# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REGULATION

**VOLUME 9: "TRAVEL POLICY"** 

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)

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# VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 1: "GENERAL INFORMATION" SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

Changes are identified in this table and also denoted by blue font.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an asterisk (\*) symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by **bold**, **italic**, **blue**, **and underlined font**.

The previous version dated June 2021 is archived.

PARAGRAPH	PARAGRAPH EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	
All	to comply with current administrative instructions, and made	Revision
	clarifying editorial changes.	
	Revised "premium class" and "other than coach class	
6.0	(OTCC)" language in accordance with the Federal Register	Revision
	Volume 87, Number 175 published September 12, 2022.	
	and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) staff	
	in accordance with Department of Defense Directive	
All	5154.31, Volume 5, dated October 16, 2015 as PDTATAC	Revision
	Case RR23004. Any conflict between this publication and	
	the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) is resolved based on the	
	JTR and not this publication.	

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# **CHAPTER 1**

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

# 1.0 PURPOSE

The policies addressed in Volume 9 apply to all personnel traveling under orders funded by the Department of Defense (DoD). This includes military members, civilian employees, members of the Reserve Components, dependents on official orders, and travelers on DoD invitational travel authorizations. Individual DoD Component travel implementing guidance remains in use to provide direction for travel order preparation, administration and accounting.

# 2.0 AUTHORITATIVE GUIDANCE

Volume 9 provides supplemental instructions on the payment of allowances authorized by the Joint Travel Regulations (<u>JTR</u>). The DoD-chartered Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) publishes the JTR. The JTR directly implements the travel and transportation allowances authorized by law for members of the Uniformed Services, and also implements guidance from the General Services Administration's (GSA) Federal Travel Regulation (<u>FTR</u>) for DoD civilian employees.

# 2.1 Additional Guidance

- 2.1.1. Additional guidance pertinent to the U.S. Air Force and Space Force is in the **Department of the Air Force Instruction 24-602, Volume 1, Passenger Movement.**
- 2.1.2. Additional guidance pertinent to the U.S. Navy is available in the *Navy Passenger Transportation Manual (OPNAVINST 4650.15C CH-1)*.
- 2.1.3. Additional guidance pertinent to the U.S. Marine Corps is in the *Marine Corps Assignment, Classification, and Travel System Manual (ACTSMAN)*.
- 2.1.4. Additional guidance pertinent to the use of Nonappropriated Funds is in the **DoD Instruction 1400.25, Volume 1405**.

# 2.2 Exceptions

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) (OUSD(C)) is the approving authority for exceptions to policy. Requests for exceptions must include a justification, a recommendation and approval from the appropriate DoD Component command channel at or above the level of the Deputy Chief Financial Officer (DCFO), OUSD(C). Send requests through the appropriate DoD Component to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Director, Strategy, Policy and Requirements, Finance Policy Division (DFAS-ZPF), 8899 E. 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Indianapolis, IN, 46249. DFAS-ZPF will review and recommend approval/disapproval to the DCFO, OUSD(C), who will make the final decision.

# 3.0 EFFECTIVE DATE OF JTR CHANGES

See the information on "EFFECTIVE DATE OF REGULATION CHANGES" in the Introduction to the JTR for explanations of JTR effective dates. The DFAS-ZPF may release policy memorandums affecting Volume 9 that implement PDTATAC determinations, if necessary. These policy memorandums remain in effect until published in a change to Volume 9.

# 4.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

The OUSD(C) has ultimate responsibility for the policies contained in Volume 9. The DoD Components may submit requests for changes to DFAS-ZPF. The DFAS-ZPF will review requests and initiate recommended changes to Volume 9 if necessary.

# 5.0 ROUTING AND FORMAT FOR RECOMMENDING CHANGES

Recommendations for changes should include a full explanation regarding the need and rationale for the proposed change. Provide details when the proposal is the result of an actual situation. Addresses for submission of proposed changes are:

Army: Assistant Secretary of the Army

(Financial Management and Comptroller)

109 Army Pentagon

Washington, DC 20310-0109

Navy: Senior Civilian Official

Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller)

1000 Navy Pentagon

Washington, DC 20350-1000

Air Force Assistant Secretary of the Air Force

and Space Force: (Financial Management and Comptroller)

1130 Air Force Pentagon Washington, DC 20330-1130

U.S. Marine Corps: Commandant of the Marine Corps

Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps Programs & Resources Department 3000 Marine Corps Pentagon

Washington, DC 20350-3000

Defense Agencies and DoD Field

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

Activities:

Attention: DFAS-ZPF 8899 East 56th Street Indianapolis, IN 46249

NOTE: DFAS-ZPF will return recommendations from the Military Services if they have not passed through the specified organization.

# \*6.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

Federal agencies are required by the GSA to report the use of Government aircraft to carry senior Federal officials and non-Federal travelers, on a semi-annual basis in accordance with (IAW) the FTR 301-70.906 and 301-70.907. Agencies must also report all instances of first class and business class travel, on an annual basis IAW the FTR 300-70, Subpart B.

NOTE: DoD Service Components/Agencies must be mindful of any additional Office of Management and Budget travel-specific reporting requirements, which often originate from Executive Orders (EO).

6.1 Report for Travel on Government Aircraft by Senior Federal Officials

Except when a trip is classified, the following information must be reported to the GSA:

- 6.1.1. The person's name with indication that he/she is either a senior Federal official or a non-Federal traveler, whichever is appropriate;
- 6.1.2. The traveler's organization and title or other appropriate descriptive information (e.g., dependent or press);
  - 6.1.3. Name of the authorizing agency;
  - 6.1.4. The official purpose(s) of the trip;
  - 6.1.5. The destination(s);
- 6.1.6. For personal or political travel, the amount that the traveler must reimburse the Government (i.e., the full coach fare or appropriate share of that fare);
- 6.1.7. For official travel, the comparable City Pair Program fare (if available to the traveler) or the full coach fare if the City Pair Program fare is not available; and
- 6.1.8. The cost to the Government to carry this person (i.e., the appropriate allocated share of the Federal or Close Air Support aircraft trip costs).

NOTE: Additional information concerning the GSA's requirement to report travel on Government aircraft by senior Federal officials and non-Federal travelers, to include the Senior Federal Travel Reporting tool and submitting negative reports is available at <u>Senior Federal Travel Reporting</u>.

# 6.2 Other Than Coach Class (OTCC) Reporting

OTCC accommodations are defined in the FTR as first class, business class and premium economy class. When reporting OTCC accommodations to GSA, agencies are only required to report first class and business class. Reporting is not required for premium economy class accommodations. Agencies must separate first class from business class when reporting. An agency must submit a negative report when it has no OTCC accommodations to report. All instances of first class and business class accommodations paid by the Government, which includes any accommodations used as part of a multi-leg or multi-segmented trip paid by the Government must be reported. Beginning in fiscal year 2015, GSA requires agencies to report premium class travel by ticket, rather than segments as in previous years. If any portion of the ticket purchased involves first class or business class accommodations, the entire cost of the ticket must be reported.

- 6.3 First Class and Business Class Accommodations That Do Not Require Reporting:
  - 6.3.1. Any first class or business class accommodation paid by the traveler,
  - 6.3.2. Those acquired by the traveler through frequent flyer points or benefits,
  - 6.3.3. Those which are considered a free upgrade, or
- 6.3.4. When the Federal Government pays coach class fares for first class or business class accommodations.
- 6.4 Negative Reports and Exceptions to Reporting First Class and Business Class Travel
- 6.4.1. <u>Negative Reports</u>. DoD Components that have no first class or business class accommodations to report must still submit a negative report to GSA annually.
- 6.4.2. Exceptions to Reporting Premium Class Travel. Agencies are not required to report data protected from public disclosure by statute or EO; however, they must submit, in a cover letter to the GSA the following aggregate information:
  - 6.4.2.1. Aggregate number of authorized OTCC trips protected from disclosure,
  - 6.4.2.2. Total cost of actual OTCC fares paid that exceeded coach class fare, and
- 6.4.2.3. Total cost of coach class fares that would have been paid for the same travel.

NOTE: Additional information concerning the GSA requirements for reporting first class or business class accommodations, to include gaining access to the on-line reporting tool, may be found at *Travel Reporting*.



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REGULATION

**CHAPTER 2: "ARCHIVED"** 

# UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REGULATION

**CHAPTER 3: "ARCHIVED"** 

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)

# VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 4: "TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCES" SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

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The previous version dated August 2022 is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
All	Verified and updated references, hyperlinks, and formatting to comply with current administrative instructions, and made clarifying editorial changes.	Revision
3.2	Revision	
4.0	Revised "premium class" language in accordance with the Federal Register Volume 87, Number 175 published September 12, 2022.	Revision
All	This publication has been reviewed by the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) in accordance with DoD Instruction 5154.31, Volume 5, dated October 16, 2015, as PDTATAC Case RR24003. Any conflict between this publication and the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR) is resolved based on the JTR and not this publication.	Revision

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### **CHAPTER 4**

# TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCES

# 1.0 GENERAL

# 1.1 Purpose

This chapter provides general policy guidance to official travelers on transportation allowances.

# 1.2 Authoritative Guidance

This chapter provides guidance under authorities contained in statute, the Joint Travel Regulations (*JTR*), and the Federal Travel Regulation (*FTR*).

# 2.0 TRANSPORTATION MODE

The Authorizing Official (AO) should direct or authorize the transportation mode for official travel. If the AO does not direct a specific transportation mode, air transportation is ordinarily the authorized mode. The traveler must use the Travel Management Company (TMC). See the JTR, paragraph 010201. The Transportation Office(r) (TO) is responsible for issuing policy on the use and procurement of transportation. Travelers should contact the TO for information regarding available transportation services and costs.

# 3.0 TRAVEL BY PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLE (POV)

# 3.1 Use of POV

An AO may authorize, but cannot direct a traveler to use a POV in connection with travel on official Government business. This limitation also applies to travel as a passenger in a POV. See the JTR, paragraph 020210. An employee may not be prohibited from using a POV on official travel. See the FTR 301-70.105 on administering the authorization and payment of employee POV travel expenses.

# \*3.2 When POV Use is More Advantageous to the Government

POV use on a temporary duty (TDY) assignment is not automatically considered to be advantageous to the government. AOs must consider the preferred transportation methods and the determination factors outlined in the JTR, paragraph 020203 before authorizing POV transportation.

# 3.3 When POV Use is Not More Advantageous to the Government

If a traveler elects to use a POV instead of the transportation mode authorized, then:

- 3.3.1. Reimbursement must be limited to the constructed cost of the authorized transportation mode, which is the sum of per diem and the transportation cost the Government would have incurred when traveling by the authorized transportation mode, unless otherwise stated in the JTR. See the JTR, paragraph 020210.F; and
- 3.3.2. Charge leave in accordance with personnel regulations for travel time that is not official travel time. See the JTR, paragraph 020302.

# 3.4 Allowable Travel Time Policy

The standard DoD procedure for administering travel time for all DoD travelers is based on the traveler's required period of duty at the TDY point. All time that is not official travel time must be accounted for in accordance with appropriate personnel regulations. See the JTR, paragraph 020302.

3.4.1. <u>Day of Arrival at the TDY Point</u>. When the traveler is required to perform duty at the TDY point on the day of arrival, that day is a day of duty. Travel time is granted prior to that first duty day. When the traveler performs no duty at the TDY point on the day of arrival, that day is a travel day.

EXAMPLE: POV travel is authorized as advantageous to the Government. The authorized travel time is two days. The traveler performs duty on the day of arrival at the TDY point. For this example, Departure/Arrival is D/A, Permanent Duty Station is PDS, Private Automobile is PA, TD is TDY and Mission Complete is MC.

D/A	<u>DATE</u>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<u>MODE</u>	REASON FOR STOP
Dep	1 Oct	PDS	PA	
Arr	3 Oct	TDY point A		TD
Dep	8 Oct	TDY point A	PA	
Arr	10 Oct	PDS		MC

NOTE: Refer also to DoD (*DD*) *Form 1351-2*, Travel Voucher or Subvoucher, for explanation of codes.

In this example, October 3 is a day of duty and October 1 and 2 are travel days. Using the same example, if the traveler did not perform duty on October 3 at the TDY point, October 2 and 3 are the travel days. The AO must determine if October 1 should be charged as leave in accordance with DoD Component procedures.

3.4.2. <u>Day of Departure From the TDY Point</u>. When a traveler is required to perform duty at the TDY point on the day of departure, that day is a day of duty. Travel time is granted after that last day. When a traveler is not required to perform duty at the TDY point on the day of departure from the TDY point, that day is a travel day.

EXAMPLE: POV travel is authorized as advantageous to the Government. The authorized travel time is two days. The traveler performs duty on the day of departure from the TDY point.

<u>D/A</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MODE</u>	REASON FOR STOP
Dep	1 Oct	PDS	PA	
Arr	3 Oct	TDY point A		TD
Dep	8 Oct	TDY point A	PA	
Arr	10 Oct	PDS		MC

In this example, October 8 is a day of duty and October 9 and 10 are travel days. Using the same example, if a traveler performs no duty on October 8 at the TDY point, October 8 and 9 are travel days. The AO must determine if October 10 should be charged as leave in accordance with DoD Component procedures.

# \*4.0 FIRST CLASS OR BUSINESS CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS

Travelers are not entitled to reimbursement for first class or business class accommodations unless properly authorized or approved. See the JTR, paragraph 020206. It is DoD policy that travelers using commercial air carriers for official travel must use economy or coach accommodations. This does not preclude the traveler from accepting a complimentary seating upgrade offered by the carrier.

# 5.0 UNUSED/LOST/STOLEN TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS OR TICKETS

# 5.1 Unused/Lost/Stolen Transportation Requests or Tickets

If a traveler does not use the ticket (paper or electronic) for Government-procured transportation, the traveler must return that ticket to the TO/TMC. Travelers utilizing electronic tickets for which they do not have an issued boarding pass must return a copy of their itinerary to the TO/TMC. The traveler must complete and have the issuing authority (i.e., TO/TMC) sign an original and one copy of a *DD Form 730*, Receipt for Unused Transportation Requests and/or Tickets, Including Unused Meal Tickets. The *Standard Form (SF) 1170*, *Redemption of Unused Tickets*, may also be used if its use is in accordance with Service regulations. The traveler must attach a copy of the DD Form 730/SF 1170 (or other receipt) to the travel claim. If a traveler loses a paper ticket or transportation request, the traveler must contact the TO/TMC for assistance. A traveler remains financially responsible to the Government for the cost of a lost or stolen paper ticket or transportation request, regardless of fault or negligence. If the travel order directs use of Government-procured transportation, do not reimburse the traveler for personally procured transportation unless the AO provides a statement to allow reimbursement.

# 5.2 Involuntarily Relinquished Airline Accommodations

Penalty payments or credits issued by air carriers under certain provisions of their tariffs for failing to furnish accommodations for confirmed reserved space belong to the U.S.

Government, and not the traveler, when the payments result from travel on official business and the traveler was involuntarily denied boarding. In accordance with the JTR, paragraph 020206, travelers must request that the transportation carrier show "Treasurer of the United States" as the payee on the compensation check and forward the payment according to Service/DoD Agency directives.

# 6.0 RENTAL VEHICLES

An AO must authorize or approve use of a rental vehicle. It is mandatory that travelers use an available TMC to obtain a rental vehicle. When a TMC is available, but not used, reimbursement is limited to what the cost would have been if a TMC made the arrangements. See the JTR, Table 2-8. Only the individual authorized a rental vehicle on their travel order, and named on the rental agreement/contract, may receive reimbursement for authorized rental car expenses. See the JTR, paragraph 020209.

# 6.1 Receipts

When a traveler is authorized and uses a commercial rental vehicle, a receipt from the rental agency must be attached to the claim for costs of \$75.00 or more. See the JTR, paragraph 010301.

# 6.2 Mileage Charges

When a mileage charge is included in the cost of a rental vehicle, the total cost of which is \$75.00 or more, a statement showing the official distance driven must be attached to the claim.

# 6.3. Leisure Use With Official Use

A traveler who is on official travel with an authorized rental vehicle will only be reimbursed for the use ofrental car while on official travel. The a Defense Travel Management Office (DTMO), U.S. Government Rental Car Agreement, only covers official travel. Rental car vendors have different procedures and the traveler must check with the rental car vendor to determine if the rental car must be returned after the official business portion of TDY in order to obtain another rental car for personal use.

# 6.4 Reimbursement for the Cost of Damages to Commercial Rental Vehicles

Rental cars covered by the DTMO rental car agreement include full liability and vehicle loss, and damage insurance coverage in the Government rate. Reimbursement or payment to the rental agency for damages must be made by the Government, or by the traveler if it is determined that the traveler was not within the scope of employment when the loss occurred. When Government reimbursement is approved, and extra collision insurance is not purchased or included in the basic rental contract (e.g., in accordance with DTMO negotiated agreements), the traveler may be reimbursed for personal funds paid to the rental agency for the full amount of damage sustained, or the deductible amount (when contained in the rental agreement), for a vehicle properly rented and damaged in the performance of official business. The JTR, paragraph 020209 defines official purposes. The traveler submits a claim for reimbursement through the AO to the

claims office of the supporting Staff Judge Advocate for adjudication. Supporting documentation must include, but is not limited to:

- 6.4.1. Police accident reports and traffic citations;
- 6.4.2. Statements from witnesses; and
- 6.4.3. Statements and itemized bills from the traveler and rental agency to ensure that the claim is valid, not settled, and in an amount commensurate to the actual damage.

NOTE: The inclusion of an accident report assists legal authorities in establishing fault on the part of the party not employed by the Government, which may enable the Government to recoup its loss when the negligence of that party can be established without costly investigation. Reimbursement is prohibited for damage sustained to a rental vehicle while being used on other than official business, or by willful and wanton negligence on the part of the traveler.

# 6.5 Damage Claims Received From Rental Agencies

Rental agencies may submit a damage claim directly to the Government. To be considered for payment, these claims must be supported by appropriate documentation. Claims for reimbursement or payments made directly to the rental agency may be made in the full amount of damage sustained or the deductible amount (when contained in the rental agreement). At a minimum, include documentation provided in paragraph 6.4.

# 7.0 LOCAL TRAVEL IN AND AROUND PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY DUTY STATIONS

# 7.1 General

The AO should make sure local directives clearly define the local area in which transportation expenses may be authorized or approved for conducting official business. See the JTR, paragraph 0206. When two or more installations are in close proximity, the senior commander or senior Service commander should determine the local area. When travelers perform TDY in the local area and require lodging, travel orders are necessary to support the claim.

# 7.2 Prohibition on Self Approval

Appointed AOs and approving officials may not approve their own vouchers for payment of local travel.

# 7.3 Permanent Duty Station

Travelers performing local travel in a POV must provide a trip-by-trip accounting of all travel performed on official business. Refer to Chapter 8, paragraph 6.2 for claim submission instructions and the JTR, paragraph 020204 for distance determinations. When like trips between the same points occur on a repeated basis, one entry on the claim suffices, provided that it reflects

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the distance or costs between these points and the dates on which the trips occurred.

# 7.4 Temporary Duty Station

Travelers performing local travel in a POV at the TDY site may be authorized/approved reimbursement for transportation expenses necessarily incurred for conducting official business in the local area of their TDY stations using the TDY mileage rates for local and TDY travel. See the JTR, paragraphs 020210 and 020212.

# 8.0 TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION FOR FUNERAL HONORS DETAIL

# 8.1 General

A person not employed by the Government, who participates in a funeral honors detail for a veteran in accordance with Title 10, United States Code, section 1491, (10 U.S.C. § 1491) may be authorized transportation or transportation reimbursement and expenses. See the JTR, paragraph 032004.

