



FACT SHEET

Permanent Change of Duty Station

Last Reviewed: July 28, 2015

Background

There are many expenses and issues to consider when contemplating a permanent change of duty station (PCS). Fortunately, a number of the associated expenses are covered for active duty PHS Officers. This fact sheet provides a summary of the most common rates and allowances. More detail may be found through the resources listed at the end of this fact sheet.

Eligibility

Permanent change of station refers to the assignment, detail, or transfer of an officer to a different permanent duty station (PDS) through an order that does not specify the duty as temporary, provide for further assignment to a new PDS, or direct return to the old PDS. Depending on your agency/operational division (OPDIV), your move may be coordinated by an agency shipping officer, your local transportation office, Prudential Relocation, or a local military base.

Highlights

Rates and allowances vary based on whether a move is within the continental U.S. (CONUS) or outside the continental U.S. (OCONUS). Some highlights are summarized in the table below.

Rate or Allowance	Description	CONUS	OCONUS
Dislocation Allowance (DLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helps cover relocation expenses May be advanced before a move Rates change annually, vary by rank and whether an officer has dependents www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/otherratesDLA.cfm for current rates 	yes	yes
Temporary Lodging Expense (TLE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helps cover lodging and meal expenses when officer/dependents occupy temporary lodging in CONUS and per diem not payable TLE reimbursement is based on the per diem rate of the PDS location Current maximum received by family is \$290 per day 	Up to 10 days	Up to 5 days (traveling from CONUS to OCONUS)
Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helps cover more than normal lodging and meal expenses OCONUS before permanent housing is available Per diem based on the assigned duty station Usually limited to 60 days after OCONUS arrival and 10 days before departure 	NA	yes
Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA)	In addition to a housing allowance, OHA provides a one-time move-in housing allowance based on average "move-in" costs.	NA	yes
Per Diem Allowance (Plus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily payment for each travel day between authorized points, up to the official number of travel days authorized Per Diem allowance is paid instead of reimbursement for actual expenses for lodging, meals, and incidental expenses Travel by privately-owned conveyance (POC): per diem for officer is the flat standard CONUS rate, currently \$129 Travel by commercial means: per diem for officer is at the 'Lodgings-Plus' rate for the new PDS or the rate for the delay point if an overnight stop is required; per diem for dependent is a percentage of the officer's applicable rate – 75% for each dependent age 12 or older, and 50% for each dependent under age 12 	yes	yes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependents' rate varies by age and whether traveling with officer • 80% of the total Per Diem (including dependents) may be advanced before a move 		
Monetary Allowance in Lieu of Transportation (MALT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CONUS: Officer is paid a monetary allowance in lieu of transportation (MALT) for the authorized use of a POC during official PCS travel, currently at \$0.23 per mile, based upon the official distance between the old and new duty station. Officers can locate the official distance as calculated for their PCS travel on their transfer orders (orders will be in their eOPF). Members with dependents are authorized reimbursement for travel in two cars within CONUS. • Up to 80% of the total allowance may be advanced before a move 	yes	yes
Transport of Privately Owned Vehicle (POV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CONUS: May be authorized if officer is medically unable to drive, does not have time to drive, or other limited circumstances. Suggested to arrange well in advance because of potential need to submit medical documentation to justify. • OCONUS: May authorize transportation for one POV to, from, or between OCONUS stations. The officer is authorized storage of a POV when ordered to an OCONUS PDS to which a POV isn't permitted to be transported. 	Occasionally	Usually
Shipment of Household Goods (HHG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CONUS: Authorized weight varies by grade & dependency status. Range: 5,000 pounds (E-1 without dependents) to 18,000 pounds (O-6 or above) • OCONUS: If government furniture provided, generally authorized 2,500 pounds or 25% of HHG weight allowance, plus unaccompanied baggage, non-available furniture items, professional books, papers, and medical equipment. If not, the shipper may have restrictions beyond those allowed for CONUS destinations. • Some officers may prefer personally procured over government procured transportation. This may be cost saving, but officer must fully understand responsibilities as outlined in the resource documents. 	yes	yes
Storage of Household Goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorized up to 90 days of "storage in-transit" for authorized HHG when necessitated by a PCS • Extensions may be granted in certain circumstances • OCONUS moves may be authorized non-temporary storage 	yes	yes

Resources

- ▶ <http://dcp.psc.gov/CCMIS/Travel/relocate.aspx> - General information about PCS from the Commissioned Corps website
- ▶ <http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/faqpcs.cfm> - FAQ on PCS from DoD Center for travel excellence
- ▶ http://www.transcom.mil/dtr/part-iv/dtr_part_iv_app_k_1.pdf - Defense Transportation Regulation: information on moving for Armed Forces
- ▶ <http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/travelreg.cfm> - The Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) are the final authority on rates and policies relating to all travel (including PCS travel) for the Uniformed Services and civilians.

Note: Feedback and suggestions for this fact sheet are welcome and may be sent to PPACBenefitsSC@gmail.com. While we do not respond to emails, we do read them and will consider all comments received.

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