

## SUBCHAPTER B—RELOCATION ALLOWANCES

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 5738; 20 U.S.C. 905(a).

## § 302-3.1

SOURCE: FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—New Appointee

NOTE TO SUBPART A: Use of pronouns “I”, “you”, and their variants throughout this subpart refers to the employee, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 302-3.1 Who is a new appointee?

A new appointee is:

(a) An individual who is employed with the Federal Government for the very first time (including an individual who has performed transition activities under section 3 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note), and is appointed in the same fiscal year as the Presidential inauguration);

(b) An employee who is returning to the Government after a break in service (except an employee separated as a result of reduction in force or transfer

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of functions and is re-employed within one year after such action); or

(c) A student trainee assigned to the Government upon completion of that student trainee’s college work.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

#### § 302-3.2 As a new appointee or student trainee what relocation expenses may my agency pay or reimburse me for incident to an assignment to my first official station?

As a new appointee or student trainee assigned to your first official station, your agency may pay or reimburse you the relocation expenses indicated for the type of assignment in Tables A and B of this section. However, once the decision is made to pay or reimburse your relocation expenses, all mandatory relocation allowances are reimbursed, unless otherwise stated in the applicable parts of this chapter.

TABLE A—ASSIGNED TO FIRST OFFICIAL STATION IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (CONUS)

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
1. Transportation of employee & immediate family member(s) (part 302-4 of this chapter).	1. Shipment of privately owned vehicle (POV) (part 302-9 of this chapter).
2. Per diem for employee only (part 302-4 of this chapter) .....	2. Use of a relocation services company (part 302-12 of this chapter).
3. Transportation & temporary storage of household goods (part 302-7 of this chapter).	
4. Extended storage of household goods (part 302-8 of this chapter) <sup>1</sup> .	
5. Transportation of a mobile home or boat used as a primary residence in lieu of the transportation of household goods (part 302-10 of this chapter).	
6. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302-17 of this chapter).	

<sup>1</sup> **Note to Column 1, Item 4:** Only when assigned to a designated isolated official station in CONUS.

TABLE B—ASSIGNED TO FIRST OFFICIAL STATION OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (OCONUS)

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
1. Transportation of employee & immediate family member(s) (part 302-4 of this chapter).	1. Shipment of privately owned vehicle (POV) (part 302-9 of this chapter).
2. Per diem employee only (part 302-4 of this chapter) .....	2. Temporary quarters subsistence expense (TQSE) is not authorized in a foreign area; however, you may be entitled to the following under the Department of State Standardized Regulations (Government Civilians-Foreign Areas) which is available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, DC 20402.
	(a) Foreign Transfer Allowance (FTA) (Subsistence Expense) for quarters occupied temporarily before departure from the 50 states or the District of Columbia for an official station in a foreign area incident to a permanent change of station and travel to first official station overseas.
	(b) Temporary quarters subsistence allowance (TQSA) when a transfer is authorized to a foreign area.

## Relocation Allowances

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TABLE B—ASSIGNED TO FIRST OFFICIAL STATION OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (OCONUS)—Continued

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
3. Transportation & temporary storage of household goods (part 302-7 of this chapter). 4. Extended storage of household goods (part 302-8 of this chapter). 5. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302-17 of this chapter).	(c) The miscellaneous expense portion of the FTA is authorized incident to first official station travel to a foreign area. 3. Use of a relocation services company (part 302-12 of this chapter).

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57968, Sept. 13, 2002; 86 FR 73681, Dec. 28, 2021]

### § 302-3.3 As a new appointee, are there any expenses that my agency will not pay?

Yes, as a new employee, your agency will not pay for expenses that are not listed in § 302-3.2 (e.g., per diem for family, cost of househunting trip, miscellaneous expense allowance, etc.).

### § 302-3.4 If my agency authorizes me allowances for relocation, must it pay all of the expenses listed in § 302-3.2?

Yes, if your agency authorizes you allowances for relocation, it must pay all of the expenses listed in § 302-3.2.

### § 302-3.5 If I travel to my first official station before I have been appointed, will I be reimbursed for my relocation expenses?

Generally, you may not be reimbursed for relocation expenses incurred before you have been appointed to a Federal position and signed an agreement to remain in Government service for 12 months after appointment. However there is an exception for appointees who have performed Presidential transition activities. Such appointees may be reimbursed allowable travel and transportation expenses incurred at any time following the most recent Presidential election once they have signed a service agreement. How-

ever, appointment must occur in the same fiscal year as the Presidential transition activities.

## Subpart B—Transferred Employees and Other Relocated Employees

### § 302-3.100 What is a transferred employee?

A transferred employee is an employee who transfers from one official station to another. This may also include employees separated as a result of reduction in force or transfer of functions who are re-employed within one year after such separation.

### § 302-3.101 As a transferred employee or other relocated employee what relocation allowances must my agency pay or reimburse to me?

As a transferred employee or other relocated employee there are mandatory and discretionary relocation expenses. Once an agency decision is made to pay or reimburse relocation expenses indicated for the type of relocation in tables (A) through (I) of this section, all the mandatory allowance must be paid or reimbursed, unless otherwise stated in the applicable parts. The discretionary relocation allowances indicated in tables (A) through (I) of this section may or may not be paid by the agency.

TABLE A—TRANSFER BETWEEN OFFICIAL STATIONS IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (CONUS)

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
1. Transportation & per diem for employee & immediate family member(s) (part 302-4 of this chapter). 2. Miscellaneous moving expense (part 302-16 of this chapter)	1. Househunting per diem & transportation, employee & spouse only (part 302-5 of this chapter). 2. Temporary quarters subsistence expense (TQSE) (part 302-6 of this chapter).

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TABLE A—TRANSFER BETWEEN OFFICIAL STATIONS IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES  
(CONUS)—Continued

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
3. Sell or buy residence transactions or lease termination expenses (part 302–11 of this chapter).	3. Shipment of privately owned vehicle (POV) (part 302–9 of this chapter).
4. Transportation & temporary storage of household goods (part 302–7 of this chapter).	4. Use of a relocation services company (part 302–12 of this chapter).
5. Extended storage of household goods (part 302–8 of this chapter) <sup>1</sup> .	5. Property management services (part 302–15 of this chapter).
6. Transportation of a mobile home or boat used as a primary residence in lieu of the transportation of household goods (part 302–10 of this chapter) <sup>2</sup> .	6. Home marketing incentives (part 302–14 of this chapter).
7. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302–17 of this chapter).	

<sup>2</sup> **Note to Column 1, item 6:** Mobile homes may be shipped within CONUS, within Alaska, and through Canada en route between Alaska and CONUS or through Canada between one CONUS point and another (e.g., between Buffalo, NY, and Detroit, MI).

