. <u>Uniformed Member.</u> Reimbursement authority is for a member who is: (1) Assigned to a foreign OCONUS area, (2) Required to obtain/renew a passport, mandatory biometric visa requirements, and/or visas as a result of a continued assignment in a foreign OCONUS area, or (3) Emergency Technical Support Personnel. See item 5 below. c. <u>Civilian Employee.</u> Reimbursement authority is for an employee who is:	X	X	X	X	X	X

MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL	JFTR		JTR		APP O	
	PCS	TDY	PCS	TDY	Mil	Civ
<p>(1) A U.S. citizen (<i>NOTE: An eligible dependent(s) does not have to be a US citizen.</i>)</p> <p>(2) Hired locally or transported to a foreign OCONUS area at GOV'T expense,</p> <p>(3) Serving under a service or renewal agreement, and</p> <p>(4) Required to obtain/renew a passport, mandatory biometric visa requirements, and/or visas as a result of continued employment in a foreign OCONUS area, or</p> <p>(5) Emergency Technical Support Personnel. See item 5 below.</p> <p>d. <u>Dependent</u> (Member's or Employee's). Reimbursement authority is for a dependent who is:</p> <p>(1) Authorized travel and transportation allowances to/from a foreign OCONUS area, or</p> <p>(2) Required to obtain/renew a passport, mandatory biometric visa requirements, and/or visas as a result of the sponsor's continued assignment/employment in a foreign OCONUS area.</p> <p>2. <u>Acquired Dependent (Uniformed Member Only)</u>. A member serving an unaccompanied OCONUS tour who acquires a dependent OCONUS is not authorized reimbursement of passport and visa expenses for the acquired dependent except when JFTR, par. U9000-A2 or U9000-A3 applies, and/or the dependent qualifies for travel and transportation from the OCONUS PDS IAW JFTR, par. U5222-G.</p> <p>3. <u>Biometric Fees</u>. Biometric fees which are mandatory for passport and/or visa issuance to the traveler is reimbursable. Biometric data collects the traveler's measurable physical or behavioral characteristic, that can be used to verify the individual's identity or compare the identity against other entries when stored in a database. Examples of biometric data are face recognition, fingerprints, and iris scans.</p> <p>4. <u>Dependent Fee</u>. Dependent fee is reimbursable except ICW personal travel. Example: The United Kingdom Entry Clearance Fee is a reimbursable fee.</p> <p>5. <u>Emergency Technical Support Personnel</u>. A command/activity may be required to have emergency technical support personnel available for official travel on short notice. These personnel, if directed in writing by the AO to maintain current passports, mandatory biometric visa requirements and/or visas and/or green cards, may be reimbursed for the preparation expenses/fees paid for a passport, mandatory biometric visa requirements, visa, green card, photographs for OCONUS travel and physical examinations required to obtain a visa if examinations could not be obtained at a GOV'T medical facility (as of 11/1/01 obtainable only in Yokosuka, Japan)).</p> <p>6. <u>Fee for Visa, Green card, and Photographs for OCONUS Travel</u>. These fees are reimbursable ICW official travel.</p> <p>7. <u>Legal Service Fees</u>. Expenses for legal services that include lawyer fees/charges (except retainer fees) for obtaining and/or processing applications for a passport, mandatory biometric visa requirements, visa, green card, or changes in status are reimbursable if local laws and/or customs require the use of lawyers in processing such applications.</p> <p>8. <u>Medical Expenses</u>. Medical expenses associated with obtaining passports, mandatory biometric visa requirements, and/or visa and/or green card, are not reimbursable, except for inoculations as permitted in this APP.</p> <p>*9. <u>Passport Fees</u>. An official traveler ordinarily travels on a no-fee passport. The three types of <u>U.S. passports</u> are: book, card, and e-passport. A passport book is a regular passport; an e-passport is a regular passport book with electronic biometric data; both passports can be use for any international travel. A passport card is limited to departure/entry to/from the U.S. through land and seaport entry between the U.S. and Mexico, Canada, the Caribbean, and Bermuda, and is not authorized for international air travel. Passport fees are reimbursable when travel on an official travel authorization/order is to and/or from a high threat area or high risk airport by commercial air and the traveler is authorized to obtain and use a <u>regular fee passport</u>. See http://www.state.gov/travelandbusiness/. Those traveling solely by MILAIR or AMC charter flight are not reimbursed for regular fee passports unless GOV'T transportation became available on short notice (that is, after commercial travel arrangements had been made and a passport purchased) or the travel priority is sufficiently high to require backup travel arrangements (which cannot include city-pair reservations).</p> <p>10. <u>Physical Examination Fees</u>. These fees are reimbursable when required to obtain a visa and the</p>						

MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL	JFTR		JTR		APP O	
	PCS	TDY	PCS	TDY	Mil	Civ
<p>examination could not be obtained at a GOV'T medical facility (as of 11/1/01 obtainable only in Yokosuka, Japan) (adapted from GSBCA 15435-RELO, 9 April 2001). A dependent's fee is reimbursable except ICW personal travel. Example: The United Kingdom Entry Clearance Fee is a reimbursable fee.</p> <p>11. <u>Travel Authorization/Order for Visas and Physical Examinations</u>. A travel authorization/order should be issued to authorize/approve (see JFTR, par. U2115 and JTR, APP I2) travel and transportation at GOV'T expense to:</p> <p>a. A visa-issuing office located outside the traveler's PDS local area if the traveler's presence at that office is/was mandatory.</p> <p>b. Undergo a physical examination required to obtain a visa if travel is/was required to a location outside the traveler's PDS local area.</p> <p>12. <u>Travel Not Required</u>. Actual travel to obtain required documents is not required for reimbursement (e.g., the expenses may be related to mail).</p>						
Personal Expenses. <i>Personal expenses are not reimbursable.</i> These include batteries, tools, film, gifts, pet care, hotel concierge, rental car GPS, workout room/gym fees, and similar items.						
Pet Quarantine. See JFTR and JTR, Ch 5, Part I for rules regarding pet quarantine ICW PDT.	X		X			
<p>Phone Calls (Official)</p> <p>1. The AO:</p> <p>a. May determine certain communications to a traveler's home/family are official (i.e., to advise of the traveler's safe arrival, inform/inquire about medical conditions, and advise regarding changes in itinerary),</p> <p>b. Should limit communications to a dollar amount in advance of the TDY, and</p> <p>c. May approve charges after the TDY completion, when appropriate (adopted from GSBCA 14554-TRAV, 18 August 1998).</p> <p>2. Prepaid communication services (i.e., prepaid phone cards, cell phones) are not reimbursable unless the AO can determine they were used for official business.</p>		X		X	X	X
Physical Examination Fees. See Passport, Visa, Green Card, Photographs, Physical Examinations, and Legal Services.						
Prepaid Phone Cards/Cell Phones. See Communication Services.						
Preparatory Travel Expense Reimbursement when the Travel Authorization/Order is Amended, Modified, Canceled or Revoked. Preparatory travel expenses, such as fees for traveler's checks, passport, mandatory biometric visa requirements, visa, green card, and communications services, incurred prior to the authorization/order being changed are reimbursable provided the action taken is beyond the traveler's control, in the GOV'T's interest, and a refund is unobtainable.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Registered Traveler Membership Fee. Individual traveler membership in a registered and/or trusted traveler program is not a reimbursable expense per JFTR, par. U1060 and JTR, par. C1010. Use of GOV'T funds to obtain membership in such a program is statutorily prohibited by 5 USC §5946 per GSA Bulletin FTR 08-05 of 25 June 2008.						
Registration Fee. Registration fee reimbursement is authorized/approved when the fee is a condition for attendance. When the registration fee includes the cost of meals, per diem is computed under JFTR, par. U4165-2b or JTR, par. C4554-B2b.		X		X	X	X
Rental Car Administrative Fees. Any per-day administrative fee called for in the DTMO rental car agreements (including GARS) is authorized.		X		X	X	X
Reports/Correspondence Preparation Services (incl. associated necessary equipment). Services of typists, typists, data processors, or stenographers and use of computers, printers, faxing machines and scanners are reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO (B-145883, 1 September 1970 and 15 Comp. Gen. 257).		X		X	X	X

MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL	JFTR		JTR		APP O	
	PCS	TDY	PCS	TDY	Mil	Civ
<u>(1935)</u> . This does not cover any materials. See mission-related expenses.						
Resort Fees. Resort fees, <i>that are mandatory</i> , are authorized.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Room Rental. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO only when used for official business at a lodging/other place.		X		X	X	X
Service and Processing Fees. 1. Service and processing fees (transaction fees) for arranging official transportation, rental car and lodging accommodations are authorized: a. Through a CTO/TMC, and b. When a CTO/TMC is not available. 2. Reimbursement is authorized only when every reasonable attempt has been made by the traveler to engage CTO/TMC in the process and the CTO/TMC is not available, prior to official travel commencement.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Storage of Property Used on Official Business. Reimbursable when authorized/approved by the AO.		X		X	X	X
Technology Equipment. Use of computers, printers, faxing machines, scanners, telegrams, cablegrams, or radiograms is authorized.		X		X	X	X
Tips Aboard Commercial Ships (Uniformed Member Only). Tips to stewards and other attendants paid by or on behalf of the dependents aboard commercial ships are authorized.	X					
Tips for Handling GOV'T Property. Transportation-related tips for handling GOV'T property at terminals and lodgings are authorized.		X		X	X	X
Tips, Transportation-Related. Transportation-related tips for taxis, limousines, and courtesy transportation are authorized.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Transportation to/from Terminal. POC transportation costs (ICW TDY travel) to and from the transportation terminal are authorized. See JFTR, par. U3320 and JTR, par. C2192.		X		X	X	X
Travel and Transportation Related Expenses. Travel and transportation related expenses similar to any in this table may be authorized.	X	X	X	X	X	X
Value Added Tax (VAT) Certificate. The cost of a Value Added Tax (VAT) certificate used to avoid paying TDY lodging taxes is reimbursable.		X		X	X	X
Visa and Photograph Fees for OCONUS Travel. See Passport, Visa, Green Card, Photographs, Physical Examinations, and Legal Services.						

PART I: DOD MEMBERS

NOTE: For NOAA, see App Q, Part II.

- A. Tour Length Establishment. A tour length is established IAW [DODI 1315.18](#), par. E.3.1.
- B. Tour Length Change. Submit a tour length change proposal IAW [DODI 1315.18](#), par. E.3.1. *Do not submit a tour length change proposal to PDTATAC.*
- C. Tour Length Exception. The tour length for a DOD member stationed OCONUS is 36 months accompanied and 24 months unaccompanied (except for Hawai'i and Alaska which are 36/36) unless the Military Departments provide conclusive evidence that a specific tour must be shorter. See [DODI 1315.18](#), par. E.3.1.1 (12 January 05).
- D. Tour Lengths. The following are OCONUS tour lengths *for a DOD member only (other than a Defense Attaché)*: [DODI 1315.18](#), par. E3.1.1 (12 January 05):

