The Air Force’s Personnel Center

CONUS to CONUS Civilian PCS Briefing

Effective 1 Jan 2019
Agenda

- Purpose
- Acronym Listing
- Definition & Eligibility
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Entrance on Duty
- PCS Order Status
- Travel Time
- Mandatory Entitlements
- Discretionary Allowances
- PCS Restriction
- Information/Resources
The purpose of this briefing is to outline civilian PCS entitlements for a career move from one CONUS location to another CONUS location.

Examples:
- Hanscom AFB (Air Force) to Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio (Air Force)
- Ft. Hood, TX (Army) to Pentagon, Washington DC (Air Force)
- USSOCOM (Air Force) to Randolph AFB, TX (Air Force)
- AF – Air Force
- MYPERS – My Personnel Services
- BRAC – Base Re-Alignment and Closure
- CFT – Career Field Team
- CPS – Civilian Personnel Section
- CONUS – Continental United States (48 contiguous states)
- CTO – (Contracted) Commercial Travel Office
- DMTO – Defense Travel Management Office
- DNRP – Defense National Relocation Program
- DSSR – Department of State Standardized Regulations
Acronym Listing
(2 of 4)

- EOD – Entrance on Duty
- FTA – Foreign Transfer Allowance
- GHS – Guaranteed Home Sale
- HHG – Household Goods
- HHT – House Hunting Trip
- GTCC – Government Travel Charge Card
- JTR – Joint Travel Regulation
- KCP – Key Career Position
- MEA – Miscellaneous Expense Allowance
- NF OCONUS – Non-Foreign OCONUS (Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, and other U.S. territories)
Acronym Listing (3 of 4)

- NTS – Non-Temporary Storage
- OCONUS – Outside the Continental United States (Europe, Asia etc.)
- OM – Onboarding Manager
- OPM – Office of Personnel Management
- PCS – Permanent Change of Station
- PDS – Permanent Duty Station
- PMS – Property Management Services
- POC – Privately Owned Conveyance
- POV – Privately Owned Vehicle
Acronym Listing
(4 of 4)

- PPP – Priority Placement Program
- RIF – Reduction in Force
- RITA – Relocation Income Tax Allowance
- SIT – Storage in Transit
- TMO – Transportation Management Office
- TQSA – Temporary Quarters Subsistence Allowance (OCONUS ONLY)
- TQSE – Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense (CONUS & NON FOREIGN OCONUS ONLY)
DEFINITIONS

- **Career Program Move**: An AF centrally paid move to a centrally managed position

- **Centrally Managed Position**: Includes GS-12 and above, when properly identified on the position description and managed by the CFTs; PCS funded by the CSA PCS account

- **Current Federal Civilian Employee**: Refers to civilian employees already holding a position within the federal government, to exclude military. This could include other DoD agencies and/or other Federal agencies.
ELIGIBILITY

▪ To be eligible for an AF centrally funded career program move, employees must be transferring to a centrally managed AF position, or hired as a first duty into a centrally managed position

▪ Separating or retiring military members are not considered current federal employees for purposes of their first civilian PCS - they are considered First Duty Station moves

▪ If the position IS NOT centrally managed, employees may be authorized an AF locally funded move, meaning the organization will pay PCS costs and discretionary benefits may vary
ELIGIBILITY (Cont’d)

- When two or more federal employees who are members of the same immediate family, are transferred in the GOV’T’s interest, i.e. they both receive job offers for different positions at the same (and new) PDS, they may elect to receive the travel and transportation allowances authorized as one of the following:
  - Each employee separately – each employee is eligible for travel and transportation allowances as an employee, but is not treated as the other employee’s dependent
  - Only one as an employee – the other employee is eligible for travel and transportation allowances as a dependent
ELIGIBILITY (Cont’d)

- An election must be in writing and signed by all affected employees.
- Duplication of Benefits not Authorized - Employee and/or dependents cannot accept or receive duplicate reimbursement for the employee's covered relocation expenses and must be able to state that to the best of the employee's knowledge, no third party has accepted duplicate reimbursement for the employee's relocation expenses.
EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY

We recommend you download this briefing to your home and/or work computers for future reference as you begin your PCS planning process.

- The selectee will receive the OM invite email with job information, instructions about OM, and pre-employment forms requiring completion within the tool. The invite email auto-generates a second email (the OM access), which provides a link to OM that the selectee must use within 72 hours of receipt.