# 8.2 Transportation Mode

The transportation mode used should be the least costly mode available that adequately meets the needs of the detail. When a POV is the authorized mode, actual expenses rather than a mileage allowance may be paid. Reimbursement for POV actual expenses are limited to fuel, oil, parking, ferry fares, and road, bridge, and/or tunnel tolls.

# 8.3 Lodging and Meals

The actual cost of lodging and meals may be reimbursed up to the per diem rate prescribed for the area concerned. If individuals serving on the funeral honors detail incur costs to include per diem, an invitational travel authorization will be used.

# 8.4 Reimbursable Expenses

Reimbursable expenses, in accordance with the JTR, paragraph 0204, may be authorized or approved.

# VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 5: "TEMPORARY DUTY TRAVEL (TDY) AND TRAVEL ADVANCES"

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### **CHAPTER 5**

# TEMPORARY DUTY TRAVEL (TDY) AND TRAVEL ADVANCES

# 1.0 GENERAL

# 1.1 Purpose

This chapter identifies the DoD financial management policies and guidance governing travel administration for travelers performing Temporary Duty (TDY) travel, and for travel advances.

### 1.2 Authoritative Guidance

Guidance in this chapter is provided under authorities contained in statute, the Joint Travel Regulations (<u>JTR</u>), the <u>Federal Travel Regulation</u>, and other portions of the <u>DoD Financial Management Regulation</u>. It does not include every condition in which travel and transportation allowances are either authorized, or limited by, the JTR. Information contained in this volume does not supersede the JTR.

# 2.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

# 2.1 Departmental Accountable Official (DAO) Responsibilities

DAO's involved in the travel management process must serve as control points within the organization. Individuals that may be officially appointed as DAO's for the travel process may include reviewing officials, approving officials, and authorizing officials (AO). If appointed, DAO's may be held pecuniarily liable under guidance contained in Volume 5, Chapter 5, section 7.0 for illegal, improper or incorrect payments resulting from information, data, or services they negligently provide to certifying officers; and upon which the certifying officers relied to certify payment vouchers. DAO's must be appointed and terminated using a DoD (DD) Form 577, Appointment/Termination Record-Authorized Signature.

# 2.1.1. General Responsibilities

- 2.1.1.1. Acknowledge appointment and responsibilities as a DAO by signature.
- 2.1.1.2. Implement, maintain, and enforce system internal procedures and control points within an organization to minimize opportunities for erroneous payments.
  - 2.1.1.3. Comply with all applicable DoD regulations, policies, and procedures.
  - 2.1.1.4. Respond in a timely manner to inquiries by reviewing officials.

- 2.1.2 <u>Reviewing Officials</u>. The person appointed as a reviewing official may not serve concurrently as a certifying or disbursing officer. Except where impracticable within afloat or tactical operating forces, persons appointed as reviewing officials must not be in the supervisory chain of command of a certifying or disbursing officer.
  - 2.1.2.1. Conduct prepayment review of travel claims.
- 2.1.2.2. Conduct post-payment review of travel payments certified by Certifying Officers.

# 2.1.3 Approving Officials

- 2.1.3.1. Approve TDY orders.
- 2.1.3.2. Approve travel claims.
- 2.1.3.3. If required by the DoD Component, approve claims by signing and dating the <u>DD Form 1351-2</u>, Travel Voucher or Subvoucher, and forward approved vouchers to the appropriate travel computation office. If a voucher is disapproved, annotate the reason and return to the traveler for correction or clarification as necessary.
- 2.1.3.4. If an allowance or itinerary changes, approve after-the-fact allowable expenses and itinerary or status changes by signing and dating the DD Form 1351-2 and forwarding the approved voucher to the travel computation office.

# 2.1.4 Authorizing Officials

- 2.1.4.1. Authorize all appropriate travel allowances except when a higher authority is required such as for premium-class travel.
  - 2.1.4.2. Review lines of accounting for accuracy.
  - 2.1.4.3. Assign travel order control numbers.
  - 2.1.4.4. Determine if travel was performed as authorized.
- 2.1.4.5. Approve appropriate travel claims when there is a change from the written travel order involving allowances, itinerary, or reimbursable expense, such as a rental car. NOTE: The act of signing and dating the traveler's DD Form 1351-2 in block 21, with remarks in block 29, negates the need for amendments.
- 2.1.4.6. Sign and date all appropriate travel claims when required by the DoD Component.
- 2.1.4.7. Ensure the claim is forwarded to the appropriate liaison office or travel computation office within 2 working days following the traveler's submission.

# 2.2 Certifying Officers

Certifying Officers are pecuniarily liable under Title 31 United States Code (U.S.C.), section 3528 (31 U.S.C. § 3528). Also, see Title 41 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (41 CFR § 301-71.203) and Volume 5, Chapter 5. Responsibilities for individuals appointed as Certifying Officers are applicable to both Defense Travel System (DTS) and non-DTS travel claims. They must:

- 2.2.1. Be appointed by appropriate authority as prescribed in Volume 5, Chapter 5;
- 2.2.2. Acknowledge by signature their appointment as a certifying officer;
- 2.2.3. Complete a DD Form 577;
- 2.2.4. Certify travel claims for validity and reasonableness;
- 2.2.5. Certify claims for payment as outlined in Volume 5, Chapter 5;
- 2.2.6. Forward certified claims to the supporting disbursing office;
- 2.2.7. Compare pre-trip and post-trip estimate of expenses;
- 2.2.8. Review all lodging receipts; and
- 2.2.9. Review individual reimbursable expense receipts of \$75 or more.
- 2.3 Responsibilities of Others Involved in the Travel Process
- 2.3.1. <u>Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) Agency Program Coordinators (APCs)</u>. APCs implement and execute the GTCC program. See DoD Instruction (*DoDI*) *5154.31*, *Volume 4* and the *DoD GTCC Regulations* for additional information and APC responsibilities.
  - 2.3.2. Resource Managers/Fundholders
    - 2.3.2.1. Ensure proper assignment of funding.
    - 2.3.2.2. Maintain funds control.
    - 2.3.2.3. Certify fund availability.
  - 2.3.3. Supervisor Review
- 2.3.3.1. Review, sign, and date all appropriate travel claims for military and civilian personnel.

2.3.3.2. Submit the travel claim to the appropriate travel computation office for processing prior to payment.

# 2.3.4. <u>Travel Computation Offices</u>

- 2.3.4.1. Establish adequate internal controls to process travel claims.
- 2.3.4.2. Notify traveler if voucher is incorrect, incomplete, or missing required documentation; and request correction.
- 2.3.4.3. Notify the submitting office or person if travel claim is received at the wrong office for computation.
  - 2.3.4.4. Compute and determine the travel allowance.
- 2.3.4.5. Forward the computed travel claim and supporting documents to the disbursing office for payment or interface with the disbursing system for payment.
- 2.3.5. <u>Automated Information System (AIS) Administrators</u>. The AIS administrators operate and maintain systems to support travel management. They support the allowance, certifying, and disbursing systems.

# 2.3.6. <u>Travelers</u>. Travelers must:

- 2.3.6.1. Prepare the DD Form 1351-2 after travel has been completed, to include identifying the duration of the TDY in block 17;
- 2.3.6.2. Attach all supporting documentation including the original or legible copies of orders and receipts for all lodging expenses, as well as claimed reimbursable expenses of \$75 or more;
- 2.3.6.3. Ensure that current electronic funds transfer (EFT) information is on file with the travel computation office. If not, identify EFT information using a Standard Form (SF) 1199A, Direct Deposit Sign-Up Form including account and financial institution routing transit number and account type;
- 2.3.6.4. Ensure that GTCC information is on record and indicate the mandatory split-disbursement dollar amount to be sent to the GTCC account;
- 2.3.6.5. Sign, date, and include home or unit address and unit telephone number on travel claim;
- 2.3.6.6. Forward or fax the original DD Form 1351-2 and supporting documents to the AO or travel computation office as appropriate; and

# 2.4 Suspected False Claims

Travelers are liable under <u>18 U.S.C. § 287</u> and <u>18 U.S.C. § 1001</u>, and the False Claims Act <u>31 U.S.C. §§ 3729 through 3731</u>, if they knowingly submit false, fictitious, or fraudulent claims. When a suspected fraudulent claim is presented for payment, certifying officers or disbursing officers must follow the policies and procedures outlined in Volume 5, Chapter 12, section 4.0.

# 3.0 TRAVEL ORDERS

Travel orders are prepared in accordance with DoD Component management guidance and administrative instructions including the JTR, paragraph 010206 for Service members and civilian employees, and the JTR, paragraph 030501 for invitational travel authorizations. The travel order establishes in writing the conditions for official travel and transportation at government expense. To ensure proper reimbursement, the actual TDY duty location must be listed on the travel orders (i.e., if going TDY to Ft. Bliss, TX, the travel orders must explicitly state "Ft. Bliss, TX" not "El Paso, TX"). Travel orders must identify the traveler as either a GTCC cardholder or non-cardholder. This statement authorizes alternative payment methods (e.g., transportation tickets being charged to a centrally billed account). The TDY travel orders must include the travel computation unit (location/address) to which travel vouchers must be submitted.

# 3.1 Funding

- 3.1.1. All orders, wherever possible, must be funded by the traveler's organization unless group orders or alternative methods are more efficient. If funding is to be provided by another office, the traveler's organization must obtain a fund cite from that office in an amount sufficient to pay for the travel prior to issuing travel orders.
- 3.1.2. In the event of a split-year funded trip, the traveler must return to his or her official duty station if no DoD Appropriation Act has been signed or continuing resolution has been enacted. Expenses incurred in returning to the traveler's duty station will be posted in the new fiscal year as necessary costs to close down operations.

# 3.2 Itinerary Variations

- 3.2.1. <u>Variations Authorized</u>. The authorization of travel variations should not be used in place of adequate advance planning, nor must they be used to grant an open travel authorization. Variations must be authorized in the order and are permitted only when considered mission essential in accordance with Per Diem, Travel, and Transportation Allowance Committee (<u>PDTATAC</u>) <u>Travel Orders</u>. "Variations Authorized" permit:
  - 3.2.1.1. Omission of travel to a place, or places, stated in the travel order;
  - 3.2.1.2. Change in the order of travel to places shown;
  - 3.2.1.3. Travel to places not shown; and

- 3.2.1.4. Change of the specified time spent at a named destination.
- 3.2.2. <u>Verbal Variations</u>. Confirmation of a verbal order is required, and may not be delegated, when the AO gives the traveler a verbal order to:
  - 3.2.2.1. Change the order of places to be visited;
  - 3.2.2.2. Change the time at each location; or
  - 3.2.2.3 Add or omit locations.
  - 3.2.3. No Amendments Needed. No amendments are needed if:
- 3.2.3.1. The traveler departs within a period of 7 days before or after the specified date of departure; or
- 3.2.3.2. The TDY is extended by 100 percent of the original time or 7 days, whichever is less. For example, if a TDY of 5 days is authorized, then the traveler could be extended for 5 additional days (100 percent) without amendments (the lesser of 7 days and 100 percent is 5 days). On the other hand, if a TDY is authorized for 14 days, then the traveler could extend 7 additional days without amendments (the lesser of 7 days and 100 percent is 14 days).

### 3.3 Issued in Advance

A written travel order is issued before travel is performed unless an urgent or unusual situation prevents prior issuance. Travel orders may not be revised or modified retroactively after the effective date to increase or decrease the rights and benefits that have been fixed under the applicable statutes or regulations. Note: This does not prohibit confirmation of verbal orders.

# 3.4 Basis for Reimbursement

The travel order is the basis for the traveler's reimbursement. Reimbursement for travel is not authorized when travel is performed in anticipation of verbal orders. The right to allowances is established when travel expenses are incurred under orders. Travelers are entitled to travel and transportation allowances only while in a travel status.

# 3.5 Object Classification

Accounting for TDY travel is accomplished through the use of a single object classification code. All TDY orders must be issued using the single object classification code of 21, "Travel and Transportation of Persons." Temporary exemptions to the mandatory use of the two-digit (21) object classification code to accommodate component-unique accounting requirements may be permitted only with the advance approval of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) or designee.

# 3.6 Registration Fees

All registration fees incurred while DoD travelers are on TDY travel must be charged to object classification code 21, "Travel and Transportation of Persons."

# 3.7 Errors on Travel Orders

- 3.7.1. <u>Personal Data</u>. When travel orders contain erroneous data (e.g., misspelled names, incorrect Social Security numbers, or incorrect grades), claims may be paid without amending the orders. The traveler may make and initial any necessary changes.
- 3.7.2. <u>Appropriation Data</u>. When the accountable (funding) station is the disbursing station, the incorrect accounting classification data may be corrected without an amendment. If the accountable (funding) station is different than the disbursing station, then changes to the incorrect accounting classification data must be supported by one of the following:
  - 3.7.2.1. Separate funding documents;
  - 3.7.2.2. A letter from the accountable disbursing official/comptroller; or
- 3.7.2.3. A documented telephone call to the accountable disbursing official or comptroller.

# 3.8 Retroactive Amendments to Orders

- 3.8.1. <u>Amendment Required</u>. Travel orders cannot be amended to increase or decrease a travel allowance after travel is performed. The original order, however, may be amended after travel is performed when issued in error or travel requirements change en route. A written amendment confirming a verbal order is not included in this category provided the verbal order was issued on or before the effective date of the directed change.
- 3.8.2. <u>Amendment Not Required</u>. Some provisions of the JTR provide for after-the-fact approval (e.g., rental cars). In this case, the approval is not a retroactive amendment. Such expenses are claimed on the voucher and approved by the AO. An AO's signature on a DD Form 1351-2 constitutes approval of the claim.

# 4.0 TRAVEL ADVANCES

# 4.1 Policy

Cash travel advances must not be authorized unless an exception is granted. Annotate the maximum advance amount authorized on the travel order. The standard practice is for the traveler to use his or her GTCC to obtain cash from an automated teller machine (ATM) for expenses that cannot be charged to the GTCC. Also, annotate on the travel order the maximum ATM cash advance amount that may be withdrawn using the GTCC. Personnel who are not eligible or who are exempted from mandatory use of the GTCC may obtain travel advances only via EFT. See

section 5.0 for limitations on advances. The Commander or supervisor, in coordination with the disbursing officer, may authorize cash advances in limited situations where no other process is available to accomplish the mission. See DoDI 5154.31, Volume 4 for additional guidance on the GTCC program. To determine if an individual is exempt from mandatory use of the GTCC, see the GTCC Regulations.

### 4.2 Managing Financial Resources

To manage financial resources more effectively for travel expense purposes, DoD Components must:

- 4.2.1. Hold to a minimum the amounts of cash advances for travel purposes as provided in section 5.0;
- 4.2.2. Ensure that travelers submit vouchers within established time frames, as provided in paragraph 4.5; and
- 4.2.3. Process travel vouchers promptly to assure timely payment to civilian employees or Service members or to recover any excess travel advances. DoD Components must establish internal policies and procedures to ensure travel vouchers are paid within 25 working days after the end of a trip or travel period.

### 4.3 Cadets and Midshipmen

Cadets and midshipmen travel in accordance with the policies of the respective service academy. If a cadet or midshipman requires a travel advance or seeks settlement at a disbursing office, the following offices must be contacted for authorization:

# U.S. Military Academy:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service **ATTN: Travel Operations** 325 Brooks Road Rome, NY 13441 DFAS-TRAVELADVANCE@MAIL.MIL

# U.S. Naval Academy:

Midshipman Disbursing Office 101 Buchanan Road Annapolis, MD 21402-5024 Commercial Phone: (410) 293-3297

# U.S. Air Force Academy:

10 ABW/FMFPPP 2304 Cadet Drive Suite 220 U.S. Air Force Academy Colorado Springs, CO 80840-5040 Commercial Phone: (719) 333-4298

# 4.4 Invitational Travel Authorizations

Travel advances may be authorized for travelers using invitational travel authorizations. The amount of the advance must be approved by the order-issuing AO and included on the invitational travel authorization. Limit advances to the authorized amount (see paragraph 4.1).

# 4.5 Monitoring Advances

- 4.5.1. General. When a travel advance is authorized, it must be monitored to ensure that a corresponding travel claim is filed within 5 working days of the traveler's return to or arrival at the permanent duty station (PDS), or immediately when the orders are canceled. Travelers whose TDY extends beyond 30 days may file travel claims within 5 working days after the end of every 30 calendar day period or travel accrual payments may be provided in accordance with service-specific regulations.
- 4.5.2. <u>Failure To Submit Travel Claim</u>. If a traveler has not submitted a claim within 15 days after the estimated date of return/arrival (provisions for separatees/retirees are in paragraph 5.15), then the following action will be taken.
- 4.5.2.1. <u>Marine Corps Members</u>. Fifteen days after the Service member's estimated date of arrival/return, recoup the total amount of the advance through pay account deduction (see Headquarters Marine Corps Personnel & Readiness (Resources, Fiscal and Finance) <u>Finance Policy Manual, Volume 2, Travel</u>. System acceptance of this transaction activates the delayed deduction program. The Service member is notified of the impending deduction on the next leave and earnings statement. The amount then is deducted from the Service member's pay the following month.
- 4.5.2.2. Other Travelers. Each DoD Component must ensure that it has a process to monitor travelers' advances. Issue a letter advising travelers of his or her responsibility to submit travel claims and/or repay advances. On the 46th day after the traveler's estimated date of return/arrival, if no response to the letter has been received, then collect from the traveler's pay account. See Volume 16, Chapter 2 regarding administrative offset procedures.

# 5.0 TRAVEL ADVANCE LIMITATIONS

# 5.1 General

Except as provided in paragraph 5.3, DoD Components must limit travel advances to those estimated expenses that a traveler is expected to incur for authorized travel including travel incident to permanent duty travel/civilian employee temporary change of station (PDT/TCS) that ordinarily would be paid using cash (see "cash transaction expenses" as defined in paragraph 5.2). This limitation applies to all advances. Advances issued for travel under single trip, as well as open travel authorizations, are limited to the estimated cash transaction expenses for no more than a 45-day period.