Country or Area	Accompanied Tour (Months)	Unaccompanied Tour (Months)	Effective Date	<u>NOTE</u>
All OCONUS Duty Stations Not Listed Below	36	24		
Afghanistan				
Kabul (Personnel assigned to SAO)	NA	12	08-10-07	11
Alaska (except as indicated)	36	36		1
Adak	NA	12		
Clear	NA	12		
Eareckson	NA	12		
Fort Greely	24	12	05-01-04	
Galena	NA	12		
King Salmon	NA	12		
Marine Corps Security Forces	24	12		
Albania				
Tirana	24	12		
Algeria	24	12	12-07-04	
American Samoa	NA	12		
Argentina	36	24		
Armenia				
Yerevan (Personnel assigned to ODC)	24	18	07-06-06	10
Aruba	24	18		
Australia (except as indicated)	36	24		
Exmouth	24	24		
Learmonth	24	15		
Woomera	24	15		
Austria	36	24		
Azerbaijan				
Baku (Personnel assigned to ODC)	24	18	07-06-06	10
Azores (See Portugal)				
Bahamas				
Andros Island	24	24		
*Bahrain	24	12		*14
Bangladesh	24	18		
Belgium (except as indicated)	36	24		
Bertrix	NA	12		
Belize	24	18	09-17-04	
Benin	24	12		
Bermuda	36	24		

Country or Area	Accompanied Tour (Months)	Unaccompanied Tour (Months)	Effective Date	<u>NOTE</u>
Bolivia	24	18		
Bosnia-Herzegovina				
Banja Luka	24	18	06-30-08	15
Sarajevo (Personnel assigned to ODC)	24	18	07-06-06	10
Botswana	24	12		
Brazil	36	24		
British Indian Ocean Territory				
Diego Garcia Island	NA	12		
Bulgaria				
Sofia	24	12		
Burkina Faso	24	12		
Cambodia	NA	12		
Canada (except as indicated)	36	24		
Newfoundland and Labrador	24	12		
Argentia	24	12		
Goose Bay	24	12		
Chad	24	12	05-02-08	12
Chile	36	24		
Columbia	24	18		
Commonwealth of the N. Mariana Islands (incl. Saipan)	24	12		
Costa Rica	36	24		
Crete (See Greece)				
Croatia				
Zagreb	24	12		
Cuba				
Guantanamo Bay	30	18	04-05-07	2
JTF-GTMO	24	12	04-05-07	2
Marine Barracks	24	12		
Curacao (See Netherlands Antilles)				
Cyprus (except as indicated)	24	18		
Akrotiri	24	12		
Czech Republic				
Prague	36	24		
Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire)	24	12		
Denmark (except as indicated)	36	24		
Kalaallit Nunaat (formerly Greenland)	NA	12		
Diego Garcia (See British Indian Ocean Territory)				
Djibouti				
Djibouti City (Personnel assigned to SAO)	24	12	04-11-07	11
Dominican Republic	36	24		
Ecuador	36	18		
Manta	NA	12		
Egypt (except as indicated)	24	18		
Beni Suef	NA	12		
Cairo (ETSS personnel only)	NA	12		
Ismailia	24	12		
Jiyanklis New	NA	12		
Sinai	NA	12		
El Salvador	NA	12		
Personnel assigned to SAO	24	18		
England (See United Kingdom)				

Country or Area	Accompanied Tour (Months)	Unaccompanied Tour (Months)	Effective Date	<u>NOTE</u>
Eritrea	24	12		
Estonia				
Tallinn	24	24		
Ethiopia				
Addis Ababa (Personnel assigned to SAO)	24	12	04-11-07	11
France	36	24		
Georgia				
Tbilisi	24	18		
Germany (except as indicated)	36	24		
Donaueschingen	24	12		
Geilenkirchen	36	36		
Ghana				
Accra (Personnel assigned to ODC)	24	18	03-19-07	11
Gibraltar	36	24		
Greece (except as indicated)	36	24		
Argyroupolis	NA	12		
Athens	24	15		
Crete	24	18		
Souda Bay	24	18		
Drama	NA	12		
Elefsis	NA	12		
Horiatis	NA	12		
Larissa	24	12		
Lefkas	NA	12		
Parnis	30	18		
Patras	30	18		
Perivolaki	NA	12		
Thessalonki	24	15		
Yiannitsa	NA	12		
Greenland (See Denmark)				
Guam	36	24	10-12-04	
Guatemala	36	24		
Guyana	24	18		
Haiti				
Port au Prince (Personnel assigned to ODC)	24	12	11-20-07	11
Hawai'i (except as indicated)	36	36		1
Kauai	30	18		
Pohakuloa Training Area	24	18		
Honduras (except as indicated)	24	18		
Soto Cano AB	NA	12		
Hong Kong	36	24		
Hungary				
Budapest	36	24		
Papa	24	15	11-25-08	
Iceland (except as indicated)	30	18	10-04-99	
USAF (not assigned to a joint activity)	24	12		
USMC (not assigned to a joint activity)	24	12		
India	24	12		
Indonesia	24	12		
Ireland	36	24		
Israel	24	12		
Italy (except as indicated)	36	24		
Crotone	24	15		