TABLE B—TRANSFER FROM CONUS TO AN OFFICIAL STATION OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (OCONUS)

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
1. Transportation & per diem for employee & immediate family member(s) (part 302–4 of this chapter).	1. Temporary quarters subsistence expense (TQSE) when transfer is to a non-foreign area. In foreign areas you may be entitled to the following under the Department of State Standardized Regulations (DSSR) (Government Civilian- Foreign Areas): (a) A Foreign Transfer Allowance (FTA) for quarters occupied temporarily before departure from the 50 states or the District of Columbia for an official station in a foreign area incident to a permanent change of station and travel to first official station overseas. (b) Temporary quarters subsistence allowance (TQSA).
2. Miscellaneous expense allowance (part 302–16 of this chapter).	2. Property management services (part 302–15 of this chapter).
3. Transportation & temporary storage of household goods (part 302–7 this chapter).	3. Shipment of a privately owned vehicle (part 302–9 of this chapter).
4. Extended storage of household goods (part 302–8 of this chapter).	4. Use of a relocation services company (part 302–12 of this chapter).
5. Sell & buy residence transaction expenses or lease termination expenses when transfer is to a non-foreign area (part 302–11 of this chapter).	5. Home marketing incentives when transfer is to a non-foreign area (part 302–14 of this chapter).
6. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302–17 of this chapter).	6. Househunting per diem & transportation, employee & spouse only when transfer is to a non-foreign area (part 302–5 of this chapter).

TABLE C—TRANSFER FROM OCONUS OFFICIAL STATION TO AN OFFICIAL STATION IN CONUS

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
1. Transportation & per diem for employee & immediate family member(s) (part 302–4 of this chapter).	1. Shipment of a privately owned vehicle (part 302–9 of this chapter).
2. Miscellaneous expense allowance (part 302–16 of this chapter).	2. Temporary quarters subsistence expense (TQSE) (part 302–6 of this chapter). <sup>2</sup>
3. Sell & buy residence transaction expenses or lease termination expenses (part 302–11 of this chapter) <sup>1</sup> .	3. Use of a relocation services company (part 302–12 of this chapter).
4. Transportation & temporary storage of household goods (part 302–7 of this chapter).	4. Home marketing incentives when transfer is from a non-foreign area (part 302–14 of this chapter).
5. Extended storage of household goods only when assigned to a designated isolated official station in CONUS (part 302–8 of this chapter).	
6. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302–17 of this chapter).	

<sup>1</sup> **Note to Column 1, Item 3:** Allowed when old and new official stations are located in the United States. Also allowed when instead of being returned to the former official station in the United States, an employee is transferred in the interest of the Government to a different official station in the United States than the official station from which transferred when assigned to the foreign official station.

## Relocation Allowances

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<sup>2</sup>**Note to Column 2, Item 2:** A TQSA under the DSSR may be authorized preceding final departure subsequent to the necessary vacating of residence quarters.

TABLE D—TRANSFER BETWEEN OCONUS OFFICIAL STATIONS

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transportation &amp; per diem for employee &amp; immediate family member(s) (part 302-4 of this chapter).</li> <li>2. Transportation &amp; temporary storage of household goods (part 302-7 of this chapter).</li> <li>3. Miscellaneous expense allowance (part 302-16 of this chapter).</li> <li>4. Extended storage of household goods (part 302-8 of this chapter).</li> <li>5. Sell &amp; buy residence transaction expenses or lease termination expenses when transfer is between non-foreign areas (part 302-11 of this chapter).</li> <li>6. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302-17 of this chapter).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shipment of a privately owned vehicle (POV) (part 302-9 of this chapter).</li> <li>2. Property management services (part 302-15 of this chapter).</li> <li>3. Househunting per diem &amp; transportation for employee &amp; spouse only when transfer is between non-foreign areas (part 302-5 of this chapter).</li> <li>4. Temporary quarters subsistence expense (TQSE) when transfer is to or between non-foreign areas (part 302-6 of this chapter).<sup>1</sup></li> <li>5. Use of a relocation services company (part 302-12 of this chapter).</li> <li>6. Home marketing incentives when transfer is between non-foreign areas (part 302-14 of this chapter).</li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup>**Note to Column 2, item 4:** TQSA may be authorized under the DSSR.

TABLE E—TOUR RENEWAL AGREEMENT TRAVEL

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transportation for employee &amp; immediate family member(s) (part 302-4 of this chapter).</li> <li>2. Per diem for employee only (part 302-4 of this chapter).</li> </ol>	

TABLE F—RETURN FROM OCONUS OFFICIAL STATION TO PLACE OF ACTUAL RESIDENCE FOR SEPARATION

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transportation for employee &amp; immediate family member(s) (part 302-4 of this chapter).</li> <li>2. Per diem for employee only (part 302-4 of this chapter) .....</li> <li>3. Transportation &amp; temporary storage of household goods (part 302-7 of this chapter).</li> <li>4. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302-17 of this chapter).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shipment of a privately owned vehicle (POV) (part 302-9 of this chapter).</li> <li>2. Use of a relocation services company (part 302-12 of this chapter).</li> </ol>

**Note to Table F:** This table also applies to an employee returning to the CONUS to transfer to a new duty station after completing a tour of duty OCONUS if relocation expenses have not been authorized to the new duty station. In that case, and unless otherwise agreed to, the employee is only eligible for return expenses from the OCONUS duty station to the employee's actual residence, payable by the losing agency.

TABLE G—LAST MOVE HOME FOR SES CAREER APPOINTEES UPON SEPARATION FROM GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transportation for employee &amp; immediate family member(s) (part 302-4 of this chapter).</li> <li>2. Per diem for employee only (part 302-4 of this chapter) .....</li> <li>3. Transportation &amp; temporary storage of household goods (part 302-7 of this chapter).</li> <li>4. Transportation of a mobile home or boat used as a primary residence in lieu of the transportation of household goods (part 302-10 of this chapter).</li> <li>5. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302-17 of this chapter).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shipment of privately owned vehicle (POV) (part 302-9, subpart B of this chapter).</li> <li>2. Use of a relocation services company (part 302-12 of this chapter).</li> </ol>

TABLE H—TEMPORARY CHANGE OF STATION (TCS)

Column 1—Relocation allowances that agency must pay or reimburse	Column 2—Relocation allowances that agency has discretionary authority to pay or reimburse
1. Transportation & per diem for employee & immediate family member(s) (part 302–4 of this chapter). 2. Miscellaneous expense allowance (part 302–16 of this chapter). 3. Transportation & temporary or extended storage of household goods (parts 302–7 and 302–8 of this chapter). 4. Transportation of a mobile home or boat used as a primary residence in lieu of the transportation of household goods (part 302–10 of this chapter). 5. Transportation of a privately owned vehicle (POV)(part 302–9 of this chapter). 6. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302–17 of this chapter).	1. Househunting trip expenses (part 302–5 of this chapter). 2. Temporary quarters subsistence expense (TQSE) (part 302–6 of this chapter). 3. Storage of one privately owned vehicle (POV) when assigned in support of a contingency operation as defined in 10 U.S.C. 1482a (c)(2) (part 302–9 of this chapter). 4. Property management services (part 302–15 of this chapter).