# 5.2 Cash Transaction Expenses

Cash transaction expenses are those travel expenses that, as a general rule, cannot be charged and, therefore, must be paid using cash, personal checks, or traveler's checks. Travelers must use the GTCC for all authorized travel expenses. If the card cannot be used to charge the expense, the card should be used to withdraw cash from an ATM to pay for those expenses. The following are cash transaction expenses:

- 5.2.1. Meals, when the GTCC is not accepted, and incidental expenses covered by the per diem rate, or Actual Expense Allowance (AEA); or
- 5.2.2. Other authorized miscellaneous expenses which cannot be charged using a charge card and for which a cost reasonably can be estimated before travel.
- 5.3 Exceptions to Travel Advance Limitations
- 5.3.1. <u>Authorized Exceptions</u>. The limitation in paragraph 5.1 does not apply to any of the following civilian employee PDT/TCS expenses:
  - 5.3.1.1. Temporary quarters subsistence,
  - 5.3.1.2. Transportation and temporary storage of household goods (HHG), or
  - 5.3.1.3. Mobile home transportation.
- 5.3.2. <u>Discounted Conference or Training Registration Fee (41 CFR § 301-74.23)</u>. Advance payment of discounted conference or training registration fee may be paid as indicated in paragraph 5.7. See the JTR, subparagraph 030201.D.
- 5.3.3. Order-Issuing Official's Discretion. The order-issuing/authorizing official may, under limited circumstances, authorize a travel advance for non-cash transaction expenses (e.g., lodging, common carrier transportation, advance payment of discounted conference registration fee) to be paid to a traveler. Those circumstances are as follows:

- 5.3.3.1. <u>Use of GTCC Not Accepted</u>. When travel circumstances are such that the GTCC is not expected to be accepted to purchase transportation, lodging, car rental, or other travel expenses that ordinarily are charged;
- 5.3.3.2. <u>GTCC Not Offered</u>. When the civilian employee is not offered a GTCC in accordance with GTCC Regulations 040602.B;
- 5.3.3.3. <u>PDT/TCS.</u> When use of a GTCC is not feasible for PDT/TCS travel or a house hunting trip incident to a transfer between official stations, particularly a transfer between agencies; or
- 5.3.3.4 <u>Financial Hardship.</u> When not issuing an advance to a civilian employee would cause financial hardship for the traveler.
- 5.3.4. <u>Allowable Amount for Meals and Incidental Expenses (M&IE)</u>. Unless a different amount is prescribed in the travel order/AEA, the amount advanced for meals and incidental expenses must not exceed the M&IE allowances prescribed in the JTR, paragraph 020304.
- 5.3.5. Amount Allowed. Travel advances should not exceed 80 percent of the estimated lodging and transportation costs in the event that a GTCC is not accepted at the TDY location; a Service/Agency does not authorize use of the GTCC for PDT or TCS travel; or the civilian employee has not been offered the GTCC. This information must be shown in block 16 of the travel order and will serve as the basis for authorizing an advance up to 80 percent. If the 80 percent limitation results in a financial hardship on the civilian employee, then the order-issuing official may authorize an advance for up to 100 percent of the estimated expenses for:
  - 5.3.5.1. An individual trip, or
  - 5.3.5.2. An open travel authorization not to exceed a 45-day period.
- 5.3.6. <u>Travel Under a Reduced Per Diem Rate</u>. When a reduced per diem rate is prescribed in accordance with the JTR, paragraph 020308, civilian employees or Service members may be authorized a cash travel advance of 100 percent of the authorized per diem rate for no more than a 45-day period, provided that the following three conditions are all met:
  - 5.3.6.1. The period of TDY exceeds 60 days;
  - 5.3.6.2. Travel vouchers will be filed at least every 30 days; and
  - 5.3.6.3. The GTCC cannot be used.
- 5.4 Per Diem Amount
- 5.4.1. <u>TDY or AEA</u>. An advance based on the per diem allowance is limited to a period of 45 days under an individual travel order unless the civilian employee is:

- 5.4.1.1 Assigned to TDY for a period in excess of 45 days at a place where there are no facilities available for processing travel vouchers, or
  - 5.4.1.2. Performing extended TDY aboard a Navy ship.

# 5.4.2. Civilian Employee PDT/TCS

- 5.4.2.1. <u>Travel Between Old and New PDSs</u>. An advance for the civilian employee and/or dependents, based on the applicable per diem allowance, must be limited to the amount payable for the allowable travel time.
- 5.4.2.2. <u>Round-Trip Travel to Seek Permanent Residence</u>. An advance for the civilian employee and/or spouse, based on the per diem allowance, must be limited to the amount payable for the actual number of days authorized in the travel orders.

# 5.5 Mileage Amount

5.5.1. <u>TDY</u>. An advance based on the mileage allowance must be limited to the official distance between the PDS and the TDY location.

# 5.5.2. <u>Civilian Employee PDT/TCS</u>

- 5.5.2.1. <u>Travel Between Old and New PDSs</u>. An advance, based on the mileage allowance of the Service member/civilian employee and/or dependents, must be limited to the official distance between the old PDS and new PDS.
- 5.5.2.2. <u>Round-Trip Travel to Seek Permanent Residence</u>. An advance, based on the mileage allowance of the civilian employee and/or spouse, must be limited to the official distance between the old PDS and new PDS.

# 5.6 Commercial Transportation Amount

When a civilian employee who does not have a GTCC is authorized to perform travel by commercial transportation, an advance may be paid based on the estimated cost of the required transportation, not to exceed 80 percent for each trip authorized under the travel orders. If the 80 percent limitation results in a financial hardship on the civilian employee, then the order-issuing official may authorize an advance for up to 100 percent.

# 5.7 Advance Payment of Discounted Conference or Training Registration Fee

5.7.1. <u>General</u>. Travelers may be permitted to register early and be reimbursed for an advanced discounted payment for a conference or training registration fee as soon as they are approved for the event and they submit a proper claim for the expenses incurred.

5.7.2. Traveler is Unable to Attend an Event for Which Reimbursement Was Made. If the advance payment was made in accordance with subparagraph 5.7.1 and the traveler is unable to attend the event, the traveler must seek a refund of the registration fee and repay the advance with any refund received. If no refund is made, the DoD Component 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 DoD Component concerned or for reasons beyond the traveler's control that are acceptable to the DoD Component concerned, (e.g., unforeseen illness or emergency). The traveler must repay the amount advanced if no refund is made, and the traveler's failure to attend the scheduled event is due to reasons deemed inexcusable by the DoD Component concerned.

# 5.8 HHG Amount

An advance for the cost of HHG transportation must be limited to the cost of shipping the estimated weight of the civilian employee's HHG within the maximum weight for which a civilian employee is eligible at the applicable rate and distance shown in the *commuted rate table*. An advance for the cost of temporary storage must be limited to the applicable commuted rate for the weight of HHG and period of storage, not in excess of 90 days and not in excess of the maximum HHG weight for which a civilian employee is eligible. A request for an advance by a civilian employee should be accompanied by a written statement designating the points of origin and destination, the estimated HHG weight to be shipped, and any anticipated temporary storage not to exceed 90 days. The estimate of weight required in support of an advance may consist of a statement of the estimated weight signed by the carrier selected to handle the shipments.

# 5.9 Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense (TQSE) Amount

Advances may be paid in 30-day increments for subsistence expenses covered in the JTR, Table 5-84. The initial advance of funds for TQSE must not exceed the maximum amount allowable under the JTR, Table 5-85 for the first authorized period of 30 days or less. Thereafter, advances for subsequent 30-day periods may be paid as authorized by the DoD Component. When an advance is needed for the second and subsequently authorized 30-day periods, DoD Components should advise civilian employees to submit the request for advance in sufficient time to allow for processing, approval, and issuance of the advance.

# 5.10 Mobile Home Transportation Amount

5.10.1. Within the Continental United States (CONUS). When the point of origin and the PDS to which movement is authorized are both located within CONUS, an advance for the cost of transportation of a mobile home moved by a commercial transporter must be limited to an amount computed at the applicable rates for transportation for the official distance and 90 days temporary storage prescribed in the commuted rate schedules for the maximum weight of HHG for which a civilian employee is eligible. When a civilian employee tows a mobile home by a Privately Owned Vehicle (POV), an allowance of \$.11/mile is paid to cover the transportation costs listed in the JTR, subparagraph 054406.B.

5.10.2. <u>Between CONUS and Alaska</u>. For travel between the CONUS and Alaska involving movement through Canada, limit the advance to the constructive cost for transportation and temporary storage of HHG under a Government bill of lading, subject to the provisions and limitations prescribed in subparagraph 5.10.1.

# 5.11 Group or Charter Arrangements

When payment for transportation under group or charter arrangements cannot be made to a carrier with Government-procured transportation documents, an advance may be paid based on the estimated cost of the transportation to be furnished.

# 5.12 Requesting an Advance

Subject to the conditions in subparagraph 5.12.1 an advance must, upon request, be paid to a civilian employee. The appropriate office must compute the amount paid. An exception to this requirement is authorized when individual travel orders are received via the Department of the Navy certified Automated Travel Order delivery system. Do not pay an advance more than 10 days before travel begins unless specifically authorized by the authority directing the travel as necessary because of early departure incident to leave and Service exigencies. An advance is subject to the conditions stated in the following subparagraphs:

- 5.12.1. <u>Number of Advances Authorized</u>. Ordinarily, only one advance may be paid for a specific purpose under the same travel order. An exception to this rule may be made for civilian employees or Service members on TDY in excess of 45 days aboard Navy ships or civilian employees or Service members on other TDY assignments under an individual travel order in excess of 45 days at a place where there are no facilities available for processing travel vouchers. The total of the amounts advanced during the TDY assignment may not exceed the total amount authorized to be advanced in the traveler's orders.
- 5.12.2. <u>Prior Advance Outstanding</u>. No advances will be paid to personnel who failed, for reasons unacceptable to the approving official, to submit a reimbursement voucher on a previous travel authorization/order in which an advance was paid, or have not made arrangements to settle an outstanding advance. This requirement may be waived when personnel have not had reasonable time to prepare and submit vouchers between successive travel assignments.
- 5.12.3. <u>HHG Shipments</u>. Advances for transportation or temporary storage of HHG or mobile home movement must not be paid if such expenses are not expected to be incurred by the civilian employee concerned within 30 days from the authorizing date. In such cases, the advance may be paid later.

#### 5.13 Obtaining an Advance Payment

#### 5.13.1. Document Submission

- 5.13.1.1. <u>Department of the Navy</u>. Prepare and submit to the disbursing office one copy of the original travel order after it is signed. The travel order must indicate the amount of the advance authorized.
- 5.13.1.2. <u>Marine Corps</u>. Prepare and submit to the appropriate paying office an original and three copies of the <u>DD Form 1351</u>, Travel Voucher, accompanied by three copies of the civilian employee's travel order; or other requirements as provided by the appropriate paying office.
- 5.13.1.3. <u>All Others</u>. Prepare and submit to the appropriate paying office an original and three copies of the DD Form 1351 accompanied by three copies of the civilian employee's travel order.
- 5.13.2. <u>Payment</u>. The disbursing office pays an advance. Necessary records of advances paid to civilian employees or Service members are maintained by the appropriate office as specified in paragraph 5.14.

#### 5.14 Advance Repayment

- 5.14.1. General. A civilian employee or Service member who has received an advance must submit a travel claim voucher within 5 working days of the civilian employee's or Service member's return after the end of each trip so that settlement of the advance account can be made. The responsible settlement office that accounts for funds against which the advance is charged is responsible for settlement or collection action in accordance with the applicable Component's accounting or disbursing regulation. The DoD Components must implement internal controls to assure that:
- 5.14.1.1. Travelers with outstanding travel advances are notified of any delinquencies in filing vouchers and repaying outstanding travel advances,
- 5.14.1.2. Travelers are paid amounts owed them within 15 working days after receipt of claims in the paying office, and
- 5.14.1.3. Outstanding travel advances and unpaid travel vouchers are reviewed and settled prior to an individual's separation.
- 5.14.2. <u>Deduction From Vouchers</u>. The settlement office must ensure that the amount previously advanced is deducted from the total expenses allowed or otherwise is recovered. In instances where a traveler is in a continuous travel status, or where periodic reimbursement vouchers are submitted on individual trip authorizations, the full amount of travel expenses allowed may be reimbursed to that traveler without any deduction of the advance until such time as the final voucher is submitted. If the amount advanced is less than the amount of the voucher

on which the advance is deducted, pay the traveler the net amount. If the advance exceeds the reimbursable amount, then the traveler immediately must refund the excess.

- 5.14.3. <u>Delayed Use of Advance Funds</u>. In the event of cancellation or indefinite postponement of authorized travel, the traveler must promptly notify the finance office and refund any advance for the authorized travel. If a traveler does not refund the advance promptly, the finance office must take immediate steps to collect the advance from the traveler.
- 5.14.4. <u>Outstanding Advances</u>. A civilian employee or Service member must be informed that any over-advanced amount indicated in a travel claim settlement voucher must be immediately repaid. If a traveler does not make voluntary settlement of the indebtedness, take action to collect the outstanding advance from money due the civilian employee or Service member.
- 5.14.5. Recovery of Advances. Outstanding travel or transportation advances that have not been fully recovered by deductions from reimbursement vouchers or voluntary refunds by the traveler must be collected promptly in accordance with applicable debt collection laws and regulations. In the event that a civilian employee or Service member dies before settling a travel advance, any travel advance in excess of earned allowance is subject to collection. In the event the amount due is not refunded within a reasonable period, effect collection by salary offset, retired pay, or otherwise from the person to whom advanced, or the traveler's estate, by deduction from any amount due from the U.S. Government or by such other legal recovery method as may be necessary. Salary or other amounts due must be used to settle the advance before set-off against the retirement credit. In view of these protections, a traveler is not required to furnish a bond in order to obtain a travel advance.
- 5.14.6. <u>Accounting for Advances</u>. Accounting for cash advances for travel purposes, recovery, and reimbursements must be in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Government Accountability Office (GAO). See the GAO Policy and Procedures Manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies, <u>GAO Title 7, Fiscal Guidance</u>.
- 5.15 Advances for Service Member Separatees or Retirees
- 5.15.1. General. A Service member who is separating or retiring may be paid an advance through EFT incidental to separation/retirement no more than 10 days prior to the Service member and/or dependent(s) actual travel dates. Upon completion of the travel, a Service member who has received an advance must submit the travel claim to the appropriate settlement office.
- 5.15.2. <u>Late Travel Claim</u>. If the claim is not received within the required time frame, the travel official responsible for settling the advance must prepare a letter to the Service member advising that: he or she is responsible for submitting the travel claim to the appropriate travel settlement office; a response is required within 30 days; and if the travel claim is not received within this required time, the total amount of the advance becomes a debt (Volume 16, Chapter 2). For retirees, refer the debt for offset against the retired pay account. For separated Service members, refer the debt for collection action to include possible offset against future Federal income tax returns. If no response is received within the 30-day time frame, then the responsible disbursing official holding the debt must forward the debt and necessary documentation to:

DFAS-IN/Debt and Claims Dept. 3300 ATTN: Debt Establishment 8899 East 56th Street Indianapolis, IN 46249-3300

#### 6.0 TRAVEL STATUS

#### 6.1 General

Travel status begins when a traveler departs the home or office and ends when the traveler returns to the office or home. See the JTR, paragraph 010203, and Appendix A.

#### 6.2 Aircrew

Generally, aircrew travel status begins with take-off from the PDS and ends with landing at the PDS. See the JTR, subparagraph 010203.D.

#### 7.0 FURNISHED MEALS

#### 7.1 Complimentary Meals Furnished by a Hotel

When a traveler is furnished a complimentary meal by a commercial lodging establishment for which a charge is not added in the lodging cost, that meal is not a deductible meal. There is no deduction from the M&IE rate regardless of whether the meal is consumed by the traveler. For rules concerning lodgings and meals furnished by Government contract, see the JTR, paragraph 020304. Additional information on what constitutes deductible/non-deductible meals can be found in the JTR, Table 2-18.

#### 7.2 Meals Furnished at Conferences

When some but not all meals are included in conference fees, the proportional meal rate applies on each day one or two meals are provided, except on travel days to and from the PDS. Light refreshments, including a continental breakfast, are a deductible meal when served at a mealtime (e.g., breakfast 0600-0800). Light refreshments served during a break (not at a mealtime) are not a deductible meal. See the JTR, subparagraphs 030201.B and 030201.C.

## 8.0 GOVERNMENT QUARTERS AND GOVERNMENT DINING FACILITY AVAILABILITY

#### 8.1 Non-availability Statements

Travelers are not required to obtain written non-availability statements before obtaining reimbursement for commercial lodging costs and the local M&IE rate. The availability of Government quarters, contract quarters, and dining facilities must be confirmed when a reservation request is made. The traveler must obtain the confirmation by using the following procedures:

- 8.1.1. <u>Lodging Reservations</u>. A traveler on TDY must reserve lodging through the electronic travel system, the servicing Travel Management Company (TMC), or by contacting the Government quarters facility directly for availability of quarters. A DoD traveler must use the <u>Integrated Lodging Program (ILP)</u> facilities if available. See the JTR, paragraph 020303. If quarters are confirmed as not available, then the Government quarters facility is required to give the TMC or the traveler a confirmation or non-availability number, or the name and phone number of the person contacted. The traveler enters the confirmation or non-availability number on the travel order or voucher. If the TMC or the traveler is not able to obtain a confirmation or non-availability number from the billeting office, the traveler must note on the travel order or voucher the date and time the attempt was made. The commercial lodging and per diem rate, not to exceed the locality per diem rate (unless AEA is authorized or approved) must then be paid.
- 8.1.2. Dining Facility Availability. If the AO directs use of a Government dining facility while the traveler is quartered on-base, the traveler should obtain information on the availability of a Government dining facility through the responsible office at the destination U.S. installation office. If not available, the M&IE rate for commercial meals is authorized. For Service members attending courses of instruction at a school or installation, the schoolhouse commander determines the availability of meals. When a travel authorization directs the use of a Government dining facility for TDY travel, and it is not available, a traveler must provide a statement of non-availability explaining which meals were not available and why, to receive reimbursement. The reason for non-availability must be acceptable to and approved by the AO. Once approved, the travel authorization must be modified to document the change in meal rate. See the JTR, subparagraph 020304.D.3

#### 8.2 Government Dining Facility

- 8.2.1. Government Dining Use Required. If the AO directs use of a government dining facility while the traveler is quartered on-base but, during the trip, no such facility is available, the Service member may be reimbursed the full M&IE rate if all three meals are not available. Note: The dining facility and on-base government quarters must be on the same installation. If one or two meals are not available (provided the AO accepts the Service member's certification of non-availability), the traveler must be reimbursed the proportional meal rate or the full M&IE rate as determined by the AO. The appropriate government facility rate must be paid when civilian travelers consume all three meals in a government mess or the proportional rate on any day in which one or two, but not all three, meals are consumed in a government mess. See the JTR, paragraphs 020304 and 032901.
- 8.2.2. <u>Government Dining Use Impractical</u>. The use of a government dining facility is impractical on any day in which the Service member is traveling between or among locations, except for meals incident to special status as outlined in section 9.0. See the JTR, paragraph 020304.

#### 8.3 TDY Not at an Installation

Travelers on TDY to an ILP site must use approved DoD Preferred lodging accommodations when Government quarters or Public-Private Venture lodging are not available.

The Defense Travel Management Office website lists ILP approved properties. See the **DoD Preferred Commercial Lodging Metro Locations** list. A traveler must book DoD Preferred commercial lodging through the DTS or the contracted TMC. When the TDY location is not at an installation, a Service member is not required to use a nearby Government facility. If a Service member chooses to use Government quarters at a nearby installation, however, a Government dining facility is "not available" for M&IE purposes. See the JTR, paragraphs 020303 and 020304.

#### 8.4 TDY at an Installation

- 8.4.1. Military Personnel TDY to an Installation. Service members are required to check for Government quarters availability when TDY to a U.S. installation. Availability/non-availability documentation must be obtained per the JTR, paragraph 020303. Service members should use adequate available Government quarters when TDY to a U.S. installation; however, when adequate Government quarters are available on that U.S. installation and other lodgings are used, lodging reimbursement is limited to Government quarters cost. See the JTR, paragraph 020303.
- 8.4.2. Civilian Personnel TDY to an Installation. A civilian employee is encouraged, but not required, to use available Government quarters unless traveling to an ILP site. A civilian employee is required to use Government quarters at an ILP site. See the JTR, subparagraph 020303.B.2. If the electronic reservation system cannot reserve Government quarters, then make reservations through *Department of Defense Lodging*, or by contacting the Government quarters facility directly. In compliance with the requirement to exercise prudence when incurring expenses, civilian employees should exercise the same care in incurring expenses for Government travel that a prudent person would exercise if traveling at personal expense. An AO should request reduced per diem when a per diem rate is more than the amount necessary, based on known lodging or meal cost reductions in effect due to prearrangements, special discounts, or other reasons. The AO must request and authorize reduced per diem before travel occurs. Only a DoD Component head may authorize a reduced per diem rate for a civilian employee, except as otherwise specified in the JTR. See the JTR, paragraphs 010102, 020303, and 020308.

#### 9.0 SPECIAL STATUS AND PER DIEM RATES

Reduced or zero per diem rates for a special status, such as field duty, sea duty, hospitalization, rehabilitation, and essential unit dining, take effect at 12:01 a.m. the day after the traveler enters the status and ends at 12:00 a.m. the day preceding the day the traveler leaves that status. See the JTR, paragraph 020315.

#### 9.1 Departure From and Return to PDS

Seventy-five percent of the appropriate M&IE rate is paid to travelers on the day of departure from and return to the PDS when entering or exiting a special status providing all meals.