Country or Area	Accompanied Tour (Months)	Unaccompanied Tour (Months)	Effective Date	<u>NOTE</u>
Ghedì	24	24	02-15-07	
Martina Franca	24	18		
Mt. Corna	24	18		
Mt. Finale Ligure	NA	12		
Mt. Limbara	NA	12		
Mt. Nardelo	NA	12		
Mt. Paganella	NA	12		
Mt. Venda	24	18		
Mt. Vergine	24	15		
Piano di Cors	NA	12		
Poggio Renatico	24	12		
Rimini	24	18		
Sardinia				
Decimomannu Air Base (AB)	24	15		
La Maddalena	24	24		
Sicily				
Comiso	24	12		
Jamaica	24	12		
Japan (except as indicated)	36	24		3
Akizuki Kure	24	12	12-07-04	
Itami (Sapporo)	24	12	12-07-04	
Kumamoto	24	12	12-07-04	
Kuma Shima	NA	12		
MCAS Iwakuni	36	12		
Okuma	NA	12		
Osaka	24	12	12-07-04	
Ryukyu Islands (except as indicated)	36	24		
Okinawa				
Ie Shima	NA	12		
MCAS Futenma	36	12		
MCB Butler	36	12		
Seburiyama	NA	12		
Sendai	24	12	12-07-04	
Shariki	NA	12	11-05-08	
Johnston Atoll	NA	12		
Jordan (except as indicated)	24	12		
Amman	24	18		
Kalaallit Nunaat (See Denmark)				
Kazakhstan				
Astana (Personnel assigned to SAO)	24	12	08-10-07	11
Kenya (except as indicated)	24	12		
Nairobi	24	18		
Korea (except as indicated)	36/24	12	03-2-09	4, 7
Chongju AB	NA	12		4
Dongducheon (Camps Casey, Hovey, Mobile, Castle)	24	12		4, 5, 6
Gwangju AB (ROK)	NA	12		4
Joint Security Area	NA	12		4
Kunsan AB (US)	NA	12		4
Mujak/Pohang	NA	12		4
Uijongbu (Camps Jackson, Red Cloud, Stanley)	24	12		4, 5, 6
Kuwait	24	12		9
Kyrgyzstan	24	12		

Country or Area	Accompanied Tour (Months)	Unaccompanied Tour (Months)	Effective Date	<u>NOTE</u>
Laos	NA	12		
Vientiane	24	12	12-21-06	
Latvia				
Riga	24	12		
Liberia	24	18	06-30-08	15
Lithuania				
Vilnius	24	12		
Luxembourg	36	24		
Macedonia	24	18		
Skopje	24	12		
Madagascar	24	12		
Malaysia	36	24		
Marshall Islands				
Enewetok	NA	12		
Kwajalein	24	18		
Mexico	24	18		
Midway Islands	NA	12		
Moldova				
Chisinau	24	18		
Mongolia	24	24		
Montenegro				
Podgorica (Personnel assigned to ODC)	24	24	01-28-08	11
Morocco (except as indicated)	24	15		
Casablanca	24	12		
Errachidia	NA	12		
Netherlands	36	24		
Netherlands Antilles				
Curacao	NA	12		
New Zealand	36	24		
Nicaragua	24	18		
Niger	24	12		
Nigeria				
Abuja (Personnel assigned to ODC)	24	24	04-11-07	11
Norway	36	24	07-07-04	
Okinawa (See Japan)				
Oman	24	12		
Pakistan	24	12		
Panama (except as indicated)	36	24		
Galeta Island	NA	12		
Paraguay	24	18		
Peru (except as indicated)	36	24		
Lima MAAG	30	18		
Philippines (except as indicated)	NA	12		
Metropolitan Manila	24	18		
Poland				
Bydgoszcz	24	24	10-21-05	
Szczecin	24	24	10-21-05	
Warsaw	36	24		
Portugal (except as indicated)	36	24		
Azores Islands	24	15		
Puerto Rico (except as indicated)	36	24		
Caguas	36	18		
Isabela	36	18		

Country or Area	Accompanied Tour (Months)	Unaccompanied Tour (Months)	Effective Date	<u>NOTE</u>
Juana Diaz	36	18		
Ponce (Ft Allen)	36	18		
Vieques Island	NA	12		
Yauco	36	18		
Qatar	24	12		
Romania				
Bucharest	24	24		
Russia				
Moscow (Personnel assigned to DAO)	24	24	02-15-07	11
Saint Helena (Ascension Island)	24	12		
Saipan (See Commonwealth of the N. Mariana Islands)				
Sardinia (See Italy)				
Saudi Arabia (except as indicated)	24	12		8
Eskan Village, Riyadh	24	12	07-18-08	13
Scotland (See United Kingdom)				
Senegal				
Dakar (Personnel assigned to ODC)	24	24	03-21-07	11
Serbia				
Belgrade (Personnel assigned to ODC & BAO)	24	24	06-11-07	11
Seychelles	24	12		
Sicily (See Italy)				
Singapore	36	24		
Slovakia				
Bratislava	36	24		
Slovenia				
Ljubljana	24	12		
Spain (except as indicated)	36	24		
Adamuz	NA	12		
Alcoy	30	18		
Balearic Islands	NA	15		
Ciudad Real	NA	12		
Constantina	30	18		
Elizondo	30	18		
El Ferrol	24	24		
Estaca De Vares	NA	12		
Gorremandi	NA	15		
Moron AB	24	15		
Rosas	30	18		
Santiago	NA	18		
Sonseca	24	15		
Villatobas	30	18		
Sudan	24	12		
Suriname	24	18		
Sweden				
Stockholm	36	24		
Tajikistan	24	12		
Thailand (except as indicated)	24	18		
Bangkok	36	24		
Tunisia	24	18		
Turkey (except as indicated)	24	15		
Balikesir	NA	12		
Cakmakli	NA	12		