TABLE I—ASSIGNMENT UNDER THE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES TRAINING ACT

[5 U.S.C. 4109]<sup>1</sup>

1. Transportation of employee & immediate family member(s) (part 302–4 of this chapter).
2. Per Diem for employee (part 302–4 of this chapter).
3. Movement of household goods & temporary storage (part 302–7 of this chapter).
4. Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) (part 302–17 of this chapter).

<sup>1</sup> **Note to Table I:** The allowances listed in Table I may be authorized in lieu of per diem or actual expense allowances. This is not considered a permanent change of station.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001; 67 FR 7219, Feb. 15, 2002, as amended by FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57969, Sept. 13, 2002; 67 FR 65321, Oct. 24, 2002; FTR Amdt. 2011–06, 76 FR 71889, Nov. 21, 2011; 86 FR 73681, Dec. 28, 2021]

### Subpart C—Types of Transfers

#### RELOCATION OF TWO OR MORE EMPLOYED IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS

##### **§ 302–3.200 When a member of my immediate family who is also an employee and I are transferring to the same official station, may we both receive allowances for relocation?**

Yes, if you and an immediate family member(s) are both employees and are transferring to the same official station in the interest of the Government, the allowances under this chapter apply either to;

(a) Each employee separately and the other is not eligible as an immediate family member(s); or

(b) Only one of the employees considered as head of the household and the other is eligible as an immediate family member(s) on the first employee's TA.

##### **§ 302–3.201 If my immediate family member and I both transfer to the same official station in the interest of the Government, may we both claim the same relocation expenses?**

No, when separate allowances are authorized under this § 302–3.201, the employing agency or agencies shall not make duplicate reimbursement for the same claimed expenses.

##### **§ 302–3.202 If my immediate family member and I both transfer to the same official station, may we both claim the same relocation allowances for the same non-employee family member?**

No, when both you and your immediate family member transfer in the interest of the Government, you must provide your agency with the name(s) of non-employee family member(s) who will receive allowances under each of your TA. Only one of you may claim allowances for a non-employee member(s) of your immediate family (non-employee members may only be on one TA).



## Relocation Allowances

## § 302-3.211

### **§ 302-3.203 If I am transferring in the interest of the Government and my employed immediate family member(s) transfer is not in the interest of the Government, will those immediate family member(s) receive relocation allowances?**

Yes, your employed immediate family member(s) whose transfer is not in the interest of the Government will receive relocation allowances, but solely as a member of your immediate family.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

### **§ 302-3.204 When an employed immediate family member and I are transferring in the interest of the Government, what information must we submit to our agency?**

When you and an employed immediate family member are transferring in the interest of the Government, you both must provide:

(a) A signed document stating which method of authorization you select (separate or one single authorization); and

(b) Your agency with a written and signed copy of the names of which non-employee member(s) will receive allowances under your TA; if you select to receive separate TAs.

## REDUCTION IN FORCE RELOCATION

### **§ 302-3.205 If my transfer is involuntary (due to *i.e.*, reduction in force, cessation, or transfer of work), is it considered to be in the interest of the Government?**

Yes, an involuntary transfer (*i.e.*, due to reduction in force, cessation, or transfer of work) is considered to be in the interest of the Government.

### **§ 302-3.206 If I am re-employed after a separation by reduction in force or transfer of functions, may my agency pay me a relocation allowance?**

Yes, if you are re-employed after a separation by reduction in force or transfer of function, your agency may pay you a relocation allowance under the conditions of this chapter if:

(a) You are employed within one year of your involuntary separation date;

(b) Your new appointment is not temporary; and

(c) Your new appointment is at a different duty station from where your separation occurred and meets the mileage criteria in §302-2.6 of this chapter for short distance relocation.

## OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT AND RETURN

### **§ 302-3.207 Am I eligible to receive relocation allowances for overseas assignment and return travel?**

You may be eligible to receive relocation allowances for overseas assignment and return travel if you are:

(a) An employee transferring to, from, or between official stations OCONUS; or

(b) A new appointee to a position OCONUS and at the time of your appointment your residence is in an area other than your post of duty.

### **§ 302-3.208 What relocation expenses will my agency pay for my overseas assignment and return?**

To determine what relocation expenses your agency will pay for your overseas assignment and return, see:

(a) Section 302-3.2 if you are a new appointee; or

(b) Section 302-3.101 if you are a transferred employee.

## OVERSEAS TOUR RENEWAL AGREEMENT

### **§ 302-3.209 What is overseas tour renewal travel?**

Overseas tour renewal travel refers to travel of you and your immediate family returning to your home in the continental U.S., Alaska, or Hawaii between overseas tours of duty. See §302-2.222 for travel to an actual place of residence in other than the United States.

### **§ 302-3.210 What is an overseas tour of duty?**

An overseas tour of duty is an assignment to a post of duty outside the continental United States, Alaska or Hawaii.

### **§ 302-3.211 What is an allowance for overseas tour renewal travel?**

An allowance for overseas tour renewal travel is a reimbursement for you and your immediate family of roundtrip travel and transportation expenses between your overseas post of

## § 302-3.212

duty and your actual place of residence in the U.S.

### **§ 302-3.212 How do I know if I am eligible to receive an allowance for overseas tour renewal travel?**

You are eligible to receive an allowance for overseas tour renewal travel if:

- (a) You are on an overseas assignment, and you have completed your tour of duty and satisfactorily completed your service agreement time period; and
- (b) You are on an overseas assignment and you have signed a new service agreement to remain at your overseas post or to transfer to another overseas post of duty; or
- (c) You meet the requirements and are eligible for tour renewal travel from Alaska or Hawaii under § 302-3.214.

### **§ 302-3.213 What allowances will I receive for tour renewal travel?**

For tour renewal travel, you will receive payment for those authorized expenses as stated in item five of Tables A and B of § 302-3.101.

### **§ 302-3.214 May I receive reimbursement for tour renewal travel when my travel is between two places within the United States?**

You may only receive reimbursement for tour renewal travel when your tours are between two places within the U.S. if you are an employee who is traveling from Alaska or Hawaii, and:

- (a) You will continue to serve consecutive tours of duty within the same state from which you're traveling, and on September 8, 1982 you were:
  - (1) Serving your tour in one of these areas and have continued to do so; or
  - (2) En route to a post of duty in Alaska or Hawaii under a written service agreement to serve a tour of duty; or
  - (3) In the process of performing a tour renewal travel and has since then entered into another tour of duty in Alaska or Hawaii;
- (b) Tour renewal agreement travel for recruiting or retention purposes is limited to two round trips beginning within 5 years after the date the employee first begins any period of consecutive tours of duty in Alaska or Hawaii. Employees shall be advised in writing of this limitation; or

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(c) You are traveling due to your agency's mission to recruit or retain you as an employee to fulfill a position that requires a special skilled employee or to fill a position in a remote area.

