



MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

31 March 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SERVICES

SUBJECT: Approved – Allowances Division File # 001-22(E) – Clarify Housing Allowances for Members Without Dependents - Election not to Reside in Government Quarters.

1. Synopsis: This change clarifies that: (1.) members in pay grade E-6 or above must make their election not to reside in Government quarters aboard ship while the ship and/or the member is/are at the homeport or in a maintenance period; (2.) housing must be maintained at the homeport during periods of deployment for housing allowances to continue; and (3.) an approved election from the prior permanent duty station (PDS) may continue if reporting to a deployed vessel with the same homeport as the last PDS/homeport.

2. Memo 1 for Allowances Division File # 001-22(E) – “Clarify Housing Allowances for Members Without Dependents - Election not to Reside in Government Quarters” dated 11 March 2022, requested positions and comments from Service representatives by a comment due date of 8 April 2022.

3. Allowances Branch received the following concurrence and comments:

MAP	Vote	Comment	Date
USA	Concur	N/A	28 March 2022
USN	Concur	Yes	18 March 2022
USAF	Concur	N/A	17 March 2022
USMC	Concur	N/A	16 March 2022
USSF	Concur	N/A	17 March 2022
USCG	Concur	N/A	28 March 2022
USPHS	Concur	N/A	31 March 2022
NOAA	Concur	N/A	28 March 2022

4. Navy concurred with comment to suggest replacing the words, ‘under overhaul’ with ‘in a maintenance period as defined by the Secretary concerned’.
Staff Comment - Correction made.

5. This change affects Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation (DoD FMR), Volume 7A paragraphs 261001.G1 and G4. This revision is for clarification purposes only and does not make change to established policy.

6. This approved change will be recorded on the DTMO website pending publication of the next DoD FMR, Volume 7A, Chapter 26 under 'Approved DoD FMR Changes Pending Publication'.

7. This item was approved by the Service's concurrence (8-0) on 31 March 2022.

//Approved//
Summer R. Britford
Chief, Allowances Division

Attachment:
DoDFMR, Volume 7A Revisions

DoDFMR, Volume 7A Revisions

261001.G:

G. Service Member on Sea Duty. A Service member assigned on permanent duty to a ship ordinarily has Government Quarters available aboard that ship. The Secretary Concerned may determine that a ship or class of ships is inadequate for berthing a member in home port, in which case the ship or class of ships is not available as Government Quarters for housing allowance purposes. When quarters aboard a ship, deemed adequate for berthing, become temporarily unavailable due to maintenance or damage, Government Quarters are no longer available onboard the ship. The Service concerned provides guidance on payment of housing allowances or alternate berthing procedure for ships that become temporarily unavailable for berthing.

1. A Service member without a dependent in grade E-6 or above assigned to permanent sea duty aboard a ship may elect not to occupy assigned shipboard Government quarters and receive BAH or OHA. *The election must be made while the ship is at the homeport or in a maintenance period as defined by the Secretary concerned such that the Service member physically vacates quarters aboard the ship at the time of election. A Service member in pay grade E-6 or above, who reports to a deployed ship or afloat unit via the homeport, and who establishes private sector housing at the homeport prior to reporting to the deployed ship or afloat unit, is authorized to receive BAH or OHA for the new PDS. A Service member in pay grade E-6 or above is authorized to receive BAH or OHA ~~after~~ upon reporting directly to a deployed ship or afloat unit away from the homeport provided: the member was authorized BAH or OHA at the previous command and the homeport of the ship is the same as the previous homeport or PDS. Once elected, a Service member may maintain BAH or OHA eligibility while the ship is deployed away from the homeport provided the member maintains a residence at the homeport. In all cases, failure to maintain a residence at the homeport is considered electing to occupy assigned shipboard Government quarters.*

2. A Service member without a dependent in grade E-5 assigned to permanent sea duty aboard a ship cannot elect not to occupy assigned shipboard Government quarters and receive BAH or OHA. Under Service regulations, the Secretary concerned may authorize BAH or OHA to a Service member without a dependent who is serving in grade E-5 and is assigned to sea duty. When preparing regulations under this paragraph, the Secretary concerned must consider Government quarters availability for a Service member serving in grade E-5.

3. A Service member without a dependent in grade E-4 assigned to permanent sea duty aboard a ship cannot elect not to occupy assigned shipboard Government quarters and receive BAH or OHA. Under Service regulations, the Secretary concerned may authorize BAH or OHA to a Service member without a dependent who is serving in grade E-4 and is assigned to sea duty. When preparing regulations under this paragraph, the Secretary concerned must consider Government quarters availability for a Service member serving in grade E-4.

4. A Service member married to another Service member who is in a pay

grade below E-6 is authorized BAH or OHA if assigned to permanent sea duty and otherwise entitled.