- The selectee must check the “I certify that the name listed above is my full legal name and shall be displayed on all items resulting from the on-boarding process” block before proceeding or access will be denied.
EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY (Cont’d)

- You will receive a “PCS Required Documents List” that lists situations where additional documents may be required prior to completing your PCS orders. Review this list and the situation and submit the required documents to your assigned PCS technician, if applicable. Examples include:
  - Birth certificates and custody documents for children under 21 who do not share the same last name of the selectee
  - Marriage certificate for spouse that does not share the same last name of the selectee
  - Children over the age of 21 incapable of self-support
STAFFING OFFICE (AFPC/CPS)
- You should receive multiple e-mails with directions from the staffing POC
- Selecting Officials / Civilian Personnel Section (CPS)
  - Responsible for filling in portions of OM
  - Assist in answering questions from employee

PCS UNIT
- Responsible for orders production
  - You will receive a PCS unit welcome letter with the name of your technician, contact information and other required documents necessary to finalize your PCS orders
- Assists with understanding entitlements and allowances authorized by the JTR, AFMAN 36-606, and the DSSR
RESOURCES OFFICE

- Responsible for funding orders. This office also serves as the POC for DoD National Relocation Program (DNRP), Real Estate, and Property Management Services, and TQSE Extension Requests
TIMELINES FOR ESTABLISHING EOD

- When the PCS Technician receives the completed PCS-1 Form and all supporting documents, EODs are set at 45 days out for CONUS moves.
- EODs must be set at the beginning of a new pay period (Sundays).

**Example:** Completed PCS-1 and supporting documents received by PCS technician on 10 Aug 2018, 45 days from that date is 24 Sep 2018; the next pay period begins on 30 Sep 2018; therefore the EOD will be 30 Sep 2018.
TIMELINES FOR ESTABLISHING EOD (Cont’d)

- **Exceptions:** Senior Executive Service (SES), BRAC & PPP
  - SES EODs are set as requested by the organization & orders processed within 72 hours
  - PPP EODs must be within 30 days of a valid match for CONUS moves (45 days OCONUS) and orders processed within 72 hours
  - BRAC EODs are set & maintained in accordance with base closure timelines
CHECKING STATUS OF PCS ORDER

- The selectee can check the status of their PCS order 24 hours a day by accessing the MyPers website at: https://mypers.af.mil/ and selecting “My Account”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>myPers CX Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RECEIVED – PENDING ASNG TO TECH</td>
<td>The Chief of the PCS Unit has received your request for PCS orders or Amendment. Your request will be assigned to a PCS technician for processing. You will receive an electronic update each time your request has been forwarded to the next level for processing. If all required information and documentation has been successfully submitted, please allow a minimum of 14 calendar days for your request to be completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLERK PREPARING</td>
<td>Your request has been assigned to a PCS technician and is being prepared, reviewed for accuracy and documentation submission. If all required information and documentation has been successfully submitted, please allow a minimum of 14 calendar days for your request to be completed.</td>
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## PCS Order Status

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Status Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AWAITING OTHER DOCS</td>
<td>The PCS technician is currently unable to complete the processing of your PCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>orders due to missing information or documentation. The technician will contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the appropriate person(s) to request the required information or documentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Due to the delay, please allow additional time for your request to be completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVIEWING</td>
<td>Your PCS orders are currently being reviewed for quality control prior to being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>forwarded to AFPC Financial Management or to the local Civilian Personnel Sq.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>for Authentication and funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QC COMPLETE</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RETURNED/CORRECTIONS</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM AUTHENTICATION</td>
<td>Your PCS orders has been reviewed for quality control and is currently pending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Authentication and funding.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PCS Order Status**

*(3 of 3)*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCAL AUTHENTICATION</td>
<td>Your PCS orders has been reviewed for quality control and is currently pending Authentication and funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PENDING APPROVAL</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PENDING FJO RELEASE</td>
<td>The PCS orders have been funded and processed, but will not be released to the employee until all pre-employment requirements are met. Once conditions are met the FJO can be extended and PCS orders released. Note: Do not make any irreversible life decisions until FJO is extended and orders are in hand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>The PCS orders request has been completed and released to employee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CWOA (SOLVED)</td>
<td>The PCS order request has been closed without action, due to not receiving the requested documents or documentation from either employee, HR Staffer or Gaining CPS. Or the PCS Orders are no longer required (for example, you have declined the job offer after initially accepting and starting the PCS process). Please contact your servicing HR POC to determine the next possible course of action.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TRAVEL TIME