### **§ 302-3.215 Will I be reimbursed for tour renewal travel from a post of duty in Hawaii and return to a post of duty in Alaska or for such travel from a post of duty in Alaska and return to a post of duty in Hawaii?**

No, you will not be reimbursed for tour renewal travel unless your return travel is to a post of duty in the same State that you traveled from.

### **§ 302-3.216 When must I begin my first tour renewal travel from Alaska or Hawaii?**

You must begin your first tour renewal travel within 5 years of your first consecutive tours in either Alaska or Hawaii.

### **§ 302-3.217 Will my family or I receive per diem for en route travel from my post of duty to my actual place of residence in the U.S.?**

No, your family will not receive per diem for en route travel from your post of duty to your actual place of residence in the U.S. and return to the same or a different post of duty.

### **§ 302-3.218 Are there any special circumstances when my agency may authorize me travel and transportation expenses for my tour renewal travel in Alaska or Hawaii?**

Other than as specified in §§ 302-3.209 through 302-3.226, your agency head will only authorize travel and transportation expenses for your tour renewal travel in Alaska or Hawaii if it determines that:

- (a) Agency staffing needs are required to recruit or retain employees at a post of duty in Alaska or Hawaii; or
- (b) Your agency is in need to recruit employees with special skills and knowledge and/or to fill positions in remote areas.

## Relocation Allowances

## § 302-3.225

### **§ 302-3.219 Is there a limit on how many times I may receive reimbursement for tour renewal travel?**

(a) If you are stationed in a foreign area or in an area other than Alaska or Hawaii, your agency may reimburse you for one overseas tour renewal trip for each time you complete your service agreement, which is related to your post of duty.

(b) For recruiting and retention purposes of consecutive tours served within Alaska and Hawaii, your agency may reimburse you a maximum of two round trips which must begin within 5 years after the date of your first tour.

### **§ 302-3.220 May my family and I travel to another U.S. location (other than from my actual place of residence) under my tour renewal agreement?**

Yes, you and your family may travel to another U.S. location (other than from your actual place of residence) under your tour renewal agreement. However, your agency will only reimburse you for the amount of authorized expenses from your post of duty to your actual place of residence and return (as appropriate) on a usually traveled route.

NOTE TO § 302-3.220: If your actual place of residence is located in the U.S., you and your family must spend a substantial amount of time in the U.S. in order to receive reimbursement.

### **§ 302-3.221 If I travel to another place in the U.S. (other than my actual place of residence) am I required to spend time at my actual place of residence to receive reimbursement?**

No, you are not required to spend time at your actual place of residence to receive reimbursement if you travel to another place in the U.S. (other than your actual place of residence).

### **§ 302-3.222 Will I be reimbursed if I travel to another overseas location (instead of the U.S.)?**

If you travel to another overseas location (instead of the U.S.), you will be reimbursed only if your actual residence is within that country in which you are taking your leave, and then you will only be reimbursed your authorized travel and transportation expenses. You will have to pay any ex-

pense(s) above your authorized amount.

### **§ 302-3.223 What happens if I violate my new service agreement under a tour renewal assignment?**

If you fail to complete your period of service under your new service agreement for reasons that are not acceptable to your agency, you must pay the Government:

(a) All transportation and per diem expenses that you received during your service agreement period for tour renewal travel of you and your immediate family;

(b) Transportation expenses for family members who traveled directly from your former post of duty to your current post of duty; and

(c) All transportation expenses for shipment of household goods from your former post to your current post of duty.

### **§ 302-3.224 If I violate my new service agreement, will the Government reimburse me for return travel and transportation to my actual place of residence?**

If you violate your new service agreement, the Government will reimburse you for return travel and transportation to your actual place of residence only if you did not receive all of your allowances under a previous service agreement in which you successfully completed your required period of service. The Government will then authorize you reimbursement cost for return travel and transportation expenses from your former post of duty to your actual place of residence. If there is any additional cost you must pay the difference.

#### **PRIOR RETURN OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS**

### **§ 302-3.225 If my immediate family member(s) return to the U.S. before me, will I be reimbursed for transporting part of my household goods with my family and the rest of my household goods when I return?**

Yes, if your family member(s) return to the U.S. before you, you will be reimbursed for transporting part of your household goods with your family and the rest of the household goods when

## § 302-3.226

you return as long as the combined weight of the two shipments does not exceed your total authorized weight limit.

### **§ 302-3.226 Will the Government reimburse me if I am not eligible to return with my immediate family member(s) to the U.S. and choose to send them at my own expense?**

Yes, if you pay for the prior return of your eligible immediate family member(s), you will be reimbursed when you become eligible for return travel and transportation, you must provide your agency with all receipts and documentation to support your cost. Your agency will then reimburse your expenses, not to exceed your authorized allowance.

### **§ 302-3.227 If I become divorced from my spouse or terminate my committed relationship with my domestic partner while OCONUS will I receive reimbursement to return my former spouse or domestic partner and dependents to the U.S.?**

Yes, if you become divorced from your spouse or terminate your committed relationship with your domestic partner while OCONUS, you will receive reimbursement to return your former spouse or domestic partner and dependents to their place of actual residence within or outside CONUS.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2010-06, 75 FR 67631, Nov. 3, 2010]

### **§ 302-3.228 Is my dependent who turned 21 while overseas entitled to return travel to my place of actual residence at the expense of the Government?**

Your dependent who turned 21 while overseas is entitled to return travel to your place of actual residence at the expense of the Government only if your dependent traveled overseas as your dependent under your TA, but not beyond the end of your current agreed tour of duty.

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### **Subpart D—Relocation Separation**

#### **OVERSEAS TO U.S. RETURN FOR SEPARATION**

### **§ 302-3.300 Must my agency pay for return relocation expenses for my immediate family and me once I have completed my duty OCONUS?**

Yes, once you have completed your duty OCONUS as specified in your service agreement, your agency must pay one-way transportation expenses for you, for your family member(s), and for your household goods (see Table F in § 302-3.101 for a summary of allowances).

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended at 86 FR 73684, Dec. 28, 2021]

### **§ 302-3.301 May I transport my household goods to a location other than my actual place of residence when I separate from the Government?**

Yes, if you have successfully completed your service agreement, you may transport your household goods to a location other than your actual place of residence when you separate from the Government. However, the cost cannot exceed what it would cost to your actual place of residence. Any additional cost will be borne by you.

### **§ 302-3.302 May my agency pay for my immediate family member(s) and my household goods to be returned to the U.S. before I complete my service agreement?**

Yes, your agency may pay for your immediate family member(s) and your household goods to be returned to the U.S. before you complete your service agreement. However, your reason for not completing your service agreement must be determined by your agency as compassionate in nature or for circumstances beyond your control.

