§ 301–11.11 How do I select lodging and make lodging reservations?

(a) You must make your lodging reservations through your agency’s travel management service.

(b) You should always stay in a “fire safe” facility. This is a facility that meets the fire safety requirements of the Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990 (the Act), as amended (see 5 U.S.C. 5707a).

(c) When selecting a commercial lodging facility, first consideration should be given to government lodging agreement programs such as FedRooms® (http://www.fedrooms.com). The advantages of obtaining lodging using the FedRooms® program are:

1. Lodging rates are set at or below per diem rates;
2. There are no add-on fees;
3. The room cancellation deadline is 4 p.m. (or later) on the day of arrival;
4. Most hotels offer last standard room availability rates;
5. There are no early departure fees; and

§ 301–11.7 What determines my maximum per diem reimbursement rate?

Your TDY location determines your maximum per diem reimbursement rate. If you arrive at your lodging facility after 12 midnight, you claim lodging cost for the preceding calendar day. If no lodging is required, the applicable M&IE reimbursement rate is the rate for the TDY location. (See § 301–11.102.)

§ 301–11.8 What is the maximum per diem rate I will receive if lodging is not available at my TDY location?

If lodging is not available at your TDY location, your agency may authorize or approve the maximum per diem rate for the location where lodging is obtained.

§ 301–11.9 When does per diem or actual expense entitlement start/stop?

Your per diem or actual expense entitlement starts on the day you depart your home, office, or other authorized point and ends on the day you return to your home, office or other authorized point.

§ 301–11.10 Am I required to record departure/arrival dates and times on my travel claim?

You must record the date of departure from, and arrival at, the official station or any other place travel begins or ends. You must show this same information for points where you perform TDY or for a stopover or official rest stop location when the arrival or departure affects your per diem allowance or other travel expenses. You also should show the dates for other points visited. You do not have to record departure/arrival times, but you must annotate your travel claim when your travel is more than 12 hours but not exceeding 24 hours to reflect that fact.