#### 9.2 Other Changes in Status

For all other days of travel when the traveler enters or exits a special status providing all meals, those meals provided before entering and after exiting the status are available and the proportional meal rate applies on those days. For all days of travel, meals are not available unless traveling within the Area of Responsibility (AOR). See the JTR, paragraph 032901, for information on meals within the AOR. If no travel is involved and the traveler goes from a zero per diem status directly into another zero per diem status, no per diem is paid for that day. Otherwise, apply normal per diem computations, at the special status rates, for that day.

#### 9.3 Occasional Meals or Lodging

Occasional meals or occasional lodging may be authorized or approved when a traveler must either purchase meals from commercial or nonappropriated funds (NAF) sources, or obtain lodging through commercial, Government, or NAF sources when per diem is not otherwise authorized. The reimbursement may be made not to exceed the proportional meal rate for the meal or lodging portion of the locality per diem allowance. This does not include payment of the basic food cost for officers, civilian employees, or Service members in field duty, sea duty, or under essential unit messing. See the JTR, paragraph 020305. Note: Civilian employees may be reimbursed expenses for occasional meals or occasional lodging expenses that the civilian employee must incur at a time when the meals or lodging are furnished without cost (or at nominal cost) for TDY of more than 12 hours.

#### 9.4 Travel Orders

Travel orders must identify the reduced per diem rates, availability or non-availability of Government quarters, authorization for Government or proportional meal rate as applicable, identification of special status, and reference to the letter or message in which they were established.

#### 10.0 CONSECUTIVE TDY

#### 10.1 Per Diem

Per diem is payable for the interval between two periods of TDY if the interval exists through no fault of the traveler and the traveler either remains at the first TDY location or travels to the next TDY location within the allowable travel time.

EXAMPLE: The traveler completes the first TDY on October 5 and the next TDY starts October 8. The traveler is paid per diem during the delay at an authorized delay (AD) point in between the first and second TDY point. Note: Privately owned Automobile (PA), Temporary Duty (TD), Mission Complete (MC).

D/A	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MODE</u>	REASON FOR STOP
Dep	1 Oct	PDS	PA	
Arr	1 Oct	TDY Point A		TD
Dep	8 Oct	TDY Point A	PA	
Arr	8 Oct	TDY Point B		TD
Dep	12 Oct	TDY Point B	PA	
Arr	12 Oct	PDS		MC

#### 10.2 Authorized Delay En Route

A traveler may receive per diem if awaiting transportation at an authorized delay point between TDY locations. To attain savings to the Government, combine what would have been two separate TDY trips into one longer trip and provide for AD at an intermediate location. Per diem is payable for the interval between the two periods of TDY. The amount of per diem paid is based on the location of the AD. Note: Commercial Plane (CP).

D/A	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MODE</u>	REASON FOR STOP
Dep	1 Oct	PDS	CP	
Arr	1 Oct	TDY point A		TD
Dep	5 Oct	TDY point A	CP	
Arr	5 Oct	The location	CP	AD
		in between		
		the 1 <sup>st</sup> /2nd		
		TDY location		
Dep	8 Oct	AD point	CP	
Arr	8 Oct	TDY point B		TD
Dep	12 Oct	TDY point B	CP	
Arr	12 Oct	PDS		MC

# 11.0 LEAVE, PERMISSIVE TDY, OR ADMINISTRATIVE ABSENCE IN CONJUNCTION WITH FUNDED TDY

#### 11.1 Permissive/Administrative Travel Time

A traveler who takes leave, permissive travel, or an administrative absence before or after a funded TDY is entitled to travel allowances from the PDS to the funded TDY location and return to PDS. If the traveler takes leave, permissive travel, or an administrative absence between two TDY locations, the traveler is entitled to allowances for direct travel between the two TDY locations.

#### 11.2 Travel Time When Using a POV

Permissive or administrative travel time is authorized when a traveler is authorized to travel by POV for personal convenience on funded TDY and reimbursement is based on a constructive schedule. Compute the allowable travel time based on the provisions of the JTR, paragraph 020302. Permissive or administrative travel time is not authorized when the orders

direct a mode of transportation and that mode is available but not used. Per diem is not authorized for the additional period.

#### 11.3 Leave and Overtime in Conjunction with Official Travel

The unit commander, designated representative, or civilian employee's supervisor must make and document determinations regarding leave and duty status, to include overtime. The granting, accounting for, and associated reporting procedures are organizational responsibilities made in accordance with DoD Component instructions.

#### 12.0 RETURN TO THE PDS DURING TDY

#### 12.1 Authorized Return

When a travel order authorizes return to the PDS, the traveler is authorized travel, transportation allowances, and per diem for travel from the TDY site to the PDS and return to the TDY site. When the AO has authorized or approved the lodging costs maintained at the TDY site as mission essential, the incurred expenses are paid as a reimbursable expense. In making the decision to authorize or approve, the AO must determine that the reasons for retaining the lodging are reasonable and necessary and not strictly for the convenience of the traveler. This determination is made after considering the traveler's efforts to obtain lodging on a weekly or monthly basis or other long-term rental agreement. When the lodging retained is charged on a daily basis, the AO should consider such factors as the length of the TDY, the amount of personal belongings, the capability of the establishment to store those belongings, and the ability of the traveler to secure a room upon return. The AO must state the reason for authorizing or approving reimbursement of the retained lodging. For this authorization, the permanent quarters from which the traveler normally commutes to the PDS are the same as the PDS. If the traveler goes to another location, then no allowances are authorized for the travel and per diem is computed as if the traveler remained at the TDY location.

#### 12.2 Voluntary Return

When a traveler voluntarily returns to the PDS during a TDY period, limit his or her allowance to the lesser of the actual travel cost for the roundtrip to the PDS and what it would have cost had he or she remained at the TDY site. The factors included in determining actual travel costs are: per diem for the travel days; roundtrip transportation for the mode used; and cost for quarters retained at the TDY site. See the JTR, paragraph 020312.

# VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 6: "PERMANENT DUTY TRAVEL" SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

Changes are identified in this table and also denoted by blue font.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an asterisk (\*) symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by **bold**, **italic**, **blue**, **and underlined font**.

The previous version dated May 2021 is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	<b>PURPOSE</b>
All	Verified and updated references, updated hyperlinks and formatting to comply with current administrative instructions, and made clarifying editorial changes.	Revision
6.3	Added provision to allow Dislocation Allowance advance payments 30 days prior to travel as directed in the Secretary of Defense's "Taking Care of our Service Members and Families" memorandum published on September 22, 2022.	Addition
All	This instruction has been reviewed by the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) staff in accordance with Department of Defense Instruction 5154.31, Volume 5, dated October 16, 2015, as PDTATAC Case RR23001. Any conflict between this publication and the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR) is resolved based on the JTR and not this publication.	Revision

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#### **CHAPTER 6**

#### PERMANENT DUTY TRAVEL

#### 1.0 GENERAL

#### 1.1 Purpose

This chapter provides general policy for the preparation, submission, and processing of permanent duty travel (PDT) claims for travelers. There are a number of PDT benefits or allowances that Department of Defense (DoD) members and civilian employees may be authorized when traveling from one Permanent Duty Station (PDS) to another at the direction of the Service or agency for which they are working. Some relocation allowances must be paid to the employee, while other allowances are paid at the discretion of the DoD component. An employee's specific PDT allowances may not include all of the allowances identified and described in this chapter. To determine what is actually allowable, employees must work with the agency sponsoring the travel/move. See the Joint Travel Regulation (<u>JTR</u>), section 0536 for more information about mandatory and discretionary relocation allowances.

#### 1.2 Authoritative Guidance

This chapter provides guidance under authorities contained in the JTR, and the General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Travel Regulation (*FTR*).

#### 2.0 DEFENSE TRAVEL SYSTEM (DTS)

The DTS does not currently support PDT, and should not be used by DoD travelers for arranging travel or settling claims involving PDT.

#### 3.0 TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS (HHG)

Ordinarily, the Government arranges for the shipment of HHG. When DoD personnel arrange for the shipment themselves and a Government bill of lading (GBL) is the authorized method, the Transportation Office(r) (TO) provides information concerning the traveler's allowable expenditures and computes the amount the shipment would have cost the Government. Civilian employee reimbursement is limited to the actual cost incurred not to exceed the Government cost computed by the TO. When the commuted rate is the authorized method of shipment for a civilian employee, payment must be computed based on the *GSA Commuted Rate Table* regardless of the actual cost of the move. Service members may be paid a monetary allowance equal to 100 percent of the Government's constructed cost. If the TO instructs a Service member in writing to personally arrange HHG transportation, or if a TO is not available, payment must be made for the actual costs incurred to procure authorized services up to the maximum allowable weight allowance. See the JTR, paragraph 051502 for Service members, and JTR, paragraph 054305, for civilian employees.

#### 3.1 Commuted Rate Method

When a DoD employee is authorized to ship HHG at the commuted rate, the payment must be computed using the GSA Commuted Rate Table in effect on the date the carrier picked up the HHG, or the date that the employee actually moved the HHG without regard to Government cost. Certified weight tickets or a constructed weight must support the claim in accordance with the JTR, subparagraph 054305.E.4.

#### 3.2 Personally-Procured Move (PPM) Monetary Allowance

A Service member or a deceased member's next of kin may elect to personally-procure HHG transportation and be paid a monetary allowance of 100 percent of the Government's "Best Value" cost for the actual HHG weight transported up to the maximum authorized weight allowance. The member must have orders authorizing PDT, temporary duty (TDY) with HHG allowances, or a short distance HHG move in accordance with the JTR, section 0519. The TO will provide the member with a *DoD (DD) Form 2278*, Application for Do-It-Yourself Move and Counseling Checklist. This form shows the constructive GBL or contract cost for moving the HHG, based on a weight estimate provided by the traveler. A Service member, or next of kin who personally arranges for HHG transportation without going through a Government transportation office is responsible for all issues and costs related to circumstances outlined in the JTR, subparagraph 051502.A.

- 3.2.1. <u>Impact on Other PDT Allowances</u>. Service members and/or dependents traveling to their destination in a rental or privately owned vehicle (POV) used for a PPM are authorized both a PPM monetary allowance and PDT allowances. The PDT allowances are not part of the PPM monetary allowance program and are separately processed.
- 3.2.2. <u>Claims</u>. No PPM monetary allowance claim can be computed without valid weight tickets or an approved constructive weight by the TO. Claims for PPM monetary allowances must be supported with:
  - 3.2.2.1. The Service member's statement of expenses actually incurred;
- 3.2.2.2. Certified weight tickets (original or copy) for gross and empty weights, or a record of the approved constructive weight by the TO; and
- 3.2.2.3. A record of the weight shipped with any other record of shipment or storage under the same travel order.
- 3.2.3. <u>Payment Procedures</u>. Pay PPM monetary allowance claims in accordance with each Service's procedures. Service addresses for PPM monetary allowance claims are found in subparagraph 3.2.4. Compute the personally-procured monetary allowance claim as follows:
- 3.2.3.1. Obtain the GBL cost or local contract cost from the TO. Multiply this cost by 100 percent to obtain the maximum allowance dollar amount;

- 3.2.3.2. Deduct the expenses actually incurred by the Service member from the maximum allowance dollar amount. The resulting dollar amount is the member's incentive payment;
- 3.2.3.3. Multiply the member's incentive payment by the applicable Federal tax withholding percentage. This amount is withheld for Federal Income Tax Withholding (FITW);
- 3.2.3.4. If the member's state of legal residence has a withholding agreement with the Secretary of the Treasury, multiply the member's incentive payment by the applicable withholding percentage. This amount is withheld for State Income Tax Withholding (SITW) (Title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.), sections 5517 (5 U.S.C. § 5517) and 5520 (5 U.S.C. § 5520) and Title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), part 215 (31 CFR part 215)). The Treasury Financial Manual (TFM) Volume 1, Part 6, Chapter 5000, Appendix 1 (TFM V1 P6 C5000 A1) lists states with a withholding agreement;
- 3.2.3.5. Deduct the FITW and SITW amounts from the incentive payment amount to determine the amount payable to the member;
- 3.2.3.6. Deduct any advance operating allowance paid to the member. The amount remaining after deducting the advance is the dollar amount payable to the member for settlement; and
- 3.2.3.7. Prepare Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement. Insert the incentive portion of the personally-procured monetary allowance move payment in the earned income block, insert the FITW in the FITW block and insert the SITW in the state income tax block.

#### 3.2.4. Service Addresses for PPM Monetary Allowance Payments

Army

Defense Finance and Accounting Service ATTN: Travel Pay, Permanent Change of Station Travel 325 Brooks Road Rome, NY 13441

Navy

Commanding Officer
NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Norfolk
Business Support Department
HHG Audit Division Code 302
1968 Gilbert Street, Suite 600
Norfolk, VA 23511-3392

Air Force and Space Force

Local Financial Services Office (FSO)

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Marine Corps

Commanding General, Marine Corps Logistics Base ATTN: Code 470 814 Radford Boulevard, Suite 20318 Albany, GA 31704-1128

Coast Guard
Commanding Officer
ATTN: DITY Move Desk
U.S. Coast Guard Finance Center
1430A Kristina Way
Chesapeake, VA 22326-0017

3.3 Actual Expense Reimbursement for Personally-Procured Shipment or Storage of HHG

#### 3.3.1. <u>Claims</u>.

- 3.3.1.1. Civilian employees may claim actual expense reimbursement for personally-procured shipment or storage of HHG and unaccompanied baggage.
- 3.3.1.2. Service members may claim actual expense reimbursement for personally-procured shipment of unaccompanied baggage and storage of HHG. In most circumstances Service members choosing to personally-procure shipment of HHG must submit a PPM monetary allowance claim rather than an actual expense claim. See the JTR, paragraph 051502 for the limited circumstances when Service members may claim actual expense reimbursement for personally-procured HHG shipment.
- 3.3.1.3. The claims must include the traveler's certification as follows: "I certify that this shipment (including drayage, storage, packing, and crating) consisted of household goods and personal effects. These items belonged to me and were used by me (or my dependents) before the effective date of my orders. They were not intended directly or indirectly for any other person or persons, or for sale. The following shipments were previously made at Government expense under the same travel orders that support this claim (if no previous shipments show "NONE"). I certify that I did not request payment under the monetary allowance or any other program. I further certify that the declared professional books, paper, and equipment belong to me and are necessary in the performance of my official duties."
- 3.3.2. <u>Supporting Documents</u>. The traveler must submit the following documents to support a claim for actual expense reimbursement:
- 3.3.2.1. A statement provided by the TO on the constructive cost of shipment by GBL, accessorial services, or storage which states that the charges claimed are reasonable and that the member was instructed personally to arrange the shipment (if applicable);
  - 3.3.2.2. Receipts for expenses of \$75 or more;

- 3.3.2.3. When applicable, copies of a time extension certificate, powers of attorney or written authorizations;
  - 3.3.2.4. The claimant's statement showing the necessity for any storage:
    - 3.3.2.4.1. Over 90 days for a Service member, or
- 3.3.2.4.2. Over 90 days for a civilian employee making a PCS move to/from Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS), or
- 3.3.2.4.3. Over 60 days for a civilian employee making a PCS move within the Continental United States (CONUS).

NOTE: Non-availability of Government storage is not an acceptable reason for requesting storage over the 90/60 day limit.

- 3.3.2.5. For shipments by van carriers, provide a certified weight ticket. In place of certified weight tickets, where charges are based on cubic measure, the owner may obtain a certificate from the carrier stating: "No scale within 10 miles. Shipment used \_\_\_\_\_ cubic feet of properly loaded van";
- 3.3.2.6. An itemization of packing charges that shows size, type, and number of containers used with the charge for each container;
- 3.3.2.7. Receipts for packing, crating, drayage, unpacking, and uncrating that are itemized and supported with a statement by the TO for the area on availability of Government facilities;
- 3.3.2.8. A bill of lading. If no bill of lading is available, the traveler must obtain other evidence showing point of origin and destination;
- 3.3.2.9. An itemization of costs incurred if the TO performs or procures the services. This is not required for accessorial services itemized on a GBL for line-haul van shipment; and
  - 3.3.2.10. Copies of all applicable orders.
- 3.3.3. <u>Claim Submission</u>. Submit the travel settlement voucher, <u>DD Form 1351-2</u>, Travel Voucher or Subvoucher, within 5 working days of arrival at the new PDS.
- 3.3.4. <u>Payment</u>. If the claim is proper and supported by the appropriate documentation, the disbursing office must pay the claim.

#### 4.0 TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE OF POV

#### 4.1 Concurrent Travel Transportation

If overseas travel with a POV was concurrent, a traveler must include travel to the vehicle port of embarkation (POE) and the vehicle port of debarkation (POD) with the PDT claim. See the JTR, section 0530 for Service members, and section 0547 for civilian employees, for POV transportation and storage guidance.

#### 4.2 Nonconcurrent Travel Transportation

If travel is not concurrent, travelers must submit a separate claim. A TDY order is not required for a separate trip to pick up or deliver a vehicle to the POE and/or the POD. (NOTE: The PDT orders provide authorization.) Ordinarily, a <u>DD Form 788</u>, Private Vehicle Shipping Document for Automobile, supports the claim. However, when a traveler performs PDT and has a commercial shipping firm process the vehicle for shipment at Government expense, the DD Form 788 usually is not in the traveler's possession at the time that the claim is processed. A statement from the traveler, accompanied by a copy of the billing from the commercial firm, is acceptable.

#### 4.3 Storage

Service members ordered to a foreign or non-foreign PDS OCONUS to which transportation of a POV is not permitted, sent TDY on a contingency operation for more than 30 days, or other reason(s) listed in the JTR, section 0532, may be eligible to store one POV.

#### 5.0 TRANSPORTATION OF MOBILE HOMES

#### 5.1 Employee Allowances

- 5.1.1. <u>General</u>. A DoD employee may be authorized mobile home transportation in lieu of transportation of HHG, but may not be authorized both mobile home and HHG transportation. The constructed cost to transport a mobile home, any HHG removed from the mobile home, and unaccompanied baggage and additional HHG to the new PDS for the civilian employee's use is limited to the Government's "Best Value" cost of the civilian employee's maximum PCS HHG weight allowance between authorized points. The TO determines what the authorized and unauthorized costs are incident to a mobile home shipment. See the JTR, Chapter 5, section 0544.
- 5.1.2. <u>Claims</u>. When movement of a mobile home is made by self-procured commercial transportation, a statement of authorization is issued by the TO. An original or legible copy of the paid bill from the commercial transporter is required and the bill must be completely itemized to preclude any payment of unauthorized costs.

#### 5.2 Member Allowances

- 5.2.1. <u>General</u>. A Service member directed to perform PDT is entitled to transportation and mobile home allowances. A member also may be entitled to movement of a mobile home under unusual or emergency circumstances, even though not related to PDT allowances. When a member performs TDY en route, the authorized shipment of a TDY weight allowance does not preclude the mobile home transportation allowance. See the JTR, Chapter 5, Part D for more information.
- 5.2.2. <u>Claims</u>. The preparation of claims and submission of supporting documentation is as required by Service procedures.

#### 6.0 DISLOCATION ALLOWANCE (DLA)

DLA is paid to members as specified in the JTR, section 0505. If a change of grade occurs between the issue date of orders and the effective date of orders, a copy of the promotion/demotion orders may be submitted with the claim versus an amended order.

#### 6.1 Effect of Assignment to Quarters

A member without dependents, who is above the pay grade of E-5, may receive DLA if the member elects not to occupy assigned quarters of the United States or a housing facility under the jurisdiction of a uniformed service, and the quarters or facility do not meet the minimum adequacy standards established by the Secretary of Defense for members in such grade. Do not advance or pay DLA to a member under these circumstances without a statement from the gaining organization that assigned quarters do not meet the minimum adequacy standards. See the JTR, subparagraph 050505.B.