Country or Area	Accompanied Tour (Months)	Unaccompanied Tour (Months)	Effective Date	<u>NOTE</u>
Corlu	NA	12		
Elmadag	24	12		
Erhac	NA	12		
Erzurum	NA	12		
Eskisehir	NA	12		
Iskendrum	NA	12		
Istanbul	NA	12		
Izmir	NA	12		
Izmit	NA	12		
Karatas	24	12		
Malatya	24	12		
Murted	NA	12		
Oratakoy	NA	12		
Pirinclik	NA	12		
Sahihtepe	NA	12		
Sinop	NA	12		
Yumurталik	NA	12		
Turkmenistan	24	12		
Ukraine				
Kiev	24	12		
United Arab Emirates	24	12		
United Kingdom (except as indicated)	36	24		3
RAF Fylingdales	24	18		
RAF Machrihanish (Scotland)	24	18		
Uruguay	36	24		
Uzbekistan	24	12		
Venezuela	24	18		
Vietnam	24	12	12-01-03	
Virgin Islands	36	24		
Wake Island	NA	12		
Wales (See United Kingdom)				
West Indies				
Anguilla	24	18		
Antigua	24	12		
Barbados	36	24		
St. Lucia	NA	12		
Yemen, Republic of	36	24	06-30-08	15
Zaire (See Democratic Republic of Congo)				

NOTES:

1. Tour-length policies for a member assigned to a duty station within Alaska or within Hawai'i are outlined in [DODI 1315.18](#), par. E3.1.
2. Dependents are permitted only when GOV'T QTRS are available.
3. A maximum 48-month tour is permitted for Navy personnel.
4. Not every member is eligible to serve an accompanied-by-dependents tour in those locations in which such tours are authorized. Command sponsorship eligibility is controlled by U.S. Forces Korea and is contingent upon the availability of facilities and services as determined by the USFK Commander. A member, not eligible to serve an accompanied-by-dependents tour, serves a dependent-restricted tour.

5. Each Secretary of a Military Department has authority to permit a member to reside at these locations while dependents reside in an area in which housing and services support are available. With a Secretarial OHA waiver, a member in a non-Key Billet accompanied tour is receives OHA for the location at which the family lives in Korea.
 6. A member assigned to a location with limited command-sponsorship facilities is required to be counseled and to sign a memorandum acknowledging the limited command-sponsorship facilities available at that installation, prior to command sponsorship acceptance.
 7. For an area authorized a 36-month accompanied-by-dependents tour, a member may accept a 36- or 24-month accompanied tour.
 8. Due to threat levels, dependents are not currently authorized at this location.
 9. Not every member is eligible to serve an accompanied-by-dependents tour in those locations in which such tours are authorized. Command sponsorship eligibility is controlled by USCENTCOM and is contingent upon the member's actual duty assignment. A member, not eligible to serve an accompanied-by-dependents tour, serves a dependent-restricted tour.
 10. OSD (P&R/OEPM) memo dated 6 July 2006 established tour lengths for members assigned to the Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC), U.S. Embassy located in Yerevan, Armenia; Baku, Azerbaijan; and Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.
 11. "OSD (P&R/OEPM)" memo dated 31 January 2008 established tour lengths for members assigned to the listed commands only. If an increase in the number of personnel assigned to the listed country is desired, a subsequent tour request must be submitted."
- Personnel assigned to the Office of the Defense Cooperation (ODC) in Accra, Ghana; Port au Prince, Haiti; Podgorica, Montenegro; Abuja, Nigeria; Dakar, Senegal; and personnel assigned the ODC and Bilateral Affairs Office (BAO) Belgrade, Serbia.
- Personnel assigned to the Defense Attaché Office (DAO) in Moscow, Russia, and personnel assigned to the Security Assistance Office (SAO) Kabul, Afghanistan; Djibouti City, Djibouti; Addis Ababa; Ethiopia; and Astana, Kazakhstan.
12. PDUSD (P&R) memo of 5 May 2008 designates the accompanied tour as partially-unaccompanied. Adult dependents only (age 21 or older) are authorized.
 13. PDUSD (P&R) memo of 17 July 2008 approves the return of adult non-school age dependents only to Eskan Village, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. A member executing an accompanied tour (24 months) to this area will be provided an opportunity, once in Saudi Arabia, to assess within a reasonable amount of time (90 or fewer days from the member's arrival date), whether the member believes that the security conditions under which the family will reside are consistent with the family's expectations and personal level of comfort and wellbeing. A member may elect to return dependents to CONUS IAW [DODI 1315.18](#) par. E4.5.2.5. and JFTR, par. U5900-D2e, at no cost to the member, and serve an unaccompanied tour (12 months).
 - *14. USD (P&R) memo of 25 June 2009 approves the return of all dependents to Bahrain. A member executing an accompanied tour (24 months) to this area must be provided an opportunity, once in Bahrain, to assess within a reasonable amount of time (90 or fewer days from the member's arrival date), whether or not the member believes that the security conditions under which the family will reside are consistent with the family's expectations and personal level of comfort and wellbeing. A member may elect to return dependents to CONUS IAW [DODI 1315.18](#) par. E4.5.2.5. and JFTR, par. U5900-D2e at no cost to the member, and serve the unaccompanied tour (12 months).
 15. May be accompanied by adult dependents age 18 years or older.

PART III: DOD CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE STANDARD TOURS OF DUTY

See JTR, Ch 5, Part A for applicable regulations.

A. Standard Tours of Duty. Standard tours of duty are:

1. 36 months under an initial service agreement, and
2. 24 months under a renewal agreement

and apply to an employee assigned OCONUS unless an exception is prescribed in this APP. See JTR, par. C5570-C.

B. Tour Length Exceptions. The 24, 18, and 12-month tours apply to the entire location listed for an accompanied or unaccompanied employee unless a statement appears limiting applicability to:

1. A specific area within that location,
2. Certain employees, and/or
3. An employee on a renewal agreement tour.

C. Accompanied vs. Unaccompanied Tours of Duty. For a location at which one tour length is prescribed for an employee authorized, and accompanied by, dependents and a shorter tour is prescribed for an employee not authorized to have dependents present, the shorter tour length applies if the employee is authorized, but is not accompanied by, dependents.