### **§ 302-3.303 May I claim reimbursement for the return of my immediate family member(s) or household goods more than once under one service agreement?**

No, you cannot claim reimbursement for the return of your immediate family member(s) or household goods more than once under one service agreement.

## Relocation Allowances

## § 302-3.307

### SES SEPARATION FOR RETIREMENT

#### § 302-3.304 Who is entitled to SES separation relocation allowances?

You are entitled to SES separation relocation allowances if you meet the conditions in § 302-3.307 and you are:

(a) A career appointee to the SES as defined in 5 U.S.C. 3132(a)(4); or

(b) A non-SES appointee who elects to retain SES retirement benefits and:

(1) Has a basic rate of pay at Level V of the Executive Schedule or higher; or

(2) Was previously a career appointee in the SES; or

(3) Elected under 5 U.S.C. 3392(c) to retain SES retirement benefits; or

(c) A Medical Center Director who:

(1) Served as a director of a Department of Veterans Affairs medical center under 38 U.S.C. 4103(a)(8) as in effect on November 17, 1988; or

(2) Separated from Government service on or after October 2, 1992; or

(3) Is not covered in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section; or

(d) An immediate family member of an SES employee who died:

(1) In Government service on or after January 1, 1994; or

(2) After separating from Government service but before travel and/or transportation authorized under this subpart were completed.

#### § 302-3.305 Who is not eligible for SES separation relocation expense allowances?

You are not eligible for SES separation relocation expense allowances if:

(a) You are a career appointee to an SES position, and your appointment is a limited term, limited emergency, or a noncareer appointment. (See 5 U.S.C. 3132(a)(5) through (7)); or

(b) You are an appointee to the Government but do not meet the criteria status within § 302-3.304.

#### § 302-3.306 If I meet the conditions in § 302-3.307, what expenses am I allowed under separation for retirement travel?

If you meet the conditions in § 302-3.307, see Table G to § 302-3.101.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended at 86 FR 73684, Dec. 28, 2021]

#### § 302-3.307 Under what conditions may I receive separation relocation travel for my family and me?

You may receive separation relocation travel for you and your family if:

(a) You are a career appointee as defined in 5 U.S.C. 3132(a)(4), and you were transferred or reassigned geographically in the interest of and at the expense of the Government from one official station to another for permanent duty from:

(1) An SES career appointment to another SES career appointment; or

(2) An SES career appointment to an appointment outside the SES at a rate of pay equal to or higher than Level V of the Executive Schedule, and the employee elects to retain SES retirement benefits under 5 U.S.C. 3392; or

(3) A non-SES career appointment at the time of your transfer or assignment, which includes an appointment in a civil service position outside the SES, to an SES career appointment;

(b) At the time of the transfer or reassignment:

(1) You were eligible to receive an annuity for optional retirement under section 8336(a), (b), (c), (e), (f), or (j) or subchapter III of chapter 83 (Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS)) or under section 8412 of subchapter II of chapter 84 (Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS)) of title, 5 U.S.C.; or

(2) You were within 5 years of eligibility to receive an annuity for optional retirement under one of the authorities in paragraph (b)(1) of this section; or

(3) You were eligible to receive an annuity based on discontinued service retirement or early voluntary retirement under an OPM authorization, under section 8336(d) of subchapter III of chapter 83, or under 8414(b) of subchapter II of chapter 84 of title 5, U.S.C.;

(c) You separate from Federal service on or after September 22, 1988;

(d) You are eligible to receive an annuity upon separation (or, in the case of death, you met the requirements for being considered eligible to receive an annuity, as of the date of death) under the provisions of subchapter III of chapter 83 (CSRS) or chapter 84 (FERS) of title 5, U.S.C., including an annuity

### § 302-3.308

based on optional retirement, discontinued service retirement, early voluntary retirement under an OPM authorization, or disability retirement; and

(e) You have not previously received separation relocation benefits from the Government for retirement.

### § 302-3.308 Do I have to provide my agency with any special documents before receiving reimbursement for moving expenses?

Yes, before receiving reimbursement for moving expenses, you must submit a request to your agency for authorization and approval of your moving expenses with your tentative moving dates and the origin and destination location of your planned move, within the timeframe and format specified by your agency.

### § 302-3.309 Where should my travel and transportation begin?

Your travel and shipment of your HHG should begin from your last official station.

### § 302-3.310 Where will I be authorized to separate?

You will be authorized to separate at the place where you have chosen to reside within the United States.

### § 302-3.311 May I receive reimbursement for travel and transportation from an alternate location other than the duty station?

You will only be reimbursed for expenses up to the cost of travel and transportation expenses from your authorized official station to the place in the U.S. you have elected to reside. Any additional cost you will have to pay.

### § 302-3.312 Upon separation, if I elect to reside in a different geographical area which is less than 50 miles from my official station, will I receive reimbursement?

No, if upon separation you elect to reside in a different geographical area which is less than 50 miles from your official station, you will not receive reimbursement.

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### § 302-3.313 May I have my household goods transported from more than one location?

Yes, you may have your household goods transported from more than one location. However, you will only receive reimbursement based on the cost of shipment from your official station, in one lot by the most economical route to the location where you elect to return. You will have to pay for any cost above what is authorized.

### § 302-3.314 Is there a time limit when I must begin my travel and transportation upon separation?

Yes, all travel and transportation of household goods must begin no later than six months after:

- (a) Your date of separation; or
- (b) The date of death of the employee who died before separation.

### § 302-3.315 May I be granted an extension to the time limit for beginning my separation travel?

Yes, your agency may grant you or your immediate family member(s) (in case of your death) an extension to the time limit for beginning your separation travel, for up to two years from your effective date of separation or death, if death occurs before separation.

[FTR Amdt. 2011-01, 76 FR 18337, Apr. 1, 2011]

## Subpart E—Employee's Temporary Change Of Station

### § 302-3.400 What is a “temporary change of station (TCS)”?

A TCS means the relocation to a new official station for a temporary period while performing a long-term assignment, and subsequent return to the previous official station upon completion of that assignment.

### § 302-3.401 What is the purpose of a TCS?

A TCS provides agencies an alternative to a long-term temporary duty travel assignment which will increase your satisfaction and enhance morale, reduce your income tax liability, and save the Government money.

## Relocation Allowances

## § 302-3.410

### § 302-3.402 When am I eligible for a TCS?

You are eligible for a TCS when you are directed to perform a TCS at a long-term duty location, and you otherwise would be eligible for payment of temporary duty travel allowances authorized under chapter 301 of this title. For exceptions, see § 302-3.403.

### § 302-3.403 Who is not eligible for a TCS?

The following individuals are not eligible for a TCS:

- (a) A new appointee;
- (b) An employee assigned to or from a State or local Government under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (5 U.S.C. 3372 *et seq.*);
- (c) An individual employed intermittently in the Government service as a consultant or expert and paid on a daily when-actually-employed (WAE) basis;
- (d) An individual serving without pay or at \$1 a year; or
- (e) An employee assigned under the Government Employees Training Act (5 U.S.C. 4109).