#### 6.2 Sea Duty

The senior spouse of a member married to member couple without dependents in a pay grade below E-6 who elect not to occupy assigned shipboard quarters may be advanced or paid DLA based on guidance contained in the JTR, Table 5-11, Rule 2.

#### \*6.3 DLA Advance Payments

DLA advance payments may be issued 30 days prior to travel rather than 10 days prior to travel as directed for most other travel advances in Chapter 5. All other conditions related to the advance payment and final settlement of travel allowances as outlined in Chapter 5 remain in effect. Components may alternatively opt to authorize use of the Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) for DLA expenses in accordance with the **DoD GTCC Regulations**, paragraph 040505.

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#### 7.0 CIVILIAN MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE ALLOWANCE (MEA)

The flat payment MEA amounts for civilian employees do not require receipts or itemized statements. When a DoD civilian employee claims MEA expenses in excess of the flat payment MEA amount, the approving official may approve them subject to the limitations in the JTR, Chapter 5, section 0541. The civilian personnel office assists in the determination of the allowable expenses.

#### 8.0 CIVILIAN TEMPORARY QUARTERS SUBSISTENCE EXPENSE (TQSE)

A DoD employee's PDT orders must authorize the initial TQSE period and specify whether the Actual Expense (AE) method or the Lump Sum (LS) method is authorized. Additional periods of TQSE (AE) require amended orders. The employee must provide a statement in advance selecting TQSE (LS), which certifies that TQSE expenses will be incurred. The disbursing office does not determine the number of TQSE days authorized. For TQSE (AE), expenses must be itemized on a per meal and per item basis. Receipts are required for all TQSE (AE) expenses as specified in the JTR, Chapter 5, subparagraph 054206.C. Additionally, the DoD employee can claim grocery costs for at-home meals when in a TQSE (AE) status. Divide the total cost of consumable groceries by the number of at-home meals consumed. The proration of groceries is authorized so long as the cost of the groceries consumed is reasonable. The approving official makes the final determination on any question(s) concerning the reasonableness of expenses during a TQSE (AE) period. Advances and payments for TQSE are based on the provisions of the JTR, Chapter 5, paragraph 054207.

#### 9.0 CIVILIAN HOUSE HUNTING TRIPS

If authorized in their travel orders, DoD employees may make house hunting trips, not to exceed 10 consecutive days. From March 13, 2019 to December 31, 2022, additional travel days may be authorized if flights are delayed, cancelled, or changed for reasons beyond the employee's control. See <u>FTR Bulletin 20-06</u>, <u>FTR Bulletin 21-04</u>, <u>FTR Bulletin 22-04</u> and <u>FTR Bulletin 22-07</u>. The employee and spouse may travel separately or together; however, the cost cannot exceed one round trip for travel together. The number of days for house hunting that the employee uses does not limit the number of days for the spouse (e.g., the employee can take 4 consecutive days and the spouse still could use up to a total of 10 days). Advances and payment for house hunting trips are based on the prescribed locality per diem rate, when paid under the lump sum method. Under the Lodging Plus method, the standard CONUS per diem rate applies. For more information on house hunting trips, see the JTR, section 0540.

#### 10.0 CIVILIAN REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

10.1 Reimbursement Due to the Sale and Purchase of a Residence or for Settling an Unexpired Lease

DoD employees may be reimbursed for expenses required for the sale and purchase of a residence, or for the settlement of an unexpired lease, in connection with PDT. Settlement claims

for transactions regarding a sale, purchase, or lease termination, must be submitted following completion of these transactions. See the JTR, Chapter 5, section 0545.

- 10.1.1. Reimbursement of Expenses for the Sale and Purchase of a Residence. The employee must file a <u>DD Form 1705</u>, Reimbursement for Real Estate Sale and/or Purchase Closing Cost Expenses. Separate DD Form 1705's are required for expenses at the old duty station and at the new duty station. Copies of the supporting documentation showing costs incurred must be attached. The approval authority must approve the appropriate DD Form 1705 in accordance with Component regulations for real estate transactions at the old and new stations. The claim must be submitted in accordance with the JTR, section 0545.
- 10.1.2. <u>Reimbursement of Expenses When Settling an Unexpired Lease</u>. The employee files a claim using the DD Form 1351-2. The following documentation must be provided to meet the conditions in the JTR, Chapter 5, paragraph 054507 when filing a claim for reimbursement of an unexpired lease:
- 10.1.2.1. A copy of the lease prescribing the penalties or other costs that are payable if occupancy is terminated prior to the lease expiration date;
- 10.1.2.2. A statement of the extent of legitimate attempts made to avoid penalty costs if the lease includes a savings provision for subleasing, or making other arrangements to avoid penalty costs; and
- 10.1.2.3. An itemized list of expenses along with the paid receipts for each expense item, and any necessary explanations for clarification of penalty costs.
- 10.2 Home Marketing Incentive Payment (HMIP)

The document submitted for payment of HMIP may be a locally-developed form used as an attachment to the travel settlement claim, DD Form 1351-2. The form, at a minimum, must contain the following information:

- 10.2.1. Employee's name (last, first, middle initial);
- 10.2.2. Employee's Social Security Number;
- 10.2.3. Employee's present position, title, grade;
- 10.2.4. Employee's current organization;
- 10.2.5. Employee's current duty phone;
- 10.2.6. Computation of HMIP to include the final payment amount (the relocation services company must complete the amended sale transaction and submit the employee's real estate invoice for payment before the computation can be completed);

- 10.2.7. Traveler's signature; and
- 10.2.8. Order approving official's signature.

#### 10.3 HMIP Income Tax Considerations

HMIP is considered income, and a W-2 must be processed showing the taxes withheld and the employee income. No authority exists to pay either a withholding tax allowance (WTA), or a relocation income tax allowance (RITA) to offset the Federal, state, and local income taxes on the incentive payment. Payment offices must obtain an approved document (as described in paragraph 10.2) with a DD Form 1351-2 and a valid copy of PDT orders for payment.

# 11.0 PAYMENT OF TRAVEL VOUCHERS INVOLVING OCONUS PERMANENT DUTY ASSIGNMENT FOR DOD CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

#### 11.1 Proceeding To, or Round Trip Travel From, a PDS OCONUS

Reimbursement vouchers for travel to a PDS OCONUS under an original agreement, or for round trip travel from a PDS OCONUS under a renewal agreement, must be prepared upon completion of the travel and submitted to the travel computation office servicing the OCONUS station for payment.

#### 11.2 Transfer From PDS OCONUS

When employees transfer from OCONUS duty stations, they must submit reimbursement vouchers to the travel computation office that supports the new duty station.

#### 11.3 Returning From OCONUS Employment for Separation From the Service

- 11.3.1. <u>General</u>. Prior to departure from an OCONUS duty station, an employee who is being returned for separation for any reason must be furnished written instructions by the releasing activity on the following:
  - 11.3.1.1. How to record trip itinerary,
  - 11.3.1.2. Which travel expenses are reimbursable,
  - 11.3.1.3. How to keep a record of these items, and
- 11.3.1.4. How to complete and sign documents that are to be forwarded for the purpose of finalizing pay and reimbursement of travel claims.

NOTE: Except as provided in subparagraph 11.3.2., the OCONUS releasing activity, in conjunction with the servicing travel computation office, must process final pay and settlement of travel claims for employees who are returned for separation.

- 11.3.2. <u>Navy Employees</u>. Travel claims of the following Navy employees must be submitted to the office that supports the location to which the employee returns:
- 11.3.2.1. Employees who are returned from OCONUS for separation under overseas agreements or for purposes of retirement, and
- 11.3.2.2. Foreign nationals who are returned to their places of residence in foreign countries for separation under employment agreements or for purposes of retirement.

#### 11.4 Agreement Violation

An employee is responsible to carry out the mission for which travel is undertaken. If an employee does not report to the designated PDS, refuses to perform the mission, or resigns, the employee must reimburse the Government for all travel, transportation, and relocation expenses paid based on that service agreement including WTA and RITA. See the JTR, Chapter 5, paragraph 054913.

- 11.4.1. <u>Allowance Determination</u>. The appropriate finance office must determine an employee's travel, transportation, and relocation allowances. The allowance determination must occur prior to processing the employee's separation. Travel, transportation, and relocation allowances previously furnished and/or to be furnished are computed by the activity where the violation occurred.
- 11.4.2. <u>Statement of Liability or Credit</u>. For each transportation agreement violation, the finance office must provide the employee with a statement of the employee's liability or credit that indicates in detail the liabilities, obligations, and credits (and an explanation of how the credits are used or applied). A copy is sent to the civilian personnel officer for inclusion in the employee's personnel folder. The employee must also be informed of the right to file a claim if he or she disagrees with the statement of liability or credit.
- 11.4.3. <u>Collection</u>. If the finance office determines that an employee is indebted to the Government, the office must immediately initiate collection action.

#### 12.0 CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING

#### 12.1 Federal Withholding

<u>IRS Publication 15</u> states payments to employees for nondeductible moving expenses are considered supplemental wages and subject to FITW, Social Security and Medicare withholding. For more information about nondeductible moving expenses, see the FTR § 302-17, <u>GSA Bulletin FTR 18-05</u> and <u>GSA Bulletin FTR 19-02</u>.

#### 12.2 State, City, and County Withholding

Agencies must withhold state, city, and county income taxes from the taxable compensation of employees whose regular place of Federal employment is within a state, city, or

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county that has an agreement with the Secretary of the Treasury (5 U.S.C. §§ 5517 and 5520 and 31 CFR 215). The TFM, Volume 1, Part 6, Chapter 5000, Appendix 1 lists states with an agreement. The TFM, Volume 1, Part 6, Chapter 5000, Appendix 2 (*TFM VI P6 C5000 A2*) lists cities and counties with an agreement.

#### 13.0 RELOCATION INCOME TAX ALLOWANCE (RITA)

#### 13.1 Allowance

The RITA is a 2-year, two-process calculation intended to reimburse many civilian employees for substantially all of the additional Federal, state and local tax burden associated with their relocation. See the FTR, Chapter 302, Part 302-17 for more information including eligibility criteria.

13.1.1. Year One WTA. The WTA is an estimated partial payment of the final RITA payment designed to cover FITW from the PDT moving expense reimbursement. It is intended to provide an immediate offset to the tax withheld on the payment, and is also subject to withholding. As a result, payment of WTA allows the employee to receive the same reimbursement had the withholding not been required. Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) deductions are not reimbursed to the employee. To receive WTA, an employee must agree in writing to repay any excess WTA amount paid in year one. The agreement may be written on the settlement voucher or may be a separate statement. The statement must read as follows:

"I agree to repay any excess amount of WTA paid to me in year <u>one</u> and submit the required certified tax information. I understand failure to comply with this requirement will preclude payment of WTA. I also understand that the entire WTA is an excess payment if the RITA claim is not submitted within 120 days."

Compute the WTA in the following manner:

- 13.1.1.1. Determine amount of covered reimbursable expense,
- 13.1.1.2. Multiply Step 1 amount by .282 to arrive at the WTA amount,
- 13.1.1.3. Add Step 2 amount to Step 1 amount to determine the total income subject to tax,
- 13.1.1.4. Multiply Step 3 amount by .22 to determine FITW amount. Enter this amount in the appropriate block on W-2, and
- 13.1.1.5. Subtract the Step 4 amount from the Step 3 amount. This result is the net payment or net income for the employee.
- 13.1.2. <u>Year Two RITA</u>. The RITA payment must occur in the calendar year following the calendar year in which WTA is paid. An employee who does not elect WTA may still claim RITA in the calendar year following payment of travel claims.

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- 13.1.2.1. RITA is based on employee's gross compensation, tax filing status, and marginal tax rates. RITA reconciles WTA payments with the employee's personal tax liability.
- 13.1.2.2. The employee must file a claim for RITA; it is not automatic. If an employee does not file for RITA in year two, he or she is liable for the additional federal income tax incurred as a result of the additional income. RITA does not cover any moving expense for which the IRS allows a deduction.
- 13.1.2.3. In some instances, when an employee files the RITA final claim in the second year, he or she is in a lesser tax bracket because of lower earned income. If the calculation of RITA results in a negative amount, do not adjust prior year or current year income. The employee is obligated to repay this amount as a debt due to the Government. A negative W-2 is not issued. NOTE: Year two is the calendar year in which RITA payment is made. The dollar value of the payment must appear on the employee's W-2 as additional income.

#### 13.2 Funding

RITA is a PDT allowance. Therefore, the reimbursable expenses of an employee transferred in the interest of the Government must be charged against the appropriation current when valid travel orders are issued. The organization responsible for the original funding of the move also has the responsibility to secure adequate funds in order to pay the adjustment vouchers.

# VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 7: "EVACUATION ALLOWANCES" SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

Changes are identified in this table and also denoted by blue font.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an asterisk (\*) symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by **bold**, **italic**, **blue**, **and underlined font**.

The previous version dated February 2023 is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
All	Verified and updated references, updated hyperlinks and formatting to comply with current administrative instructions, and made clarifying editorial changes.	Revision
All	This instruction has been reviewed by the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) staff in accordance with DoD Instruction 5154.31, Volume 5, dated October 16, 2015, as PDTATAC Case 24008. Any conflict between this publication and the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR) is resolved based on the JTR and not this publication.	Revision

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#### **CHAPTER 7**

#### **EVACUATION ALLOWANCES**

#### 1.0 GENERAL

#### 1.1 Purpose

This chapter provides general financial policy for evacuated military/uniformed member dependents and civilian employees and/or their dependents. Personnel evacuations require special handling by finance officers at the evacuation point, safe haven, and designated places. The processing of evacuees requires patience, tact, and expeditious service.

#### 1.2 Authoritative Guidance

This chapter provides guidance under authorities contained in statute, Joint Travel Regulations (*JTR*), the Department of State Standardized Regulations (*DSSR*) § 600, and Office of Personnel Management regulations codified in Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations (*CFR*), §§ 550.401 through 550.409. See the JTR Tables 6-1 through 6-12 to identify the official responsible for announcing the evacuation and identifying the safe haven locations.

#### 2.0 EVACUATION ADVANCES AND PAYMENTS

#### 2.1 Orders

Copies of the departure orders support evacuation advances and payments. If departure orders are not available, refer evacuees to the local personnel organization. The Defense Travel System does not support evacuation travel. For more information see the Defense Travel Management Office's "Who may use the Defense Travel System" document. Evacuees requiring advances should use an available automated teller machine (ATM) or electronic funds transfer (EFT) once they have departure orders. If no ATM is available and/or EFT cannot be used, the supporting disbursing office may use an alternate payment method.

#### 2.2 Evacuation From Foreign Locations

- 2.2.1. <u>Military Member Dependents</u>. The JTR, Chapter 6, sections 0602 and 0603 cover allowances for the dependents of Service members authorized or ordered to evacuate from locations outside the continental United States. Uniformed members are not evacuated; however, they may be issued orders for temporary duty (TDY) travel as required.
- 2.2.2. <u>DoD Civilian Employees and/or Families</u>. Title 5, United States Code (U.S.C), section 5725 (<u>5 U.S.C. § 5725</u>) provides authority for transportation at the Government's expense for an employee's dependents and household goods to a safe haven location when an evacuation is authorized or ordered. The JTR, Chapter 6, section 0604 addresses regulations governing evacuations from foreign areas. <u>Title 5 U.S.C. § 5522</u> provides authority for advance pay, allowances, and differentials when an employee and/or their dependents are authorized or ordered

to evacuate the employee's permanent duty station. The DSSR, section 600, "Payments During An Ordered/Authorized Departure" relates to the evacuation of civilian employees of the United States and their dependents from or within any foreign area.

- 2.3 Evacuations From United States and Non-Foreign Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS) Locations
- 2.3.1. <u>Military Member Dependents</u>. The JTR, Chapter 6, sections 0602 and 0603 cover allowances for the dependents of Service members authorized or ordered to evacuate from locations within the United States. Uniformed members are not evacuated; however, they may be issued orders for TDY travel as required.
- 2.3.2. <u>DoD Civilian Employees and/or Families</u>. Evacuations within the United States and non-foreign OCONUS locations (including evacuations during a pandemic health crisis) are administered under authority cited in 5 CFR 550.401 through 550.409.
- 2.3.2.1. Authorized management officials must announce a safe haven when ordering an evacuation. A safe haven is defined as the area to which an employee or dependent will be or has been evacuated. In the case of a pandemic health crisis, an agency may order employees to evacuate their worksites and perform work from home or a mutually agreeable alternative location. During this time, the agency may designate the employee's home or alternative location as a safe haven. After determination and announcement of the safe haven, and the authorized management official has provided their approval, evacuation payments may be provided to evacuated employees. Evacuation payments cover the period of time during which the evacuation order remains in effect, unless terminated earlier for failure to perform work or for reasons listed in 5 CFR 550.407, but must not exceed 180 days.
- 2.3.2.2. Employees in the United States ordered to evacuate their official duty stations and perform work from their homes (or alternative locations mutually agreeable to the agency and the employees) may be eligible for special allowance payments to offset the direct added expenses incidental to travel (e.g., travel expenses and per diem) outside the limits of their official duty station under 5 CFR 550.403.
- 2.3.2.3. Determination of special allowances is made in accordance with (IAW) 5 CFR 550.405. En route travel and transportation for an evacuated employee and the transportation expenses for the dependents to the safe haven are as prescribed for TDY travel in the JTR, Chapter 2. Per diem is authorized for dependents of an evacuated employee at a rate equal to the rate payable to the employee as determined IAW the JTR, except that the rate for dependents under age 12 is one-half of this rate. Per diem for both the employee and dependents is payable from the departure date from the evacuated area through the arrival date at the safe haven, including any en route delay period that is beyond an evacuee's control or that may result from evacuation travel arrangements.
- 2.3.2.4. Pursuant to 5 CFR 550.405, subsistence expenses for an evacuated employee and/or dependents must be determined at applicable per diem rates for the safe haven or for a station other than the safe haven that has been approved by the responsible official designated

by the Secretarial process. See also JTR, Chapter 6, paragraph 060103. Subsistence expenses are to be paid beginning on the date following arrival and may continue until terminated. The subsistence expenses are computed on a daily rate basis pursuant to the guidelines contained in 5 CFR 550.405(b). Payment of subsistence expenses is decreased by the applicable per-person amount for any period for which the employee is authorized regular travel per diem IAW the JTR.

#### 2.4 Finance Office Guidance

The finance office that supports the evacuation point or safe haven area must assist any evacuated traveler with all financial matters. The assistance provided may include the following:

- 2.4.1. A briefing sheet that includes the finance office's phone number(s), mailing address, and hours of operation;
  - 2.4.2. A description of evacuation entitlements;
- 2.4.3. A listing of documentation required for advances and payments. The finance office should advise dependents to submit a photocopy of the front and back of their identification (ID) card with each claim submission; and
- 2.4.4. Information on when, where, and how to submit claims for advances and payments. If problems are encountered, the finance office should contact the appropriate DoD component.

#### 2.5 Claims

- 2.5.1. <u>Claims Preparation</u>. All claims for payment of evacuation allowances should be submitted to the appropriate supporting DoD component. The supporting finance office must assist evacuees with claim preparation. Each evacuee must be asked about advances or previous payments received. All advances or previous payments associated with an evacuation claim paid by any or all Government agencies must be disclosed upon submission of the claim. This is to avoid duplicate payments IAW the JTR, paragraph 010302. Any duplicate payments must be repaid to the Government.
- 2.5.2. Payment Method. Initial evacuation advance payments are usually mass evacuation payments. Finance offices are encouraged to use DoD (DD) Form 1351-6, Multiple Payments List, as a supplement to DD Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher or Subvoucher, to expedite payments. However, this alternative payment method does not lessen the need for proper documentation. Payments to dependents must be made only upon presentation of a valid travel order issued by a competent authority.