D. Special Circumstance Tour of Duty. For a special circumstance tour of duty location, see APP Q, Part IV, par. A.

E. Tour Lengths

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, the tour lengths listed below apply to initial and renewal tours.

<u>Location</u>	<u>24-Month Tour</u>	<u>18-Month Tour</u>	<u>15-Month Tour</u>	<u>12-Month Tour</u>
Afghanistan	X			
Alaska				
Adak				X
Aleutian Islands				X
Isolated Mainland Bases				X
Kodiak Island				X
Ascension Island				X
Australia				
Northwest Cape	X			
Azores (See Portugal)	X			
Bahamas				
Andros Island	X			
Bahrain	X ^{1 7}	X ²		
Bosnia-Herzegovina	X			
Banja Luka	X ⁸			
British Indian Ocean Territory				
Diego Garcia Island				X
Bulgaria		X ²		
Burma (See Myanmar)				

<u>Location</u>	<u>24-Month Tour</u>	<u>18-Month Tour</u>	<u>15-Month Tour</u>	<u>12-Month Tour</u>
Canada				
Newfoundland & Labrador				
Gander				X
Argentina	X ¹	X ²		X
Northwest Territories				X
St. Anthony				X
Christmas Island				X
Commonwealth of the N. Mariana Islands				
Saipan	X			
Croatia	X			
Cuba				
Guantanamo Bay	X ¹			X ²
Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire)	X			
Diego Garcia (See British Indian Ocean Territory)				
Dominican Republic	X			
Egypt	X ¹			X ²
El Salvador		X ²		
Eniwetok (See Marshall Islands)				
Ethiopia				X
Finland (all locations outside Helsinki)	X			
Greece	X			
Greenland		X		
Guam	X			
Haiti	X ¹			X ²
Honduras		X ²		
Hong Kong	X			
Hungary (eff 11-25-08)				
Papa	X ¹		X ²	
Iceland	X ³			X ^{2 5}
Indonesia				X ²
Iran (except as indicated below)				X
Isfahan	X			
Tehran	X			
Israel	X ¹	X ²		
Italy				
Sardinia (La Maddalena)	X ³	X ^{4 5}		
Sicily (Comiso and Ragusa)	X ³	X ^{4 5}		
Japan				
Iwo Jima				X
Kure	X ¹			X ²
Ryukyu Islands	X ¹			
Wakkanai	X ¹			X ²
Johnston Atoll	X ³			X ^{2 5}
Jordan	X			
Korea	X ¹			X ²
Kuwait	X ¹			X ²
Kwajalein (See Marshall Islands)				
Laos	X			
Liberia	X ⁸			
Libya		X		
Mahe Island (See Seychelles)				
Marshall Islands				
Eniwetok				X

<u>Location</u>	<u>24-Month Tour</u>	<u>18-Month Tour</u>	<u>15-Month Tour</u>	<u>12-Month Tour</u>
Kwajalein	X			
Mexico				
Coatzacoalcos	X ¹	X ^{2 5}		
Vera Cruz	X ¹	X ^{2 5}		
Midway Islands				X
Montenegro	X			
Morocco	X			
Myanmar	X			
Nigeria	X ¹			X ²
Oman	X ¹			X ²
Pakistan (except as indicated below)		X		
Islamabad				X ²
Karachi				X ²
Lahore				X ²
Peshawar				X ²
Panama	X			
Philippines	X			
Portugal				
Azores	X			
Puerto Rico	X			
Romania		X ²		
Qatar	X ¹			X ²
Russia				
Moscow	X			
Saudi Arabia	X ^{1 6}			X ²
Serbia	X			
Seychelles				
Mahe Island				X
Somali Republic		X		
Taiwan	X			
Thailand	X ¹			X ²
Turkey (except as indicated below)	X			
Cakmakli				X ²
Corlu				X ²
Diyarbakir				X ²
Izmir				X ²
Murs				X ²
Ortakoy				X ²
Sinop				X
Venezuela	X			
West Indies				
Eleuthera Island				X
Grand Bahama Island				X
Grand Turk Island				X
Mayaguana Island				X
San Salvador Island				X
St. Lucia Island				X
Yemen, Republic of				
Sanaa	X ^{3 8}			X ^{2 5}
Zaire (See Democratic Republic of Congo)				

1/ For an employee authorized, and accompanied by, a dependent.

2/ For an employee not authorized to have a dependent present.

3/ For an employee on an initial service agreement authorized, and accompanied by, a dependent.

4/ For an employee on an initial service agreement not authorized to have a dependent present.

5/ For an employee serving on a renewal agreement.

6/ PDUSD (P&R) memo of 17 July 2008 approves the return of adult non-school age dependents only to Eskan Village, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. An employee executing an accompanied tour (24 months) to this area must be provided an opportunity, once in Saudi Arabia, to assess within a reasonable amount of time (90 or fewer days from the employee's arrival date), whether or not the employee believes that the security conditions under which the family will reside are consistent with the family's expectations and personal level of comfort and wellbeing. An employee may elect to return dependents to CONUS IAW JTR, par. C5450-A3, and serve the unaccompanied tour (12 months).

***7/** USD (P&R) memo of 25 June 2009 approves the return of all dependents to Bahrain. An employee executing an accompanied tour (24 months) to this area must be provided an opportunity, once in Bahrain, to assess within a reasonable amount of time (90 or fewer days from the employee's arrival date), whether or not the employee believes that the security conditions under which the family will reside are consistent with the family's expectations and personal level of comfort and wellbeing. An employee may elect to return dependents to CONUS IAW JTR, par. C5450-A3, and serve the unaccompanied tour (18 months).

8/ May be accompanied by adult dependents age 18 years or older.