### § 302-3.404 Under what circumstances will my agency authorize a TCS?

Your agency will authorize a TCS when:

- (a) It is necessary to accomplish the mission of the agency effectively and economically, and
- (b) You are directed to perform a long-term assignment at another official station; or
- (c) Your agency otherwise could authorize temporary duty travel and pay travel allowances, including payment of subsistence expenses, under chapter 301 of this title for the long-term assignment; or
- (d) Your agency determines it would be more advantageous, cost and other factors considered, to authorize a long-term assignment; and
- (e) You meet any additional conditions your agency has established.

### § 302-3.405 If my agency authorizes a TCS, do I have the option of electing payment of per diem expenses under part 301-11 of this title?

No, you do not have the option of electing payment of per diem expenses

under part 301-11 of this title if your agency authorized a TCS.

### § 302-3.406 How long must my assignment be for me to qualify for a TCS?

To qualify for a TCS, your assignment must be not less than 6 months, nor more than 30 months.

### § 302-3.407 What is the effect on my TCS reimbursement if my assignment lasts less than 6 months?

Your agency may authorize a TCS only when a TCS is expected to last 6 months or more. If your assignment is cut short for reasons other than separation from Government service, you will be paid TCS expenses.

### § 302-3.408 What is the effect on my TCS reimbursement if my assignment lasts more than 30 months?

If your assignment exceeds 30 months, your agency:

- (a) Must permanently assign you to your temporary official station or return you to your previous official station;
- (b) May not pay for extended storage or property management services incurred after the last day of the thirtieth month; and
- (c) Must pay the expenses of returning you and your immediate family and household goods to your previous official station unless you are permanently assigned to your temporary official station.

### § 302-3.409 Is there any required minimum distance between an official station and a TCS location that must be met for me to qualify for a TCS?

No, there is no required minimum distance between an official station and a TCS location that must be met for you to qualify for a TCS. However, your agency may establish the area within which it will not authorize a TCS.

### § 302-3.410 Must I sign a service agreement to qualify for a TCS?

No, you do not need to sign a service agreement to qualify for a TCS.

## **§ 302-3.411**

### **§ 302-3.411 What is my official station during my TCS?**

Your official station during your TCS is the location of your TCS.

#### **EXPENSES PAID UPON ASSIGNMENT**

### **§ 302-3.412 What expenses must my agency pay?**

Your agency must pay:

- (a) Travel, including per diem, for you and your immediate family under part 302-4 of this chapter;
- (b) Transportation and temporary storage of your household goods under part 302-7 of this chapter;
- (c) Extended storage when it is necessary as approved by your agency under part 302-8 of this chapter;
- (d) Transportation of a mobile home instead of transportation of household goods under part 302-10 of this chapter;
- (e) A miscellaneous expenses allowance under part 302-16 of this chapter;
- (f) Transportation of a privately owned vehicle(s) under part 302-9 of this chapter; and
- (g) A relocation income tax allowance under part 302-17 of this chapter for additional income taxes you incur on payments your agency makes under the authority of this section for your relocation expenses.

### **§ 302-3.413 Are there other expenses that my agency may pay?**

Yes, your agency may pay:

- (a) Househunting trip expenses under part 302-5 of this chapter;
- (b) Temporary quarters subsistence expenses under part 302-6 of this chapter;
- (c) Reimbursement for Property Management Services under part 302-15 of this chapter; and
- (d) Reimbursement for the cost of storing, or providing for the storage without charge, of one POV when assigned a TCS in support of a contingency operation as defined in 10 U.S.C. 1482a(c)(2) and under part 302-9 of this chapter.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2011-06, 76 FR 71889, Nov. 21, 2011]

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#### **EXPENSES PAID DURING ASSIGNMENT**

### **§ 302-3.414 If my agency authorizes a TCS, will it pay for extended storage of my household goods?**

Yes, if your agency authorizes a TCS, it will pay for extended storage when it is necessary. Extended storage expenses include:

- (a) Packing/unpacking;
- (b) Crating/uncrating;
- (c) Transporting to and from place of storage;
- (d) Charges while in storage; and
- (e) Other necessary charges directly related to storage.

### **§ 302-3.415 How long may my agency pay for extended storage of household goods?**

Your agency may pay for extended storage of household goods for the duration of your TCS.

### **§ 302-3.416 Is there any limitation on the combined weight of household goods I may transport and store at Government expense?**

Yes, the maximum combined weight is 18,000 pounds net weight. If you transport and/or store household goods in excess of the maximum weight allowance, you will be responsible for any excess cost.

### **§ 302-3.417 Will I have to pay any income tax if my agency pays for extended storage of my household goods?**

You will be subject to income taxes on the amount of extended storage expenses your agency pays. However, your agency will pay you a relocation income tax allowance under part 302-17 of this chapter for substantially all of the additional Federal, State and local income taxes you incur on the expenses your agency pays.

### **§ 302-3.418 May my agency pay for property management services when I am authorized a TCS?**

Your agency may reimburse you directly for expenses you incur or make payments on your behalf to a relocation services company, if you so choose. The term “property management services” refers to a program provided by a private company for a fee, which assists you in managing your



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residence at your previous official station as a rental property. Services provided by the company may include, but are not limited to, obtaining a tenant, negotiating a lease, inspecting the property regularly, managing repairs and maintenance, enforcing lease terms, collecting rent, paying the mortgage and other carrying expenses from rental proceeds and/or fund of the employee, and accounting for the transactions and providing periodic reports to the employee.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2011-06, 76 FR 71889, Nov. 21, 2011]

### **§ 302-3.419 For what property may my agency pay property management services?**

Your agency may only pay for the property from which you commuted to/from work on a daily basis at your previous official station.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2011-06, 76 FR 71889, Nov. 21, 2011]

### **§ 302-3.420 How long may my agency pay for property management services?**

Your agency may pay for property management services for the duration of your TCS.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2011-06, 76 FR 71889, Nov. 21, 2011]

### **§ 302-3.421 What are the income tax consequences if my agency pays for property management services?**

When your agency pays for property management services:

(a) You will be taxed on the amount of property management expenses your agency pays, whether it reimburses you directly for your expenses or pays a relocation services company to manage your residence; and

(b) Your agency will pay you a relocation income tax allowance under part 302-17 of this chapter for substantially all of the additional Federal, State and local income taxes you incur on the expenses your agency pays.

NOTE TO § 302-3.421: You may wish to consult with a tax advisor to determine whether you will incur any additional tax liability, unrelated to your agency's payment of your

property management expenses, as a result of maintaining your residence as a rental property.