#### 3.0 ID OF EVACUEES

#### 3.1 ID Available

United States Uniformed Services ID and Privilege Cards; Common Access Cards; Geneva Convention Cards; passports; or other forms of picture ID are acceptable forms of identification to process payments to evacuees.

#### 3.2 ID Not Available

If the evacuee has no picture ID available, two witnesses may vouch for the evacuee by signing a statement verifying the identity of the evacuee. Each witness must show acceptable ID as indicated in paragraph 3.1 and provide their permanent address. The lack of adequate ID delays service to an evacuee; however, every reasonable effort must be made to accommodate an evacuee lacking adequate identification.

# VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 8: "PROCESSING TRAVEL CLAIMS" SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

Changes are identified in this table and also denoted by blue font.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an asterisk (\*) symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by **bold**, **italic**, **blue**, **and underlined font**.

The previous version dated April 2022 is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
All	Verified and updated references, hyperlinks, and formatting to comply with current administrative instructions, and made clarifying editorial changes.	Revision
All	Clarified that local travel claims may be reimbursed using the Defense Travel System as well as the Optional Form 1164.	Revision
All	This publication has been reviewed by the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) in accordance with DoD Instruction 5154.31, Volume 5, dated October 16, 2015, as PDTATAC Case RR23015. Any conflict between this publication and the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR) is resolved based on the JTR and not this publication.	Revision

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#### **CHAPTER 8**

#### **PROCESSING TRAVEL CLAIMS**

#### 1.0 GENERAL

#### 1.1 Purpose

This chapter provides general policy to travelers for the preparation, submission, and processing of travel claims for electronic submission through the Defense Travel System (DTS) and for Permanent Duty Travel (PDT) and Temporary Duty Travel (TDY) forms for hard-copy submission.

#### 1.2 Authoritative Guidance

This chapter provides guidance under authorities contained in statute, the Joint Travel Regulations (<u>JTR</u>) and the Federal Travel Regulation. It does not include every condition in which the JTR either authorizes or limits travel and transportation allowances. Information contained in this volume does not supersede the JTR.

#### 2.0 ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

#### 2.1 Disbursing Officer (DO) and Certifying Official Responsibilities

The DO is accountable for all travel payments and the DO's responsibilities are provided in Volume 5, Chapter 2. The certifying officer is responsible for the accuracy and propriety of payments to include ensuring that travel statements and claims are accurate and properly supported (see Volume 5, Chapter 5). Additionally, the disbursing office is responsible for ensuring that random audits are conducted.

#### 2.2 Payment Method

Electronic funds transfer (EFT) is the mandatory means by which a travel claim is settled within DoD. Split disbursement, which permits direct payment via EFT to the Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) contractor for charges incurred on the GTCC and to the cardholder for any residual amount, is also mandatory. Supervisors may authorize alternative methods of payment in limited situations in which the traveler does not have access to an account at a financial institution that can receive EFT transmissions.

#### 2.3 Adjustments of \$10 or Less

The DO must pay the traveler all amounts due on the original settlement claim. The DO, however, is not required to make collections of \$10 or less on a final settlement or on an overpayment of \$10 or less that the DO subsequently detects. Conversely, the DO must process supplemental payments for \$10 or less only when specifically requested by the traveler.

#### 2.4 Over Advances

If upon settlement of the travel claim the DO determines that a traveler received an excessive travel advance and the excess amount is greater than \$10, the official must forward a letter of indebtedness and give the traveler an opportunity to immediately repay the excess advance. If immediate payment is not made, the DO will initiate collection action as required in accordance with (IAW) Volume 16, Chapter 2.

#### 2.5 Overpayments

If the DO detects an overpayment greater than \$10, the DO must forward a letter of indebtedness to the traveler that requests remittance. The traveler is required to pay the indebtedness within 30 calendar days after the date of notification; otherwise, initiate collection action as outlined in Volume 16, Chapter 2.

#### 2.6 Income Taxation of Reimbursable TDY Allowances

When a civilian employee performs a TDY assignment at one location for more than a year, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) considers the duty station to be permanent, and any reimbursement (e.g., per diem) is considered taxable income (see Title 26, United States Code (U.S.C), section 162(a) and Internal Revenue Ruling 99-7). The IRS may consider a TDY assignment at one location for less than a year to be permanent, depending upon the specific circumstances. Travel Authorizing Officials (AOs) must determine, IAW the JTR, paragraph 010206, that the assignment is not a Temporary Change of Station (TCS) or a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) move before authorizing a long-term TDY assignment away from the permanent duty station (PDS) for more than 180 days. When TDY reimbursements are taxable income, the travel office must compute all applicable tax withholdings, deduct them from the traveler's claim(s), and issue an IRS Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, to the traveler. The IRS W-2s must include income and the tax withholding amounts. Civilian employees who perform long-term TDY assignments for which TDY allowances are taxable are also authorized an Extended TDY Tax Reimbursement Allowance (ETTRA) IAW the FTR, Part 301-11, Subpart F. At a minimum, travelers will submit a DoD (DD) Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher or Subvoucher, a copy of their travel orders, and the W-2 issued from the travel settlement office to claim the ETTRA. NOTE: The traveler must submit travel claims involving taxable TDY allowances on a DD 1351-2 to the appropriate travel settlement office. DTS does not compute claims involving income taxes: do not use DTS in these instances.

#### 3.0 Forms

Travelers, in conjunction with official travel may use the following forms:

<u>DD 730</u>	Receipt for Unused Transportation Requests and/or Tickets, Including Unused Meal Tickets
DD 788	Private Vehicle Shipping Document for Automobile

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<u>DD 788-1</u>	Private Vehicle Shipping Document for Van
<u>DD 788-2</u>	Private Vehicle Shipping Document for Motorcycle
<u>DD 1351</u>	Travel Voucher NOTE: Multiple use form.
<u>DD 1351-2</u>	Travel Voucher or Subvoucher NOTE: Used to claim PDT/TDY travel allowances for official travel performed, including dependents' travel and other PDT allowances.
<u>DD 1351-2C</u>	Travel Voucher or Subvoucher Continuation Sheet NOTE: Used when the DD 1351-2 does not provide sufficient space.
<u>DD 1351-3</u>	Statement of Actual Expenses NOTE: Used to claim actual subsistence expenses when the traveler performs TDY on an actual expense basis.
<u>DD 1351-5</u>	Government Quarters and/or Mess
<u>DD 1351-6</u>	Multiple Payments List NOTE: Used to make multiple payments for travel and TDY performed under like conditions and circumstances.
<u>DD 1610</u>	Request and Authorization for TDY Travel of DoD Personnel NOTE: Used to support travel claim payments.
<u>DD 1614</u>	Request/Authorization for DoD Civilian Permanent Duty or Temporary Change of Station (TCS) Travel NOTE: Used to support PDT travel payments.
<u>DD 1705</u>	Reimbursement for Real Estate Sale and/or Purchase Closing Cost Expenses
<u>DD 2278</u>	Application for Personally Procured Move and Counseling Checklist
<u>DD 2461</u>	Authorization for Emergency Evacuation Advance and Allotment Payments for DoD Civilian Employees
<u>DD 2912</u>	Claim for Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense (TQSE) (Sub-Voucher)

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**DoD 7000.14-R** 

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Optional Form (OF) 1164 Claim for Reimbursement for Expenditures on Official

**Business** 

NOTE: Used to claim reimbursement for expenses incurred for recruiting duty and expenses incurred within

and around a PDS station.

Standard Form 1199A Direct Deposit Sign-Up Form

#### 4.0 CLAIM PREPARATION

#### 4.1 Completion

The traveler is responsible for preparing their DD 1351-2 to claim reimbursement for official travel. Even when someone else prepares the claim, the traveler remains responsible for the truth and accuracy of the information. When the traveler or a legally appointed designee signs the form, the traveler attests that the statements are true and complete and that the traveler is aware of the liability for filing a false claim. All claims and attached statements must be completed using ink, typewriter, or computer-generated forms.

- 4.1.1. <u>General</u>. Travelers must use the DD 1351-2 to submit travel claims requesting reimbursement for expenses incurred while on official travel. The claim is prepared and submitted, with required attachments and approvals, to their servicing travel computation office. The traveler must carefully review expenses claimed on the DD 1351-2 and sign the original claim. Electronic certifications (digital signatures) may be submitted and accepted for payment on a travel claim, in addition to those signed in ink, only if all of the requirements listed in, Volume 5, Chapter 1, subparagraph 3.5.3, are met. Exceptions to the use of DD forms may be granted through the process prescribed in the <u>DoD Manual 7750.08</u>, <u>Section 7</u>.
- 4.1.2. <u>Erasures and Alterations</u>. The traveler must initial erasures and alterations on totals of reimbursement claims. The person who issued or signed the receipt must initial alterations, such as erasures and alterations in totals on receipts.
- 4.1.3. <u>Leave of Absence</u>. When the traveler takes leave while in a travel status or at the TDY point(s), the traveler must show the number of hours, type of leave, and dates of leave, on the reimbursement claim along with the scheduled hours of duty. See the JTR, paragraph 033301 for the impact of leave on per diem at TDY locations for civilian employees.
- 4.1.4. <u>Return to PDS or Home on Non-workdays</u>. If return to the PDS or home from which the traveler commutes daily to the PDS occurs over a weekend or on any non-workday, the following information must be entered on the claim:
  - 4.1.4.1. Date of arrival at PDS (or home),
- 4.1.4.2. Roundtrip ticket cost or roundtrip distance traveled by privately owned vehicle (POV), and

4.1.4.3. Date of return to TDY location.

NOTE: Per diem is not payable for time spent at the PDS or home.

- 4.1.5. <u>Travel by POV</u>. When travel is by POV, the traveler must show the points between which the traveler performs travel on the travel claim. The traveler must explain any unusual conditions or circumstances that may affect allowances on the settlement claim, or attached on a separate sheet as supporting documentation. When two travelers on official duty ride together in the same POV, the travelers must identify the name of the owner-operator of the POV and the name of the passenger, along with the name of the department or agency for whom they work. The traveler responsible for POV operating expenses (ordinarily the POV operator/owner) is authorized TDY mileage for the official distance. A traveler not responsible for POV operating expenses (ordinarily a passenger) is not authorized TDY mileage.
- 4.1.6. <u>Travel by Rental Vehicle</u>. When the AO determines it is advantageous to the Government IAW the JTR, paragraph 020203, a rental vehicle may be authorized or approved under the provisions of the JTR, paragraph 020209. When a traveler utilizes commercial transportation to a TDY site, the AO may authorize or approve the use of taxi fares, public transit fares or a rental vehicle for transportation in and around the TDY location. See the JTR, paragraph 020212. Taxi transportation between home or hotel and transportation terminals is a usual item of reimbursable expense. Such usual items must be stated on the claim but do not require special authorization or approval.
- 4.1.7. Foreign Currency. IAW the JTR, Table 2-24, a traveler who pays with a credit card for Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS) expenses should check with the credit card vendor to determine the final bill in U.S. currency prior to travel claim submission. Travelers may use the currency exchange rate at which the credit card vendor settles the credit card bill to determine OCONUS expenses charged to the card. Travelers must report reimbursable expenditures in the foreign currency of the country actually paid. To receive proper reimbursement, the traveler must report the following information on their travel claim: The amount of the expense in foreign currency; the exchange rate on the day the item was purchased in cash or the exchange rate at which the credit card was billed if paid with a credit card; and the bank commission(s) charged for conversion of U.S. dollars to foreign currency. The traveler must show the rates of conversion and the commission(s) charged. If the traveler does not show the conversion rate(s), the activity settling the claim must use an appropriate exchange rate for the date the expense was paid. NOTE: Travelers are not authorized reimbursement for losses, and are not liable for repayment to the Government for gains, resulting from currency conversions.
- 4.1.8. <u>Reimbursements for Other Traveler's Expenses</u>. Reimbursements to travelers who pay for other traveler's expenses are strictly forbidden. Travelers are only reimbursed for expenses, which they themselves incur, and not for expenses incurred by, or on behalf of, any other government personnel. Approving Officials, Authorizing Officials, and Certifying Officers must deny approval of all travel claims in which travel expenses of other personnel are claimed. Approval of this type of claim will subject Approving Officials, Authorizing Officials, and Certifying Officers to potential pecuniary liability (see Chapter 5, paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 for

information on pecuniary liability for Departmental Accountable Officials and Certifying Officers).

- 4.1.9. <u>Items Denied Reimbursements</u>. The travel computation office must deny claims for items in vouchers that are not reimbursable under this volume and the JTR, or not properly supported by receipts where required. The claimant must be notified and informed of the reason(s) and required corrective action, if any. If the traveler later reclaims these items, the traveler must itemize them in a subsequent regular or supplemental claim that is supported by the original or copy of the denial notice.
- 4.1.10. <u>Supporting Documents</u>. In addition to expense statements or other declarations, when required, support the claim by including the following documents:
- 4.1.10.1. <u>Travel Orders</u>. Travel orders and issued amendments to the claim for TDY and two copies for PDT.
- 4.1.10.2. <u>Government-Procured Transportation Documents</u>. Memorandum copies of transportation request documents.
- 4.1.10.3. <u>Unused Government-Procured Transportation Documents</u>. The traveler obtains receipts for the unused portion of travel when they return the unused portion of the ticket to a Transportation Officer (TO). This is not applicable to the Navy.
- 4.1.10.4. <u>Statements for Common Carrier Reimbursement</u>. When a traveler claims reimbursement for common carrier transportation paid by cash, the following statement must be included on the claim: "I hereby assign to the United States any rights I may have against other parties in consideration with any reimbursable carrier transportation charges described herein."
- 4.1.10.5. <u>Unused Tickets</u>. When itineraries are changed or trips are canceled after tickets have been issued to the traveler, the traveler must write and initial a statement on the travel claim that all tickets have either been used for official purposes, and/or all unused tickets, or portions thereof, have been properly accounted for and turned in to the TO or Travel Management Company (TMC). The traveler must attach receipts issued by TO/TMC for unused tickets to the travel settlement claim.
- 4.1.10.6. <u>Actual Expense Authorization (AEA)</u>. When AEA is authorized or approved in connection with TDY and the travel order does not reflect it, the traveler must attach three copies of the AEA to the claim.

#### 4.2 Itinerary

Claims must contain a complete itinerary for the entire period of travel. This includes return to the PDS during TDY and any type of leave taken and the periods the leave is used. On claims for TDY travel, the first entry must be the traveler's residence or office, as applicable, except for an aircrew traveler, or extended TDY (i.e., TDY in excess of 30 days). See the JTR, paragraph 010203. The traveler does not need to list travel from the residence or office to a carrier

terminal in the itinerary; the traveler claims the mileage or taxi as a reimbursable expense. This also applies to travel from a carrier terminal to the place of lodging or TDY site. The claimant must list the dates of departure from and arrival at a port of embarkation/port of debarkation.

#### 4.3 Reimbursable Expenses

The traveler must enter all allowable reimbursable expenses. Tax on lodging is a separate reimbursable expense from the room charge and the traveler must claim it separately on the travel claim for travel within Continental United States and non-foreign OCONUS areas. Travelers may find information regarding specific State exemptions for lodging taxes at the General Service Administration *State Tax Exemption Information for Government Charge Cards*.

#### 4.4 Recruiting Expenses

Recruiting expenses authorized in the JTR, paragraphs 020605 and 020606 may be reimbursed using the DTS or OF 1164.

#### 4.5 Other Instructions

- 4.5.1. The traveler must attach all lodging receipts regardless of amount and any other receipts for expenses of \$75 or more to the claim. The traveler must furnish a statement explaining the circumstances if a receipt is impracticable to obtain or it has been inadvertently lost/destroyed.
- 4.5.2. Travelers receive 75 percent of the meals and incidental expense rate for the first and on the last day of travel when the standard per diem rules in JTR Chapter 2 are in effect.

#### 5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 5.1 Authorizing Official (AO)

Refer to Chapter 5, section 2.0 for additional AO responsibilities.

- 5.1.1. <u>Reviewing Travel Claims</u>. The AO confirms the authorized travel and must ensure the following when reviewing and signing travel claims:
- 5.1.1.1. The traveler properly prepared the claim using ink or computer-generated forms;
  - 5.1.1.2. All amounts claimed are accurate;
- 5.1.1.3. The traveler attached required orders, receipts, statements, and justifications to the travel claim;
  - 5.1.1.4. All expenses claimed are authorized and allowable;
  - 5.1.1.5. Any deviation from the travel order is in the Government's best interest;

- 5.1.1.6. Claimed items requiring approval after the fact, but not approved in the order, were necessary in the conduct of official business;
- 5.1.1.7. Reimbursement, as appropriate, is approved (in whole or in part) or reimbursement is revised;
- 5.1.1.8. The claim is on an original travel voucher with an original/electronic signature and date;
- 5.1.1.9. Advance and partial payments are annotated, or "NONE" is entered in block 10 of the DD 1351-2; and
- 5.1.1.10. When the traveler used foreign currency for reimbursable expenses, the appropriate blocks of the DD 1351-2 must include the expense in foreign currency and U.S. dollars, the exchange rate, and commission charges for the foreign currency at the time of the transaction.
- 5.1.2. <u>Approving Items</u>. Before an AO may approve an item involving use of a transportation mode not authorized in a travel order, the traveler must explain the necessity for that mode on the claim. When a traveler claims a POV expense under orders that authorize travel by common carrier or Government vehicle, and a travel-approving official does not determine that such use is in the Government's best interest, reimbursement is limited per the JTR, paragraphs 020210 and 020302. An AO also may approve:
  - 5.1.2.1. Excess accompanied baggage expenses;
  - 5.1.2.2. Miscellaneous reimbursable expenses;
  - 5.1.2.3. Minor deviations in TDY duration or location; and
- 5.1.2.4. Additional travel expenses incurred by a traveler with a disability or special needs. See the JTR, subparagraph 020207.D.
- 5.1.3. <u>Items Requiring Advance Authorization</u>. The following require advance authorization and may not be approved on the claim after the fact:
  - 5.1.3.1. Use of reduced fares for group or charter arrangements,
  - 5.1.3.2. Payment of a reduced rate of per diem for subsistence expenses,
  - 5.1.3.3. Acceptance of payment from a nonfederal source for travel expenses, and
  - 5.1.3.4. Travel expenses related to attendance at a conference.

#### 5.2 Review of Travel Claims

An AO or supervisor that has knowledge of the purpose and conditions of the travel claim prepared by the traveler conducts the review of the claim by ensuring that:

#### 5.2.1. The claim is properly prepared;

- 5.2.1.1. The traveler used the correct travel claim forms (printed in ink, computer-generated or typewritten form).
- 5.2.1.2. The claim is on an original travel voucher with an original/electronic signature and date.
- 5.2.1.3. The traveler annotates any advances or partial payments authorized on the travel claim or "NONE" in the appropriate block.
- 5.2.1.4. When foreign currency is used while traveling on official business, the traveler includes the expense in both foreign currency and U.S. dollars, indicating the exchange rate and commission charges for the foreign currency at the time of the transaction if paid with cash, or the rate at which the credit card bill was settled if paid with a credit card.

#### 5.2.2. The amounts claimed are accurate and reasonable:

- 5.2.3. The traveler attached the required orders authorizing the travel, receipts, statements, and any justifications to the travel claim; NOTE: For the definition of what constitutes a valid receipt, see Volume 9, Definitions;
- 5.2.3.1. The traveler has submitted original lodging receipts regardless of the dollar amount.
- 5.2.3.2. The traveler has submitted receipts for all single items of expense of \$75 or more.
- 5.2.4. The claimed expenses were authorized and allowable, and that any deviations from the authorized travel were in the best interest of the Government; and
- 5.2.5. The AO or supervisor has reviewed, signed, and dated all travel claims and forwarded them to the travel office for computation.