- Employee should begin official travel on first duty day following EOD
  - An employee should not perform PCS travel on a holiday or weekend
- **Exceptions**: RIF, PPP, & First Duty Hires
  - RIF & PPP Employees must travel on losing activity’s time
  - First Duty hires travel at their own discretion in order to meet EOD
TRAVEL TIME (Cont’d)

- Actual Reporting date is determined by number of travel days authorized
  - If leave En-Route is requested/authorized, reporting date will be adjusted
  - Leave En Route: This is leave taken after departure from the old duty station but prior to arrival at the new duty station
  - Must be approved in advance of travel by losing and gaining supervisors
TIME TRAVEL (Cont’d)

- Dependent Travel: If dependent does not travel with employee concurrently, it is considered delayed and must be noted on PCS order.

All travel and transportation must be completed within 1 year from the employee’s date of physically reporting for duty. Example: Employee reported on Monday, 11 Jul 2018; dependent travel, HHG shipment, and real estate transactions must be completed by 10 July 2019 (Ref: JTR, Para, 053712)
Important! Never make irreversible life change decisions, such as selling property, resigning from your current position, etc., prior to receipt of a Firm Job Offer and PCS orders

TRANSPORTATION & PER DIEM (Employee & authorized dependent(s))

- Includes travel between old and new PDS – POV, airfare (if applicable), meals & incidentals while in a travel status
- It is mandatory policy for all travelers to use an available CTO for all official transportation requirements
TRANSPORTATION & PER DIEM (Cont’d)

- If airfare is utilized, employee must book with a contracted carrier
- It is general policy of DoD that the Gov’t Travel Charge Card (GTCC) be used to pay for official travel and transportation related expenses
- Rental Car reimbursement at Gov’t expense for PCS travel is NOT authorized
TRANSPORTATION & PER DIEM (Cont’d)

- Employee and Dependent travel must be completed within 1 year from the employee’s transfer or appointment effective date

- **Employee will be responsible for authorized travel and transportation costs incurred after the 1 year anniversary date of the transfer or appointment effective date (i.e. date employee physically reported for duty)**

- **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE ALLOWANCE (MEA)** when moving a household
  - Fixed rate paid at $650 w/out dependents & $1,300 w/ dependents
MEA (Cont’d)

- Actual reimbursement may be authorized
  - Employees with Dependents - reimbursement cannot exceed two weeks of employee’s basic salary rate
  - Employees without Dependents – reimbursement cannot exceed one week of employee’s basic salary rate

- Information on MEA, and types of expenses covered, can be accessed on the MyPers website at: https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/18431/p/2/page/

- First duty station moves, SES, separation and retirement moves not eligible
TRANSPORTATION OF HHG, INCLUDING SIT

- Up to 18,000 lbs plus 2,000 (or 10 percent) of packing material allowance
- Must be shipped within 12 months of the date the employee physically reported to duty at the new duty location

*The worldwide maximum weight of HHG that may be transported (and/or stored ICW transportation) is 18,000 lbs. The employee is financially responsible for HHG-related costs incurred for excess weight (Ref: JTR, Para 054304)*
TRANSPORTATION OF HHG, INCLUDING SIT (Cont’d)

- Information on HHG can be accessed on the MyPers website at https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/detail/a_id/15353/kw/15353/p/2
- Information on SIT can be accessed on the MyPers website at https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/18241/p/2/page/1

- NTS (extended storage) of HHG
  - Limited to designated isolated CONUS PDS locations
NTS (Cont’d)

- Combined weight stored and transported must not exceed the maximum 18,000 lbs. net weight
- Information on HHG can be accessed on the MyPers website at: [https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/15352/p/2/page/1](https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/15352/p/2/page/1)

- Transportation of mobile home (including a boat) used as a primary residence in lieu of HHG transportation (NTE cost of HHG shipment)
RITA

- Certain PCS entitlements & allowances are taxable to Federal & State
- RITA is designed to compensate relocating employees for additional tax liability they incur as a result of a Gov’t directed move
- Information on RITA can be accessed on the MyPers website at: https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/18421/p/2/page/1
Mandatory Entitlements
(9 of 11)

REAL ESTATE/UNEXPIRED LEASE EXPENSES (not Retirement/Separation, First Duty Station Moves, Early return of Dependents, TCS)

- Reimbursement for certain expenses for the sale of your residence at the old PDS and/or purchase of a residence at the new PDS
- Reimbursement of expenses for settlement of an unexpired lease at the old PDS in lieu of real estate sale expenses
- Residence at the old PDS must be actual residence at the time of transfer (where you regularly commute to and from work)
REAL ESTATE/UNEXPIRED LEASE EXPENSES (Cont’d)