## **EXPENSES PAID UPON COMPLETION OF ASSIGNMENT OR UPON SEPARATION FROM GOVERNMENT SERVICE**

### **§ 302-3.422 What expenses will my agency pay when I complete my TCS?**

Your agency will pay for the following expenses in connection with your return to your previous official station:

(a) Travel, including per diem, for you and your immediate family under part 302-4 of this chapter;

(b) Transportation and temporary or extended storage of your household goods under part 302-7 and 302-8 of this chapter;

(c) Transportation of a mobile home instead of transportation of our household goods under part 302-10 of this chapter;

(d) A miscellaneous expenses allowance under part 302-16 of this chapter;

(e) Transportation of a privately owned vehicle(s) under part of this chapter; and

(f) A relocation income tax allowance under part 302-17 of this chapter for additional income taxes you incur on payments your agency makes under the authority of this part for your relocation expenses.

NOTE TO § 302-3.422: Your agency may pay temporary quarters subsistence expenses under part 302-6 of this chapter.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2011-06, 76 FR 71889, Nov. 21, 2011]

### **§ 302-3.423 If I separate from Government service upon completion of my TCS, what relocation expenses will my agency pay upon my separation?**

If you separate from Government service upon completion of your TCS, your agency will upon your separation, pay the same relocation expenses it would have paid had you not separated from Government service upon completion of your TCS.

**§ 302-3.424 If I separate from Government service prior to completion of my TCS, what relocation expenses will my agency pay upon my separation?**

If you separate from Government service prior to completion of your TCS for reasons beyond your control that are acceptable to your agency, your agency will pay the same relocation expenses it would pay under § 302-3.423. If this is not the case, the expenses your agency pays may not exceed the reimbursement that you would have received under this chapter or chapter 301 of this title whichever your agency determines to be in the best interest of the Government.

**§ 302-3.425 If I have been authorized successive temporary changes of station and reassigned from one temporary official station to another, what expenses will my agency pay upon completion of my last assignment or my separation from Government service?**

Your agency will pay the expenses authorized in § 302-3.422 for your relocation from your current temporary official station to your last permanent official station.

PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT TO TEMPORARY  
OFFICIAL STATION

**§ 302-3.426 How is payment of my TCS expenses affected if I am permanently assigned to my temporary official station?**

Payment of TCS expenses stops once your temporary official station becomes your permanent official station. Your agency may not pay any TCS expenses incurred beginning the day your temporary official station becomes your permanent official station.

**§ 302-3.427 What relocation allowances may my agency pay when I am permanently assigned to my temporary official station?**

When you are permanently assigned to your temporary official station, your agency may pay:

(a) Travel, including per diem, in accordance with part 302-4 of this chapter, for one round trip between your temporary official station and your previous official station, for you and members of your immediate family

who relocated to the temporary official station with you. Your agency may also pay the same expenses for a one-way trip from the previous official station to the new permanent official station for any immediate family members who did not accompany you to the temporary official station;

(b) Residence transaction expenses under part 302-11 of this chapter;

(c) Property management expenses under part 302-15 of this chapter;

(d) Relocation services under part 302-12 of this chapter;

(e) Temporary quarters subsistence expenses in accordance with part 302-6 of this chapter;

(f) Transportation of household goods not previously transported to the temporary official station under part 302-7 of this chapter;

(g) Transportation of a privately owned vehicle(s) not previously transported to the temporary official station under § 302-9.7 of this chapter; and

(h) Relocation income tax allowance (RITA) under part 302-17 of this chapter.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2011-06, 76 FR 71889, Nov. 21, 2011; 86 FR 73684, Dec. 28, 2021]

**§ 302-3.428 If I am permanently assigned to my temporary official station, is there any limitation on the weight of household goods I may transport at Government expense to my official station?**

Yes. If you are permanently assigned to your temporary official station, you are limited to 18,000 pounds net weight for household goods you may transport at Government expense to your official station. This maximum weight will be reduced by the weight of any household goods transported at Government expense to your temporary official station under your TCS authorization. Subject to the 18,000 pound limit, your agency will pay to transport any household goods in extended storage to your official station. Additionally, if you change your residence as a result of your permanent assignment to your temporary official station, your agency may pay for transporting your household goods, subject to the 18,000-pound

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## § 302-3.502

limit, between the residence you occupied during your temporary assignment and your new residence.

### **§ 302-3.429 Are there any relocation allowances my agency may not pay if I am permanently assigned to my temporary official station?**

If you are permanently assigned to your temporary official station, your agency may not pay:

(a) Expenses of a househunting trip for you and your spouse to your temporary official station under part 302-5 of this chapter; or

(b) Residence transaction expenses for selling a residence or breaking a lease at the temporary official station under part 302-11 of this chapter.

## **Subpart F—Agency Responsibilities**

NOTE TO SUBPART F: Use of pronouns “we”, “you”, and their variants throughout this subpart refers to the agency.

### **§ 302-3.500 What governing policies and procedures must we establish for paying a relocation allowance under this part 302-3?**

You must establish how you will implement policies that are required for this part, which include;

(a) When you will pay relocation expenses if an employee violates their service agreement;

(b) When you will authorize separate relocation allowances to an employee and an employee’s immediate family member that are both transferring to the same official station;

(c) When you will grant an employee and/or the employee’s immediate family member(s) an extension on beginning separation travel;

(d) When you will allow an employee to arrange their own relocation upon separation;

(e) When you will authorize a temporary change of station (TCS);

(f) When you will define an area not to reimburse for a TCS;

(g) When you will pay extended storage of household goods for TCS;

(h) What relocation allowances you will and will not pay when an employee is permanently assigned to a temporary official station; and

(i) When you will pay for the cost of storing, or provide for the storage without charge, of one POV when an employee is assigned a TCS in support of a contingency operation as defined in 10 U.S.C. 1482a(c)(2) and under part 302-9 of this chapter.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2011-06, 76 FR 71889, Nov. 21, 2011; FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

### **§ 302-3.501 Must we establish any specific procedures for paying a relocation allowance to new appointees?**

Yes, you must establish specific guidelines for paying a relocation allowance to new appointees. These guidelines must establish the:

(a) Criteria in accordance with 5 CFR part 572 on how you will determine if a new appointee is eligible for the relocation allowances authorized therein; and

(b) Procedures which will provide new appointees with information surrounding the new appointee’s benefits.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

### **§ 302-3.502 What factors should we consider in determining whether to authorize a TCS for a long-term assignment?**

You should consider the following factors in determining whether to authorize a TCS:

(a) *Cost considerations.* You should consider the cost of each alternative. A long-term temporary duty travel assignment requires the payment of either per diem or actual subsistence expenses for the entire period of the assignment. This could be very costly to the agency over an extended period. A TCS will require fairly substantial relocation allowance payments at the beginning and end of the assignment, and less substantial payments for extended storage and property management services, when authorized, during the period of the assignment. Agencies should estimate the total cost of each alternative and authorize the one that is most advantageous for the agency, cost and other factors considered;