#### 5.3 Travel Computation Office

Refer to Chapter 5, subparagraph 2.3.4 for the travel computation office's responsibilities.

#### 5.4 Traveler

Refer to Chapter 5, subparagraph 2.3.6 for the traveler's responsibilities.

#### 6.0 SUBMISSION OF TRAVEL CLAIMS

#### 6.1 Temporary Duty (TDY) and Permanent Duty Travel (PDT) Claims

The traveler must submit all claims within five working days of return to or arrival at the PDS. In cases of extended TDY (over 45 days), and reservists on Annual Training, Active Duty Training, or Inactive Duty Training that is known to be greater than 45 days, the traveler must submit a claim for each 30-day period. The traveler must submit the claim within five working days after each 30-day period.

#### 6.2 Local Travel at Permanent Duty Station (PDS)

- 6.2.1. General. The traveler must submit claims for reimbursement of expenditures for official business using the DTS or OF 1164 for such expenses as taxicabs, public carriers, or POVs while transacting official business in the locality of the PDS. The traveler must submit claims as soon as practical after expense has occurred. Travelers may submit claims for each individual trip or by combining recurring trips on one claim. The OF 1164 is not used for reimbursement of fares or mileage for use of a POV in connection with TDY travel involving per diem allowance.
- 6.2.2. <u>Claim Submission</u>. The claim must identify the date, point of origin and destination, and the amount of fare and tips or distance for each trip. The traveler need not complete the point of origin column, when the point of destination of one trip is identical to the point of origin of the next trip. When the traveler claims identical trips on a voucher, only the first trip must show the points of origin, destination, and date for the trip. Subsequent trips may be annotated with a statement such as "Same trip made on date(s)." Unless required by local authority, it is not necessary to compute mileage reimbursement for each trip. The traveler may add the "number of miles" and the total multiplied by the mileage rate. The claimant must sign the form and must submit as provided in applicable Component policy.

#### 6.3 Non-Medical Attendants

- 6.3.1. Non-medical Attendant for Specialty Care Over 100 Miles. If a patient meets the travel requirements in the JTR, paragraph 033007, roundtrip transportation and travel expenses for one necessary attendant are authorized. The attendant must be a parent, guardian, or another adult member of the patient's family who is at least 21 years of age. An individual traveling as an attendant is authorized travel and transportation allowances or reimbursement for expenses prescribed as follows:
- 6.3.1.1. <u>Military Member as Attendant</u>. A member who is a family member, and is ordered to be an attendant, is authorized TDY travel and transportation allowances while acting as an attendant.

- 6.3.1.2. <u>Civilian Employee as Attendant</u>. A U.S. Government civilian employee who is a family member, and is assigned as an attendant, is authorized the TDY travel and transportation allowances prescribed in regulations issued by the employee's agency or department funding the travel.
- 6.3.1.3. Other Person as Attendant. A person other than a military member or U.S. Government civilian employee who is at least 21 years of age, is a family member, and who is designated to travel as an attendant, will be issued an Invitational Travel Authorization (ITA) or be included in the patient's travel order and identified as an attendant. This person is authorized reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses contained in the JTR, paragraph 033007. NOTE: The patient and attendant cannot both be reimbursed for the same travel expense (e.g., both cannot be paid mileage when traveling by POV).
- 6.3.2. <u>Claims</u>. When travelers incur overnight lodging and/or meals, the traveler must file the claim on a DD 1351-2. When the claim doesn't include overnight lodging or meals, travelers must use the DTS or OF 1164 for such expenses as occasional meals, taxicabs, public carriers, or POV. The traveler submits the claim as soon as practicable after they incur the expense.
- 6.3.3. <u>Claim Submission</u>. The claim must identify the date, point of origin and destination, and the actual expense to perform as a non-medical attendant for specialty care patients. The traveler submits the claim as soon as practicable. A mileage allowance is paid when a POV is used and reimbursement is authorized for parking, ferry fares, and road/bridge/tunnel tolls. The traveler must use a DD 1351-2 for reimbursement for actual cost of lodging and meals up to the per diem rate prescribed for the area concerned.
- 6.3.4. <u>Non-Medical Attendant for Very Seriously and Seriously Wounded, Ill, or Injured Member</u>. A non-medical attendant of a member may be provided transportation and per diem as described in and determined by appropriate authority under the JTR, paragraph 033202. An individual traveling as a <u>non-medical</u> attendant is authorized travel and transportation allowances or reimbursement for expenses prescribed as follows:
- 6.3.4.1. <u>Military Member as Attendant.</u> The member is authorized TDY travel and travel allowances while acting as an attendant.
- 6.3.4.2. <u>Civilian Employee as Attendant</u>. A U.S. Government civilian employee is authorized the TDY travel and transportation allowances in the regulations used by the agency or department funding the travel.
- 6.3.4.3. Other Person as Attendant. An ITA must be issued to a person other than a military member or U.S. Government civilian employee designated to travel as an attendant. This person is authorized reimbursement of travel allowances as prescribed in the JTR, paragraph 033202.

- 6.3.5. <u>Claims</u>. Submit claims for reimbursement of expenditures for military members/civilian employee attendants using the DD 1351-2. Submit claims for reimbursement of expenditures for other persons as an attendant using the DTS or OF 1164 when they do not incur overnight lodging and/or per diem. When travelers incur overnight lodging and/or per diem, the traveler must file the claim on a DD 1351-2.
- 6.3.6. <u>Claim Submission</u>. The <u>claim</u> must identify the date, point of origin and destination. The traveler must use the DD 1351-2 for reimbursement for per diem.

#### 6.4 Travel and Transportation for Funeral Honors Detail

6.4.1. <u>General</u>. Funeral honors duty travel allowances may be authorized for Reserve Component (RC) military members and individuals not employed by the Government (see the JTR, paragraph 032004). Claims for the Funeral Honors Duty Allowance \$50.00 stipend authorized in Volume 7A, Chapter 58, and Volume 7B, Chapter 22, are not travel allowances and must be submitted to and paid through the appropriate Military Pay office.

#### 6.4.1.1. Reserve Component (RC) Military Members

- 6.4.1.1.1. Must use the DTS or OF 1164 for reimbursement of expenditures for funeral honors detail when they do not incur overnight lodging and/or per diem.
- 6.4.1.1.2. Must use the DD 1351-2 when they incur overnight lodging and/or per diem. RC members performing funeral honors duty at a location 50 or more miles from the member's residence are authorized TDY travel and transportation allowances contained in the JTR, Chapter 2.

#### 6.4.1.2. Individuals Not Employed by the Government

- 6.4.1.2.1. Must use the DTS or OF 1164 for reimbursement for expenditures for funeral honors detail when they do not incur overnight lodging and/or per diem.
- 6.4.1.2.2. Must use an ITA and the DD 1351-2 when they incur overnight lodging and/or per diem. Allowances for individuals not employed by the Government performing funeral honors detail are contained in the JTR, paragraph 032004.
- 6.4.1.2.3. A mileage allowance may not be paid. Reimbursement for actual POV expenses is limited to fuel, oil, parking, ferry fares, road, bridge, and tunnel tolls. The traveler must use an ITA for reimbursement for actual cost of lodging and meals up to the per diem rate prescribed for the area concerned. Reimbursements may be authorized and approved for miscellaneous expenses contained in the JTR, Chapter 2.
- 6.4.2. <u>Claim Submission</u>. The <u>claim</u> must identify the date, point of origin and destination, and reimbursable expenses incurred while performing the Funeral Honors Detail. The traveler submits the claim to the military unit augmented for approval.

#### 6.5 Separated or Retired Members

6.5.1. General. A separated or retired member who has not received an advance must forward the claim to the disbursing office responsible for that person's pay accounts prior to separation or retirement. The DO must pay all claims submitted within one year of separation or retirement. The disbursing office that supports U.S. Marine Corps separatees or retirees must pay all claims submitted within 60 days of the month of separation or retirement. Claims received after the stated time periods for filing must be forwarded to the following designated Service address:

Army: Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)

ATTN: Travel Pay, MilPCS

325 Brooks Road

Rome, NY 13441-4501

Navy: Travel Processing Center at separatees or retirees

separation point

Air Force: Member's last servicing

Financial Services Office (FSO)

Marine Corps: Member's last servicing

Finance/Disbursing Office (FO/DO)

- 6.5.1.1. Officers. Travel allowances payable to a separating or retiring officer must be used to offset indebtedness to the Government when paid as an advance or settlement.
- 6.5.1.2. <u>Enlisted Personnel</u>. Travel allowances payable in advance to separating or retiring enlisted personnel for personal travel home may not be used to offset any debts to the Government. Travel allowances payable to enlisted members after they have returned home must be withheld and applied against their debts.
- 6.5.1.3. <u>Dependents and Household Goods Claims</u>. Advances and settlements of dependent travel allowances and household goods allowances must be withheld and applied to indebtedness to the Government.
- 6.5.2. <u>Travel to Specialty Care Over 100 Miles</u>. When a retired member with a combat-related disability, who is not a TRICARE Prime enrollee, is referred by a primary care provider for follow-on specialty care, services, and supplies, for that particular disability, more than 100 miles from the primary care provider's office, the patient must be reimbursed for reasonable travel expenses. See the JTR, paragraph 033007.

#### 6.6 Deceased and Next of Kin

- 6.6.1. Attendance at a Deceased Member's Memorial Ceremony. In addition to round-trip travel and transportation allowances to attend burial ceremonies, an eligible family member as described in the JTR, paragraph 032002, may be authorized travel and transportation allowances for one round-trip to an installation/home port/unit memorial service, if that memorial service, for a deceased member who dies while on active duty, occurs at a location other than the burial ceremony location. See the JTR, paragraph 032005.
- 6.6.1.1. <u>Claims</u>. ITAs must be issued to eligible family members attending a memorial service. The traveler must complete this trip within 2 years following the member's death, unless the Service Secretary waives the time limitation.
- 6.6.1.2. <u>Claim Submission</u>. The traveler must use the DTS or OF 1164 for reimbursement of expenditures when they do not incur overnight lodging and/or per diem. The claim must identify the date(s), point of origin and destination, and the actual expense in attending the memorial service. The traveler must use a DD 1351-2 when they incur overnight lodging and/or per diem.
- 6.6.2. <u>Unsettled Claims for Deceased Travelers</u>. The individual designated by the Service to settle a deceased member's affairs is responsible for the preparation of the travel claim for the travel of the deceased member. The finance official computes and forwards all claims to the supporting Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)/Service site (see subparagraph 6.6.4 for address) for payment or collection. For deceased civilian employees, the surviving spouse or legal representative, the executor, or administrator must sign any outstanding travel claims. The travel office computes these claims locally. Travel settlements for travel cardholders who paid for expenses using a GTCC, are subject to split disbursement (see <u>10 U.S.C. § 2784(a)</u> and <u>DoD GTCC Regulation</u>, paragraphs 040701, 041007 and 041106). Following payment to the GTCC issuer, any remaining expense reimbursement will be forwarded to the member's or civilian employee's pay activity for inclusion in the death claim payment. Similarly, all reimbursements for non-card holders will be forwarded to the appropriate pay activity for inclusion in the death claim payment.
- 6.6.3. <u>Claims for Dependents of Deceased Members</u>. Two copies of <u>DD Form 1300</u>, Report of Casualty, support travel performed under the provisions of the JTR, paragraph 032001.
- 6.6.3.1. If the claim is for travel to a member's home of record, as shown on DD 1300, no further documentation is required.
- 6.6.3.2. If the claim is for travel to the official residence of a relative, the claimant must furnish a statement to that effect showing the name and relationship of the person to whose residence they traveled.

6.6.4. Forward these claims to the following applicable address:

Army: DFAS Indianapolis

Systems Liaison and Procedures Division,

Military Pay

ATTN: DFAS-IN/JFLAKD

8899 East 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46249-0885 dfas.indianapolis-in.jfl.mbx.dfas-in-

systems@mail.mil

Navy: DFAS Cleveland

Federal Office Bldg. 1240 East 9th Street

Cleveland, OH 44199-2055

Air Force: Members last servicing

Financial Services Office (FSO)

U.S. Marine Corps: FO/DO responsible for the deceased Marine

#### 6.7 Travel Under Classified Orders

If classification of a TDY order is necessary, classify, mark, and handle the special order according to the applicable DoD Component security regulation.

6.7.1. <u>Statement Substitute</u>. The approving official may withdraw such orders and substitute the following certificate:

"I certify that the travel upon which allowances on this voucher are claimed was authorized by SECRET (or CONFIDENTIAL) travel orders issued on (date); the travel so ordered was performed; that where travel by private conveyance is involved, the official distance so covered is as stated on the claim; that where per diem is involved, the days and times of departure are as stated; that no Government quarters or meals were furnished except as stated thereon; the transportation mode and basis for reimbursement are correct; the time for which reimbursement is claimed was the minimum necessary; and I have shown or mailed to the paying disbursing official a copy of the travel orders upon which the voucher is based."

6.7.2. <u>Voucher Support</u>. Distribute classified orders only to persons who have the proper clearance and who require a copy of the order. An unclassified extract from a classified order may be used to support the payment voucher if it furnishes enough information. This permits filing an unclassified travel claim. For classified locations, the traveler must indicate in the itinerary of the travel claim the location by showing site 1, site 2, and so forth. The DO must pay the claim if they can apply the per diem rate. If, however, the disbursing official does not have knowledge of the location or the traveler insists on not showing the location, process the travel claim and documentation per Service instructions.

#### 6.8 Multiple Payment Procedures in Connection With Sea Trial Trips

When more than one traveler participates in sea trial trips at the same time, between the same points, and the same accounting data is chargeable, submit a travel claim on a DD 1351-6, Multiple Payments List, to cover the entire group. Enter the notation "See Attached" in the appropriate blocks for the claimant's name and the certifying official. A DD 1351-2 must support the claim.

#### 6.9 Navy Oceanographic Office

The disbursing office of the ship pays travel claims of civilian employees of the Navy Oceanographic Office for travel aboard survey ships if presented for payment before completion of travel. The disbursing office of the traveler's duty station pays travel claims filed after return to the traveler's duty station.

#### 6.10 U.S. Coast Guard

6.10.1. <u>U.S. Coast Guard Travel Using DoD Appropriations</u>. Coast Guard members who travel on orders citing DoD appropriations should file travel claims the same as active-duty DoD members using the procedures applicable at the disbursing office of the unit whose funds are involved. Disbursing offices will settle these vouchers like those of any other member. If any excess travel time is involved, then forward a copy of the settlement voucher to:

Commanding Officer (TVL)
U.S. Coast Guard Pay and Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

6.10.2. <u>U.S. Coast Guard Travel on Other Than DoD Appropriations</u>. When a Coast Guard member requests a travel advance or settlement payment on orders citing other than a DoD appropriation, the disbursing officer may provide payment and seek reimbursement from:

Commanding Officer U.S. Coast Guard Finance Center 1430A Kristina Way Chesapeake, VA 23326-1000

6.11 Travel and Living Allowance (T&LA) for International Military Students and Guest Instructors

International Military Students and Guest instructors who are paid T&LA, as defined in Chapter 10 of Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) Manual 5105.38-M, Security Assistance Management Manual, must submit travel claims along with copies of their travel orders/authorization and required receipts for reimbursement to the appropriate travel settlement office (see *DSCA Manual, Chapter 10, Section C10.13*).

#### 7.0 COLLECTIONS AND INDEBTEDNESS FOR CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

#### 7.1 Collections

The civilian employee is billed in writing with a demand for payment. If the civilian employee does not remit payment, the DO must initiate collection through salary deductions, set-off from final salary and allowances, lump-sum leave payment, the civilian employee's retirement account, or other amounts due the civilian employee IAW with controlling debt collection regulations.

#### 7.2 Uncollectible Cases

If the actions prescribed in paragraph 7.1 do not result in full reimbursement to the Government, forward a record of all collection efforts and transactions to the same office as for an agreement violation claim in Chapter 6, paragraph 11.4, except for delinquent indebtedness cases of former civilian employees of the Military Services. Forward debts for former civilian employees of the Military Services to:

DFAS-IN/Debt and Claims Department 3300 8899 East 56<sup>th</sup> Street Indianapolis, IN 46249-3300

### 8.0 ADVANCE DECISIONS, DOUBTFUL CLAIMS AND RECLAIM OR RECONSIDERATION REQUESTS

#### 8.1 Request for Advance Decision

A DoD DO or certifying officer may request an advance decision on any questionable claim presented for payment. Additionally, accountable officials and others with final responsibility for adjudicating claims may request an advance decision on doubtful claims (claims involving doubtful questions of law or fact) prior to preparation or presentment of a claim. The request must be prepared and submitted as required in Volume 5, Chapter 12. Submit the original request package and two copies to the DFAS Indianapolis office through the supporting DFAS site for the DoD Component that funds the travel order. An accountable officer desiring an advance decision on an issue involving the interpretation of the JTR must forward the request through the Per Diem Travel and Transportation Allowances Committee. Forward requests to the following addresses, as applicable:

Army, DFAS Indianapolis Marine Corps, ESS Travel Pay

Navy, and all ATTN: DFAS-IN/JJFKCE Befense Agencies 8899 East 56<sup>th</sup> Street

Indianapolis, IN 46249

Air Force Member's last servicing Financial Services Office (FSO)

- 8.1.1. <u>Amounts Over \$250</u>. The supporting DFAS site must review each request and contact the DO to resolve any questions. Requests for amounts over \$250 require advance decisions by the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals (DOHA) for Service members and the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals (CBCA) for DoD civilian employees. Forward all requests for advance decisions through the General Counsel of the requesting Component or the DFAS to the General Counsel, DoD, before referral to any authorized official outside the DoD (see Volume 5, Chapter 12, section 3.0).
- 8.1.2. <u>Amounts Under \$250</u>. If the advance decision request is for \$250 or less, the General Counsel, DoD, may refer the request to the General Counsel, DFAS. The General Counsel, DFAS must review the request and issue an advance decision (see <u>DoDI 1340.21</u>, Procedures for Settling Personnel and General Claims and Processing Advance Decision Requests, Enclosure 8, paragraph E8.5.3).

#### 8.2 Reconsideration Requests and Reclaims

When the travel office makes a decision concerning an allowance determination that the traveler disagrees with, that travel office must issue the traveler a written explanation and advise the traveler of the right to have the claim reconsidered. If the traveler does not accept the explanation of the DO, the DO must assist with the resubmission of the claim. To have a claim reconsidered (see exceptions in paragraph 8.4), send:

- 8.2.1. A copy of the claim;
- 8.2.2. A letter of explanation from the traveler;
- 8.2.3. An endorsement from the approving officer; and
- 8.2.4. A letter of position from the travel computation office, through the major Command, to the appropriate DFAS site. The DFAS site must respond to the DO or traveler. If the traveler does not accept the decision, the DFAS site may forward the claim as a reclaim or appeal to DOHA or the CBCA. A reclaim or appeal is forwarded because the claimant is unwilling to accept the decision, and not because the travel office or accountable official has doubts as to whether the claim should be paid. The travel office or accountable official forwards such claims through the appropriate DFAS site to DOHA for Service members and the CBCA for DoD civilian employees at the following addresses.

Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Claims Division PO Box 3656 Arlington, VA 22203-1995

Civilian Board of Contract Appeals ATTN: Clerk of the Board 1800 F Street, NW. Washington, DC 20405

#### 8.3 Waivers

Travelers or Components must submit waiver requests resulting from erroneous travel payments and transportation allowances to the DFAS Indianapolis site. See Volume 16, Chapter 4.

#### 8.4 Unions and Third-Party Review

When covered by a collective bargaining agreement, neither the Department, the Office of Personnel Management, the CBCA, nor the DOHA, has jurisdiction over the claimants claim unless the matter of travel claims is explicitly excluded from grievance under the collective bargaining agreement.