PART II: CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

A. General. A DOD civilian employee and/or a Uniformed Service member may attend and participate in conferences/meetings of recognized professional organizations to maintain and improve professional competency at GOV'T expense (including TDY expenses), subject to the availability of funds and the employee's/member's work responsibilities.

B. Authority. Title 5 USC §4110 and 37 USC §412 authorizes conference attendance expenditures for meetings concerned with the functions and activities of the Uniformed Services/DOD Agency which contribute to improved conduct, supervision, or management of the component's functions and activities are authorized as a necessary expense. This authority applies to attendance at technical, scientific, professional, or similar private membership non-Federal societies and organizations ([38 Comp. Gen. 800 \(1959\)](#) and [55 Id. 1332 \(1976\)](#)). This authority is independent of the training authority included in JTR, par. C4500 and JFTR, par. U1050 unless it is administratively determined that training is the primary purpose of attendance at a meeting.

C. Government Sponsored Conference. Attendance at GOV'T expense may be authorized for the following:

1. Conferences sponsored or cosponsored by a Federal agency at which a member's/DOD civilian employee's attendance is required in the performance of official duties;
2. Conferences of state/municipals GOV'T organizations, or of international agencies in which the Federal Government is officially participating, and the member's/DOD civilian employee's attendance is related to official duties or for the purpose of transacting GOV'T business;
3. Conferences of a group of individuals representing private interests, but convened for the purpose of transacting business directly related to the Uniformed Service's or DOD Agency's functions or activities and attendance is in the member's/DOD civilian employee's official performance; and
4. Similar activities.

D. Non-Government Sponsored Conferences

1. General. Conference attendance at non-Federal technical, scientific, professional, and comparable private membership organizations is subject to the conditions in APP R, Part I.
2. Attendance and Approval Requirements. Attendee selection and approval is subject to Uniformed Service/DOD Agency regulations consistent with the regulations on acceptance of payment from a non-federal source for travel Expenses (see the Joint Ethics Regulation (JER), DOD 5500.7-R, at http://www.defenselink.mil/dodgc/defense_ethics/ethics_regulation/index.html).
3. Purpose. A Uniformed member and/or a DOD civilian employee may attend conferences at GOV'T expense to:
 - a. Further Service or DOD Agency programs;
 - b. Present scientific and technical papers which further the development of the U.S. resources; and
 - c. Maintain an effective professional, scientific, technical, managerial, and supervisory workforce.
4. Security. An appropriate security officer at the activity concerned should examine the security implications for attendance at all meetings and conferences conducted or sponsored by private or international organizations. A member/DOD civilian employee who attends such meetings must be briefed about security implications, when necessary, prior to attendance.

E. Registration Fees and Miscellaneous Reimbursable Expenses

1. When Travel Is Involved. Registration fees authorized in the travel authorization/order or approved on a travel claim voucher are reimbursable. The PMR applies on any day that the cost for one or two meals is included in the registration fee (JTR, par C4554-B and JFTR, par. U4165). Information should be included on the travel authorization/order as to whether or not the registration fee includes charges for meals, and if so, the number of meals and the dates on which furnished. When the registration fee includes lodgings without charge, only the appropriate applicable [PMR](#) or TDY locality [M&IE rate](#) is paid
2. When No Travel Is Involved. The registration fee may be reimbursed when attendance is authorized for a conference in the local area that:
 - a. Does not involve travel,
 - b. Does not involve per diem, and
 - c. For which a travel authorization/order is not issued.
3. Limitation on Reimbursement for Meal Costs when Attending a Conference/Meeting Sponsored by a Uniformed Service or DOD Agency. The cost of each meal, whether included in a registration fee or contracted for separately, at a Uniformed Service or DOD Agency sponsored conference/meeting must be identified. The total amount paid by the GOV'T for meals cannot exceed the locality meal rate prescribed for the TDY assignment location (if travel is involved) or the meeting location (when travel is not involved), unless AEA reimbursement for the meal(s) involved has been authorized/approved in accordance with JFTR, Ch 4, Part C and/or JTR, Ch 4, Part M. When travel is involved, the maximum contracted amount for 1 or 2 meals cannot exceed the difference between the locality meal rate and the PMR.
4. Miscellaneous Reimbursable Expenses. Independent charges/fees for light refreshments/snacks are not a reimbursable expense.
5. Conferences/Training at the PDS: Payment of registration fees, meals, lodging, travel, and/or other expenses required for conferences/training at the PDS cannot be paid as travel allowances per 37 USC §404. For authority to pay related training costs at the PDS see 10 USC §2013; 5 USC §4109; 42 USC §218a; and 14 USC §469. The costs must clearly be an integral part of the training ([39 Comp. Gen. 119 \(1959\)](#); and [B-244473, 13 January 1992](#)). When training events require lodging and subsistence costs at the PDS, authority for training expense payment is made through the training and/or comptroller personnel using the above legal authority. ***This regulation is not the authority for this payment nor is it a travel and transportation allowance.***

Charges/fees for light refreshments/snacks are reimbursable ONLY when included as part of the conference registration fee.

F. Membership Fees and Dues. The Secretary Concerned or DOD Agency Head may pay membership fees or dues from appropriated funds when the membership is in the GOV'T's interest and the membership is in the Uniformed Service's or DOD Agency's name (e.g., Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee). ([31 Comp. Gen. 398 \(1952\)](#); [33 id. 126 \(1953\)](#)).

G. Entertainment Expenses. Entertainment expenses for social events and other personal expenses not directly required by official duties are not reimbursable.