- Must complete sale and/or purchase transaction NLT the 1-year anniversary date that the employee physically reported for duty at new location

- An extension may be requested in very limited circumstances (NTE max of 2 years from date employee reported for duty)

  - **Written extension requests MUST be submitted no later than 30 calendar days after the 1-year expiration date (JTR, Para 053607 and AFMAN 36-606, Para 1.24.6)**
REAL ESTATE/UNEXPIRED LEASE EXPENSES (Cont’d)

- Information on Real Estate/Unexpired Lease Expenses can be accessed on the MyPers website at:
  https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/15350/p/2/page/1
Discretionary PCS Allowances are authorized at the discretion of the employing activity/DoD Component

- Allowances may or may not include: House Hunting Trip (HHT), TQSE, POV Shipment, DNRP, Property Management Service (PMS)

- If PCS is locally funded (Non-Career Program move), check with the gaining organization for authorized allowances and review published PCS orders.
Discretionary Allowances (2 of 14)

- Centrally funded (Career Program) PCS moves receive the following discretionary allowances:

**HOUSE HUNTING TRIP (HHT)**

- A maximum of 10 days for employee and/or spouse (domestic partner not authorized)
- Authorized when old and new PDS are greater than 75 miles apart
- Pays for round-trip travel, per diem & rental car
- May be reimbursed as Actual Expense or Fixed Amount (once employee has elected method of reimbursement, the election is irrevocable)
- HHT may be taken “only” after the travel authorization (PCS Order) has been issued
HHT (Cont’d)

- Employee will contact local DTMO or CTO on base to book HHT travel (commercial air, rental vehicle) -- do NOT use the Defense Travel System (DTS)
- An employee is in duty status at no charge to leave while performing HHT travel
- Information on HHT can be accessed on the MyPers website at:
  https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/17900/p/2/page/1

With limited TQSE, it is very important traveler’s utilize the HHT benefit as well as online resources to ensure permanent housing at the gaining PDS is occupied in a timely manner
SEEKING RESIDENCE

- May only be used in lieu of HHT (not authorized HHT and Seeking Residence)
- Must be approved by gaining supervisor
- Employee allowed excused leave not to exceed 10 days upon arrival at new duty station
- 10 days are included in the 30 days of TQSE authorized (i.e. not an additional 10 days)
- Rental Car is NOT authorized at Gov’t expense
- Information on Seeking Residence can be accessed on the MyPers website at:
  https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/18432/p/2/page/1
Discretionary Allowances
(5 of 14)

TQSE (Actual Expense (AE) or Lump Sum (LS) – fixed)

- Intended to partially reimburse an employee for expenses incurred as a result of occupying temporary quarters while seeking a permanent residence in conjunction with a PCS.

- Two methods for reimbursement:
  - TQSE (AE) – Actual Expense - reimbursed up to maximum of 30 days based on Standard CONUS per diem rate; receipts required.
  - TQSE (LS) – Lump Sum – reimbursed 30 days based on new PDS location maximum per diem rate (no receipts required).

- Employee make elect either method.

- Once election is made it is irrevocable.
General information on TQSE can accessed on the MyPers website at:  
https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/15346/p/2/page/1

- TQSE (Actual Expense) (cont’d)
  - Information on TQSE (AE) can be accessed on the MyPers website at:  
    https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/15347/p/2/page/1

- TQSE (Lump Sum) (cont’d)
  - Information on TQSE (LS) can be accessed on the MyPers website at:  
    https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/detail/a_id/15348/kw/TQSE%20(LS)/p/2
POV SHIPMENT (in lieu of driving)

- May be authorized if it is more advantageous and cost effective to the Gov’t to transport the POV(s) to the new PDS at Gov’t expense and to pay for transportation of the traveler and/or immediate family by commercial means than to have the traveler and/or immediate family member(s) drive one or two POCs if applicable to the new PDS
POV SHIPMENT (Cont’d)

- Costs considered are:
  - Cost of POC travel, transporting the POV(s), travel if the POV(s) is/are transported; and
  - Productivity benefit from the traveler’s accelerated arrival at the new PDS
  - Distance between authorized origin and new PDS must exceed 600 miles
  - Up to two POVs may be authorized (if two licensed drivers are authorized on the order)
  - Employee must provide the following documentation for consideration
POV SHIPMENT (Cont’d)