#### 9.0 CLAIM FOR LATE PAYMENT FEE

The Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998 (<u>Public Law 105-264</u>), governs the claim for late payment fees for late processing of a traveler's travel claim.

#### 9.1 Submission of Travel Claim

Travelers must submit a properly prepared travel claim to their supervisor/approving official within five working days after completion of travel. The disbursing office pays the travel claim within 30 calendar days after the claim is signed and dated as received by the supervisor/approving official. The supervisor/approving official or the travel computation office has seven calendar days to notify the traveler if the travel claim is not proper or complete for payment.

#### 9.2 Late Payment Fee and Charges

If the disbursing office does not pay a travel claim within 30 calendar days after it is received by the office with responsibility to approve the claim, that office may be required to pay a late payment fee. This fee is payable, using the Prompt Payment Act interest rate, beginning on the 31st day after the submission of a proper travel claim and ending on the date that the Government disburses the payment. The only exception is that no payments are required for amounts less than \$1.00. Interest payment funding instructions are located in Volume 10, Chapter 7, paragraph 2.9. In addition, the Government must pay the traveler an amount equal to any late payment charge that the card contractor would have been able to charge had the traveler not paid the bill. The IRS has determined that the late payment fee is reportable as interest and that the Government reports payment equal to the late payment charge as additional wages. In addition, travelers must be reimbursed for late fees imposed by the bank if the nonpayment that caused the late fee was a result of the Government's untimely processing of the travel claim. The bank does not assess late fees until 75 days following the billing statement.

#### 9.3 Systems Modifications

As necessary, modifications are made to DoD Component travel systems to capture the date of submission of a proper travel claim and compute entitlement for late payment fees due as a result of untimely settlements.

#### 9.4 Claims for Late Payment Fees

Payment of late fees must be calculated and paid at the time the claim is processed. Travelers who believe that late payment fees were not included in the calculation of their travel claim may submit supplemental travel claims for late payment fees. Claimants must submit each such supplemental travel claim through the office where the claim is reviewed/approved. That office must annotate the claim with the date of receipt of the original travel claim.

#### 9.5 Receipt of Travel Claim for Late Payment Fee

Upon receipt of a travel claim for a late payment fee, the travel computation office must review the claim. That office must calculate the number of elapsed calendar days beginning with the signature and date of receipt by the supervisor/approving official and the date the claim was paid. The date the supervisor/approving official receives the proper travel claim counts as the first day and the payment date of the travel claim counts as the last day. If the number of days exceeds 30 calendar days, the travel computation office multiplies the amount paid on the delayed travel claim by the daily Prompt Pay Act interest rate by the number of days in excess of 30 days. Pay the traveler by EFT, or check if the previous payment was by check. The disbursing office must use the accounting classification used for the original travel claim for the amount charged to the supplemental travel claim. When required, prepare an *IRS Form 1099-INT*, Interest Income, for the traveler IAW IRS regulations.

#### 9.6 Travel Claim Forwarded to Another Activity

If the traveler submits a travel claim and the travel computation office requires a review by another activity, such as for doubtful claims, the 30-day clock continues to run. If the travel computation office disallows a claim, the claimant earns no late payment fee. If the travel computation office allows part of the claim, that amount is subject to the late payment fee and that portion of the payment earns interest from the original submission date. Claims returned to the traveler for errors or incomplete travel claims do not earn interest. Start the 30-day clock when a corrected claim is submitted to the supervisor/approving official.



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REGULATION

**CHAPTER 9: "ARCHIVED"** 

### UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REGULATION

FORMS INDEX: "ARCHIVED"

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)

#### **VOLUME 9, "DEFINITIONS"**

#### **SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES**

Changes are identified in this table and also denoted by blue font.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an asterisk (\*) symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by **bold**, **italic**, **blue**, **and underlined font**.

The previous version dated September 2021 is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	<b>PURPOSE</b>
All	Verified and updated references, hyperlinks, and formatting to comply with current administrative instructions, and made clarifying editorial changes.	Revision
Common Carrier	Added to define the term, which is used throughout Volume 9.	Addition
Other Than Coach Class	Added to reflect Chapter 1 changes.	Addition
Premium Class	Deleted to reflect Chapter 1 changes.	Deletion
All	This instruction has been reviewed by the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) staff in accordance with Department of Defense Instruction 5154.31, Volume 5, dated October 16, 2015, as PDTATAC Case RR23006. Any conflict between this publication and the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) is resolved based on the JTR and not this publication.	Revision

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#### **DEFINITIONS**

#### 1.0 General

The following list defines general terms of significance or importance relating to travel pay entitlement policies for the DoD that are discussed in various chapters in Volume 9. This list of definitions provides general information. It is by no means an exhaustive list of all financial management terms. The standard dictionary definition shall apply to any terms not defined in this chapter, unless otherwise indicated. Authoritative guidance with more detailed explanations or nuances may be found in Volume 9 specific chapters.

#### 2.0. List of Definitions

#### Accountable Officials

Individuals appointed in writing to ensure the adequacy of system internal procedures, and serve as control points within an organization, focusing on minimizing opportunities for erroneous or improper payments.

#### Actual Expense Allowance

Payment of authorized actual expenses incurred, up to the limit prescribed by the Joint Travel Regulations (*JTR*), as appropriate. Entitlement to reimbursement is contingent on entitlement to per diem and is subject to the same definitions and rules governing per diem. See the JTR, Appendix A, and paragraph 020307.

#### **Actual Travel Time**

The travel time from physical departure to arrival at the traveler's temporary duty (TDY) location or permanent duty station (PDS).

#### Agency Program Coordinator (APC)

The individual who administers the Government travel card program and acts as the liaison between the travel card vendor and agency cardholders. APCs are responsible to the respective Department of Defense (DoD) Component Program Manager (CPM) for program execution and management at hierarchy levels determined by the DoD CPM.

#### Allowable Travel Time

The number of days allowed for official travel. See the JTR, paragraph 020302.

#### **Approve**

As defined in the JTR, Appendix A, the ratification or confirmation of a completed act. Its use, with respect to official travel, applies equally to military and civilian personnel.

#### **Approving Official**

Individuals who direct and approve/disapprove travel requests and vouchers prior to claim settlement. They ensure the necessity and justification for travel orders.

#### **Authorize**

As defined in the JTR, Appendix A, the term 'authorize' is defined as the giving of permission before an act. Its use, with respect to official travel, applies equally to military and civilian personnel.

#### **Authorized Travel Time**

The maximum allowable travel time, determined before travel begins, and based on the mode of travel authorized in the orders.

#### Authorizing Official (AO)

The designated representative to whom final authority to issue travel orders is delegated in writing by a DoD Component, by organizational title, and/or by name. He or she directs travel and is responsible for funding. This is the same as Authorizing/Order-Issuing Official.

#### Authorizing Official (AO) (Defense Travel System (DTS))

An individual appointed in writing that is responsible for authorizing travel and approving travel claims by determining the necessity of trips and funds availability, assigning the proper line of accounting (LOA) prior to authorization, and approving travel claims for validity after completion of travel. The AO is the individual who controls the mission, authorizes the trip, and controls funds for TDY travel.

#### Cardholder

The cardholder is the legal agent of the Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC). The cardholder holds primary liability for the card's proper use and payment.

#### Centrally Billed Accounts (CBA)

A card or account established by the travel card vendor at the request of a federal agency. Through a CBA, the travel card vendor bills the Government and payments are made directly to the travel card vendor by the federal agency responsible for the reconciliation of the account. CBA's are issued directly to the Government and the Government retains liability for the CBA's.

#### **Certifying Official**

An individual, designated in writing, who is responsible for the certification of travel vouchers for payment and the verification that payments made by the Government are legal, proper, and correct.

#### \*Common Carrier

A private sector supplier of air, rail, bus, ship, or other transportation system.

#### Component Program Manager (CPM)

The designated headquarters program manager for each agency using the General Services Administration (GSA) SmartPay contract. CPMs are responsible for establishing the hierarchies for their agency and distributing program management information from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, the Defense Travel Management Office, and the GSA.

#### Concurrent Travel

Travel under which the traveler is accompanied or immediately followed by the traveler's spouse and/or dependents.

#### Constructed Cost (Transportation)

The constructed cost is the sum of the authorized transportation type's ticket cost plus the TMC fee. See the JTR, paragraph 020210 and Appendix A, Policy Constructed Airfare entry for more information.

#### **Contiguous United States**

The 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia, which do not include Alaska (AK) and Hawaii (HI).

#### Continental United States (CONUS)

The 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia. This definition specifically excludes the states of AK and HI as they are not part of the contiguous states and are included in the definition of Non-Foreign, Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS) locations. See Title 37, United States Code, section 101 (37 U.S.C. § 101).

#### <u>Defense Travel System (DTS)</u>

An efficient, flexible system for electronically creating travel authorizations (travel orders), vouchers, and pre-audit documents and for completing the post-travel claims processes. DTS provides for paperless electronic routing, review, and approval of the travel and associated documentation.

#### **Dependent**

The term 'dependent' is defined in the JTR, Appendix A. Dependents of uniformed members can be acquired, command sponsored, or non-command sponsored.

#### Designated Place

See the JTR, Appendix A and Chapter 6, in reference to evacuation allowances.

#### **Digital Signature**

An electronic equivalent of a written signature. A digital signature can be used in proving to the recipient or a third party that a document or message was, in fact, signed by the originator.

#### Directed

An order to do something in a specific way.

#### **Disbursing Office**

An activity, or that organizational unit of an activity, whose principal function consists of the disbursement and collection of official funds for the Government.

#### Dislocation Allowance (DLA)

An allowance paid to military members to partially reimburse them for expenses incurred in relocating their households. See the JTR, section 0505.

#### Foreign Area

Any area or country outside the 50 states of the United States, District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and U.S. territories and possessions.

#### Funeral Honors Detail

A group of individuals not employed by the Government who participate in a funeral honors detail for a veteran and may be authorized transportation or transportation reimbursement, and expenses. See <u>10 U.S.C. § 1491</u>.

#### Government Bill of Lading

A Government document used for the procurement of commercial transportation (moving) services.

#### Government Constructed Cost (GCC)

The "Best Value" cost the Government would have paid for Government procured household goods (HHG) transportation.

#### Government Dining Facility or Government Mess

A Government-owned facility, funded by appropriated funds. See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC)

A charge card used by authorized individuals to pay for official travel and transportation related expenses for which the card contractor bills the Government (CBA) or individual (Individually Billed Account (IBA)). See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### Household Goods (HHG)

Items associated with the home and all personal effects belonging to a member/employee and dependents on the member's order effective date/employee's effective date of transfer/appointment that legally may be accepted and transported by an authorized commercial transporter. See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### **Individually Billed Account (IBA)**

A GTCC account issued to a traveler to pay for official travel and transportation expenses. The traveler is liable for the use and payment of the account. See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### Invitational Travel Authorization (ITA)

A term applied to the authorized travel of individuals who are: not employed by the Government; employed intermittently by the Government under <u>5 U.S.C. § 5703</u> as consultants or experts and paid on a daily basis (when actually employed); or serving without pay or at \$1 a year, or a volunteer covered by <u>10 U.S.C. § 1588</u>. ITAs are not authorized for individuals merely to attend a meeting or conference, even if hosted by a DoD Component on a matter related to the Component's official business. The traveler must be an actual "participant" in the proceedings of the gathering, and not there only for attendance. See the JTR, Chapter 3, section 0305.

#### Joint Travel Regulations (JTR)

The travel regulations that prescribe travel and transportation allowances authorized for members of the Uniformed Services, DoD civilian employees, and their dependents. The JTR is the Department's implementing guidance for the Federal Travel Regulation (*FTR*), issued by the GSA.

#### Line of Accounting (LOA)

A data structure representing a DoD account that may be used to track travel funding (i.e., transportation, per diem, meals, and incidental expenses) associated with an organization's budget and to ensure accurate accounting transactions.

#### Meals and Incidental Expenses (M&IE)

The term 'Meals and Incidental Expenses' is defined in the JTR, Appendix A, under Per Diem Allowance.

#### Non-Concurrent Travel

Travel under which the traveler is not accompanied or immediately followed by the traveler's spouse and/or dependents.

#### Non-Foreign Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS) Area

The states of AK and HI; the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands; Guam; the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. territories, and possessions (excluding the former Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, which are foreign areas for JTR purposes.) See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### Object Classification

A code that classifies transactions according to the nature of the travel services performed rather than their purpose.

#### Open Travel Authorization

A written document issued or approved by an AO for the purpose of performing official Government travel for a continuous period of time. Also commonly known as a "blanket" or "repeated" travel authorization. See the JTR, Appendix A, definition of "Order."

#### \*Other Than Coach Class (OTCC)

OTCC common carrier accommodations are first class, business class and premium economy class. See the FTR, § 300-3.1 for more information.

#### Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS)

The area outside of the 48 states of the United States and the District of Columbia. See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### Payment Review Official

An individual who conducts random pre-payment or post-payment reviews in accordance with Volume 5, Chapter 5.

#### Permanent Change of Station (PCS)

The term 'Permanent Change of Station' is defined in the JTR, Appendix A.

#### Permanent Duty Station (PDS)

The term 'Permanent Duty Station' is defined in the JTR, Appendix A. It is also referred to as "official station."

#### Permissive/Administrative Travel Time

An authorized administrative absence not chargeable to leave and for which per diem and transportation allowances are not payable.

#### Personally-Procured Household Goods (HHG) Transportation

The transport and/or storage (Storage-in-Transit and/or Non-Temporary Storage) of HHG arranged by a member/employee and/or the member's/employee's agent.

#### Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) for Transporting People

Any transportation mode actually used for the movement of persons from place to place, other than a Government conveyance or common carrier. Included is a vehicle loaned for a charge to, or rented at personal expense by the Service member or civilian employee for transportation on PCS or TDY travel, when such rental has not been authorized or approved IAW the JTR, paragraph 020209. A common carrier or a Government owned, chartered or leased vehicle is not a POV.

#### Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) for Shipment

Any motor vehicle owned by or leased (12 or more months) to a member/employee or dependents for the primary purpose of providing personal transportation. The vehicle must be self-propelled, licensed to travel on the public highways, designed to carry passengers or HHG; and must have four or more wheels. See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### **Proportional Meal Rate**

The average of the standard Government meal rate and the meals portion of the applicable M&IE rate, rounded up to the nearest dollar. See the JTR, Appendix A. This meal rate is used as prescribed in the JTR, Chapter 2, Table 2-17.

#### Receipt

A legibly written/printed/electronic document (or facsimile thereof) provided by a service provider or vendor to a customer, which provides documentary evidence that the service provider or vendor has been paid for services or goods, provided to the customer. To be considered valid, a receipt must contain the name of the entity providing the good(s)/service, the date(s) that the good(s)/service was/were provided/purchased, the price of the good(s)/service, any tax levied, the total monetary amount due, and must indicate that the total monetary amount due was paid.

#### Relocation Income Tax Allowance (RITA)

Reimburses an eligible transferred employee for the additional Federal, State, and local income taxes incurred by the employee (or by an employee and spouse if a joint tax return is filed) as a result of reimbursement, or payment, of certain travel and transportation expenses and relocation allowances that are not excludible from gross income for Federal income tax purposes. See the JTR, paragraph 053611, and the FTR, § 302-17. A domestic partner is not a spouse and the employee cannot be reimbursed for additional Federal, State, and local income taxes incurred by the employee's domestic partner if a joint tax return is filed.

#### Safe Haven

A designated area to which an employee and dependents and/or military dependents are ordered or authorized to evacuate. See the JTR, Chapter 6.

#### **SmartPay**

A GSA program that provides users with card-based tools to simplify procuring needs in three operational areas. The fleet card allows users to efficiently fuel and maintain vehicles, boats, planes, or equipment. The travel card allows users to purchase common carrier transportation, car rentals, lodging, and meals for official travel and travel-related expenses. The purchase card enables users to purchase goods and services to satisfy official business needs.

#### Split Disbursement

Divides a travel voucher reimbursement between the GTCC vendor and the traveler. Specifically, it is a payment option whereby the traveler can designate a specified amount of his or her travel entitlement be sent directly to the SmartPay travel card vendor to pay down his or her account balance, and the remainder of the entitlement sent to his or her personal direct deposit account.

#### Supervisor Review

A review conducted by a person who has supervisory responsibilities over the person whom he or she directs to travel. The supervisor has knowledge of the basis for the travel claim. The supervisor reviews the travel claim to ensure that it is valid and accurate. He or she signs and dates the travel claim prior to submitting it to the proper travel computation office.

#### Temporary Change of Station (TCS)

The relocation of an employee to a new PDS for a temporary period to perform a long-term temporary assignment, and subsequent return of the employee to the previous PDS upon completion of that assignment. See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### Temporary Duty (TDY)

Duty at one or more locations, away from the PDS, under an order providing for further assignment, or pending further assignment, to return to the old PDS or to proceed to a new PDS. For the purposes of Volume 9, temporary duty includes temporary additional duty (TAD) for those DoD Components that use TAD. See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### Temporary Lodging Expense (TLE)

An allowance intended to partially pay members for lodging/meal expenses incurred by a member/dependent(s) while occupying temporary lodging in CONUS in connection with a PCS. See the JTR, section 0506.

#### Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense (TQSE)

A discretionary allowance, that is intended to partially reimburse employees for reasonable subsistence expenses to pay for lodging, food, and other necessities incurred when they and/or their dependents must occupy temporary quarters due to a PCS to a new PDS in the CONUS or non-foreign OCONUS. See the JTR, section 0542.

#### Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense-Actual Expense Reimbursement (TQSE(AE))

An allowance based on the standard CONUS per diem rate for temporary lodging occupied in CONUS localities; or the PDS locality per diem rate for temporary lodging occupied in OCONUS localities. The rates may be found at: *Per Diem Rates*. See the JTR, paragraph 054206.

#### Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense-Lump Sum Reimbursement (TQSE(LS))

A fixed amount payment based on the PDS location's maximum per diem that is in effect on the date that the fixed offer was accepted. Apply the per diem for the season in which the employee travels that is in effect on the day the employee accepts the fixed rate offer (e.g., offer accepted in November for travel the following June - uses the per diem rate in effect for the following June). (*CBCA 2189-RELO*, September 12, 2011). See the JTR, paragraph 054208.

#### Transportation Officer (TO)

A person appointed or designated by the commander of a DoD activity to perform traffic management functions. This person may also be designated as "installation TO," "traffic manager," "traffic management officer," or "passenger TO."

#### Travel Authorization (Also referred to as a Travel Order)

A written or electronic instrument issued or approved by a person(s) to whom authority has been delegated, that directs an individual or group of individuals to travel.

#### Traveler

A military member(s)/dependent(s), DoD civilian employee(s)/dependent(s), and invitational traveler(s) who travel in an official capacity.

#### Travel Management Company (TMC)

A commercial activity providing a full range of commercial travel and ticketing services for official travel under a contract with the Government. This was formerly referred to as a Commercial Travel Office (CTO).

#### Travel Status

The Service member's/civilian employee's status for the elapsed period of time from the beginning to the end of official travel in compliance with the authority in an order, including time en route awaiting transportation connections and delays en route beyond the traveler's control. See the JTR, Appendix A.

#### U.S. Installation

As defined in the JTR, Appendix A, a base, post, yard, camp, or station under the local command of a uniformed service, with permanent or semi-permanent-type troop shelters and a Government Dining Facility/Mess, and at which there are U.S. Government operations. This includes only that area actually occupied by those operations (plus the minimum surrounding area necessary for close-in security) and excludes contracted hotels not contained on and operated by the Installation.

#### Withholding Tax Allowance (WTA)

An estimated partial payment that acts as an advance on the final RITA payment.

#### Year One (RITA)

The calendar year in which the WTA payment is made to a civilian employee.

#### Year Two (RITA)

The calendar year in which the RITA payment is made to a civilian employee.