H. Advance Payment of Discounted Conference or Training Registration Fee (adapted from [FTR §301-74.25](#))

1. **General.** It is a general practice for conference planners to offer discounted “early bird” registration fees, which are available in the months prior to the beginning of the conference. If a GTCC IBA is to be used to pay this fee, to take advantage of such specials, a traveler should be given oral or written authorization/order to register early, charge the registration fee to the GTCC IBA, and claim reimbursement for the discounted registration fee as soon as a written authorization/order to attend the conference has been generated. When the authorization to register early is oral, the written authorization/order must reference the oral authorization for the early registration. This does not prevent other payment methods for advance registration fees (e.g., GOV’T purchase card (not a GTCC)).

2. **Traveler is Unable to Attend an Event for which Reimbursement Was Made** (adopted from [FTR §301-74.26](#)). In all cases in which a traveler is unable to attend an event for which a discounted registration fee was paid and reimbursed in advance of the event, the traveler must seek a registration fee refund and repay the advance with any refund received. If no refund is made, the Service concerned must absorb the advanced payment as a preparatory travel expense if the traveler’s failure to attend the event was caused either by a decision of the Service concerned or for reasons beyond the traveler’s control that are acceptable to the Service concerned, e.g., unforeseen illness or emergency. ***If no refund is made, and the traveler’s failure to attend the scheduled event is due to reasons deemed un-excusable by the Service concerned, the traveler must repay the amount advanced.***

I. Comptroller General of the United States Guidance Concerning Reasonable Conference Costs Including Meals and Light Refreshments at a Formal Conference. Following is the Digest portion of the Comptroller General Decision ([B-300826, 3 March 2005](#)) rendered to the National Institutes of Health concerning reasonable conference costs.

Decision

Matter of: National Institutes of Health - Food at GOV’T-Sponsored Conferences

File: B-300826

Date: March 3, 2005

DIGEST

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) may pay for legitimate, reasonable conference costs, including meals and light refreshments, of a formal conference pertaining to Parkinson's disease subject to the conditions outlined herein. A formal conference typically involves topical matters of interest to, and participation of, multiple agencies and/or nongovernmental participants. In addition, other indicators of a formal conference include registration, a published substantive agenda, and scheduled speakers or discussion panels. An agency hosting a formal conference may consider the cost of providing meals and refreshments to conference attendees an allowable conference cost as long as:

- (1) Meals and refreshments are incidental to the conference,
- (2) Attendance at the meals and when refreshments are provided is important for the host agency to ensure full participation in essential discussions, lectures, or speeches concerning the purpose of the conference, and
- (3) The meals and refreshments are part of a formal conference that includes not just the meals and refreshments and discussions, speeches, or other business that may take place when the meals and refreshments are served, but also includes substantial functions occurring separately from when the food is served.

The NIH conference here satisfies these three criteria. Without statutory authority to charge a fee and retain the proceeds, NIH may not charge a registration or other fee to defray the costs of providing meals or light refreshments. An appropriation establishes a maximum authorized program level, and an agency, without specific statutory authority, may not augment its appropriations from sources outside the GOV’T.

In applying this decision, NIH should develop an agency policy specifying the types of formal conferences at which NIH may consider providing food. NIH also should develop procedures to ensure that the provision of meals and refreshments meet the criteria listed above.

We (GAO) expect agency counsels, as well as certifying officers, agency auditors, and Inspectors General, to apply these criteria. To the extent that agency officials are uncertain as to the applicability of the criteria in particular circumstances, they may request a decision from this office, pursuant to 31 USC §3529, before proceeding.

*J. PMR Computation Examples. The following example shows how to compute the PMR and a PMR voucher. PMR is an amount based on the locality meal rate and the GMR. Please check JFTR or JTR, APP A, for the current GMR.

*1. The PMR example uses the Standard CONUS M&IE rate of \$39.00 and the Standard GMR of \$10.80 to compute the PMR amount. The \$39.00 consists of \$36.00 for meals and \$3.00 for incidental expenses.

Disclaimer: The numbers in this example are for illustrative purposes only.

Example computation rules: the PMR is an average of two rates – (1) the locality meal rate and the GMR which are added, (2) averaged and rounded up to the nearest dollar. To compute the Proportional M&IE rate, (3) add the appropriate incidental expense rate, and (4) the total becomes the proportional M&IE amount.

***NOTE: The meal rate ONLY, and not the entire M&IE rate, is used to compute the PMR. The appropriate incidental expenses rate is added to the PMR to create the proportional M&IE rate.**

Step 1	Add the locality <u>meal rate</u> and <u>GMR</u>	\$36.00 + \$10.80 = \$46.80
Step 2	Divide Step 1 total in half (rounded to the next highest dollar)	\$46.80 ÷ 2 = \$23.40 * (Rounded up to \$24.00)
Step 3	Add Step 2 total to the CONUS incidental expense rate	*\$24.00 + \$3.00 = \$27.00
Step 4	Proportional Meal and Incidental Expense Rate	*\$27.00

*2. PMR Voucher Computation Example: A traveler is TDY for 3 days to a conference at a CONUS location (Standard CONUS per diem rate applies). Lodging is \$55/night and GMR is \$10.80. GOV'T furnished meals are not available for the first and last day; however, two GOV'T meals are available for the second day. The AO authorizes a PMR of \$27.00 for the second day. **NOTE: GOV'T dining facility/ mess deductions are not taken for the arrival and departure travel days (JFTR, par. U4147/JTR, par. C4553-C2).**

ITINERARY:		
Day 1	Depart Residence/Arrive TDY	
Day 2	TDY	
Day 3	Depart TDY/Arrive Residence	
REIMBURSEMENT:		
<u>Day</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Total</u>
Day 1	\$55 + [(\$39 (M&IE) x 75 %) = \$29.25] =	\$ 84.25
Day 2	*\$55 + \$27 (PMR) =	*\$82.00
Day 3	\$39 x 75% =	29.25
TOTAL		*\$ 195.50