(b) *Tax considerations.* An employee who performs a temporary duty travel assignment exceeding one year at a

## § 302-3.503

single location is subject to income taxation of the employee's travel expense reimbursements. The Withholding Tax Allowance and the Extended TDY Tax Reimbursement Allowance allow for the reimbursement of Federal, state, and local income taxes incurred as a result of taxable extended temporary duty assignments (see §§ 301-11.601—301-11.605 of this Subtitle). An employee who is authorized and performs a TCS also will be subject to income taxation of some, but not all, of their TCS expenses. You will pay an offsetting Relocation Income Tax (RIT) allowance on an employee's TCS expense reimbursements; and

(c) *Employee concerns.* The long-term assignment of an employee away from the employee's official station and immediate family may negatively affect the employee's morale and job performance. Such negative effects may be alleviated by authorizing a TCS so the employee can transport their immediate family and/or household goods at Government expense to the location where the employee will perform the long-term assignment. You should consider the effects of a long-term temporary duty travel assignment on an employee when deciding whether to authorize a TCS.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2014-01, 79 FR 49645, Aug. 21, 2014; FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

### SERVICE AGREEMENTS

#### § 302-3.503 Must we require employees to sign a service agreement?

Yes, you must require employees to sign a service agreement if the employee is receiving reimbursement for relocation travel expenses, except as provided in § 302-2.17 of this chapter and §§ 302-3.300 and 302-3.410.

[86 FR 73684, Dec. 28, 2021]

#### § 302-3.504 What information should we include in a service agreement?

The service agreement should include, but not be limited to the following:

- (a) The employee's name;
- (b) The employee's effective date of transfer or appointment;

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(c) The employee's actual place of residence at the time of appointment;

(d) The name of all dependents that are authorized to travel under the TA;

(e) Detailed information regarding the employee's obligation to repay funds spent on the employee's relocation as a debt due the Government if the service agreement is violated;

(f) The employee's agreed period of time (see § 302-3.505) to remain in service; and

(g) The employee's signature accepting the terms of the agreement.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

#### § 302-3.505 How long must we require an employee to agree to the terms of a service agreement?

You must require an employee to agree to the terms of a service agreement:

(a) Within CONUS for a period of service of not less than 12 months following the effective date of appointment or transfer;

(b) OCONUS for an agreed upon period of service of not more than 36 months or less than 12 months following the effective date of appointment or transfer;

(c) Department of Defense Overseas Dependent School System teachers for a period of not less than one school year as determined under chapter 25 of Title 20, United States Code;

(d) For renewal agreement travel, a period of not less than 12 months from the date of return to the same or different overseas official station; and

(e) For assignment under the Government Employees Training Act (GETA), not less than three times the length of the training period as prescribed by the head of the agency.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended at 86 FR 73684, Dec. 28, 2021]

#### § 302-3.506 May we pay relocation expenses if the employee violates their service agreement?

If an employee does not fulfill the terms of the service agreement, the employee is indebted to the Government for all relocation expenses that have been reimbursed to the employee or that have been paid directly by the

## Relocation Allowances

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Government. However, if the reasons for not fulfilling the terms of the service agreement are beyond the employee's control and acceptable to the agency, you may release the employee from the service agreement and waive any indebtedness.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

### NEW APPOINTEES

#### **§ 302-3.507 Once we authorize relocation expenses for new appointees or student trainees what expenses must we pay?**

Once you authorize relocation expenses for new appointees or student trainees, you must pay expenses in accordance with § 302-3.2.

#### **§ 302-3.508 What relocation expenses are not authorized for new appointees or student trainees?**

You must not pay any expenses to new appointees or student trainees for a relocation that are not listed under § 302-3.2.

### OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT AND RETURN

#### **§ 302-3.509 What policies must we follow when appointing an employee to an overseas assignment?**

When appointing an employee to an overseas assignment, you must:

(a) Establish the employee's actual place of residence at the time of appointment and state it in the service agreement;

(b) Use guidance in 8 U.S.C. 1101(33) which states that "The term *residence* means the place of general abode; the place of general abode of a person means his principal, actual dwelling place in fact, without regard to intent", for establishing places of residence; and

(c) Require the employee to sign the service agreement prior to the employee's relocation.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

#### **§ 302-3.510 When must we pay return travel for immediate family members?**

You must pay transportation expenses for one-way return travel of immediate family members when the employee has successfully completed the employee's service agreement period OCONUS.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

#### **§ 302-3.511 What must we consider when determining return travel for immediate family member(s) for compassionate reasons prior to completion of the service agreement?**

You must determine that the public interest requires the return of the immediate family for compelling personal reasons of a humanitarian or compassionate nature, which may involve:

(a) The immediate family member(s)' physical or mental health;

(b) The death of a member of the immediate family;

(c) Obligations imposed by authority or circumstances over which the individual has no control;

(d) The divorce or annulment of the employee's marriage; or

(e) A dependent that traveled to post of duty on the employee's authorized TA and has now reached their 21st birthdate.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Case 2022-05, 89 FR 12254, Feb. 16, 2024]

#### **§ 302-3.512 How many times are we required to pay for an employee's return travel?**

You must pay for return travel and transportation of an employee only once at the end of each agreed period of service.

### OVERSEAS TOUR RENEWAL TRAVEL

#### **§ 302-3.513 May we allow a travel advance for tour renewal agreement travel?**

No, you cannot allow a travel advance for tour renewal agreement travel.

**§ 302-3.514**

**§ 302-3.514 Under what conditions must we pay for tour renewal agreement travel?**

You must pay tour renewal agreement travel when:

(a) The employee has completed the agreed upon period of service outside CONUS;

(b) The employee has agreed to serve another OCONUS tour of duty at the same or different duty station; and

(c) You have determined that the employee meets the special rules under § 302-3.515 for Alaska or Hawaii.

**§ 302-3.515 What special rules must we apply for reimbursement of tour renewal travel for employees stationed, assigned, appointed or transferred to/from Alaska or Hawaii?**

The following rules apply:

(a) If on September 8, 1982 the employee was serving or committed to serve a tour of duty in Alaska or Hawaii then the employee shall continue to receive reimbursement for tour renewal agreement travel;

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(b) After September 8, 1982 you must determine that tour renewal agreement travel expenses are necessary for the purposes of recruiting and retaining employees and you must inform employees in writing that tour renewal agreement travel for the purposes of recruiting and retention is limited to two round trips beginning within 5 years after the date the employee first begins any period of consecutive tours of duty.

**SES SEPARATION FOR RETIREMENT**

**§ 302-3.516 What must we do before issuing payment for SES separation-relocation travel?**

Before issuing payment for separation-relocation travel, you must establish timeframes for employees to submit request for authorization and approval of relocation expenses.

**§ 302-3.517 May we issue travel advances for separation relocation?**

No, travel advances for separation relocation may not be authorized.