- Proof POV is in operating order
- Legal Title and Registration
- Current Driver’s License of traveler cited on PCS order
- Number of POV(s) requesting to be shipped
- Quote for shipment (Gov’t arranged or Traveler arranged)
- Car Insurance
- Estimated cost from Vehicle Processing Center
POV SHIPMENT (Cont’d)

- If authorized, arrangements may be Gov’t arranged or Traveler arranged
  - If POV shipment is authorized at Gov’t expense and the traveler personally arranges POV transportation, reimbursement is limited to the traveler’s actual expenses not to exceed the POV transportation cost from the authorized origin point to authorized destination

- Information on POV Shipment can be accessed on the MyPers website at:
  https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/18267/p/2/page/1
DoD NATIONAL RELOCATION PROGRAM (DNRP)
GUARANTEED HOME SALE (GHS)

- Open to all centrally managed GS-12 and above after 60 days self marketing period
- Must be authorized “Real Estate” and “Relocation Services” on orders
- Eligible employee must elect to use GHS and complete sale transaction prior to one year time limit – should enroll NLT 120 days before one-year expiration date
  - Employee who elects to use GHS must market home for sixty (60) days from date of listing prior to enrolling in GHS
DNRP & GHS (Cont’d)

- Following AF imposed 60-day marketing period, and once employee is enrolled in GHS, employee must market home for an additional sixty (60) days prior to accepting GHS offer = 120 days total
- GHS applicants funded by AFPC must cite POC name listed in Block 28 of PCS order and include the HR POC E-mail: afpcresourcesoffice@us.af.mil
DNRP & GHS (Cont’d)

- Information on DNRP can be accessed on the MyPers website at: https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5 kw/23358/p/2/page/1

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT (PM) SERVICES

- Applies only to those eligible for DNRP – occupying a centrally managed position at GS-12 or higher

- May be used in lieu of DNRP Guaranteed Home Sale (GHS) for CONUS to CONUS moves “if” PM services are to the Gov’t’s advantage and more cost effective for the Gov’t than the sale of the employee’s residence
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT (PM) SERVICES (Cont’d)

▪ If eligible, employee must submit a request for authorization of PM Services to:
  afpcresourcesoffice@us.af.mil

▪ Information on PM services can be accessed on the MyPers website at:
  https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/list/st/5/kw/19136/p/2/page/1

▪ Home Marketing Incentive Program (HMIP)
  ▪ The AF does not authorize HMIP (AFMAN 36-606, Para 2.23.7)
The JTR restricts any employee who is serving under a services agreement (formerly transportation agreement) as a result of a Gov’t sponsored PCS move from a second PCS move within a 12-month period (Ref: JTR, Para 054910)

**AF CIVILIAN DWELL TIME RESTRICTION**
- The AF requires a minimum 36-month Employment Agreement in CONUS CFT managed positions before another Gov’t paid move is authorized
- Employees must sign a completed CONUS Employment Agreement for each new CONUS CFT managed position
Exceptions:

- Registrants selected for placement through the PPP
- Employees participating in centrally funded civilian development programs where PCS is required as part of the program
- Employees exercising return rights to the same CFT position previously occupied before going OCONUS
- AFPC is the approval authority for a second PCS move when an employee has not completed the 36-month service period for all CFT managed positions
AF CIVILIAN DWELL TIME RESTRICTION (Cont’d)

- Waiver requests must be submitted to the selectee’s owning CFT

- Exceptions to PCS Restriction (no waiver required):
  - Employees selected for promotion within 12-35 months of last PCS
  - Employees selected for transfer to another DoD Component or non-DoD Agency within 12-35 months of last PCS
  - Employees separated as a result of reduction in force (RIF) and for the convenience of the Gov’t
Exceptions to PCS Restriction (cont’d)

- Employee called to active duty or enlistment in the Armed Forces
Information/Resources
(1 of 2)

- PCS Videos are available at:
  http://www.afciviliancareers.com/regulatory/

- For Entitlements and Allowances
  - Joint Travel Regulation

- For all Household goods, POV shipment and GBL cost comparison related questions contact your nearest TMO
  - https://move.mil/
For reimbursement, travel rates and other finance related questions contact your gaining Comptroller Squadron civilian pay office
  ▪  http://www.dfas.mil/dfas/pctravel.html

Department of State Standardized Regulations (DSSR)
https://aoprals.state.gov/

Career Program Information
  ▪  AFMAN 36-606, Civilian Career Field Management and Development
The Air Force’s Personnel Center

Agile, Innovative, and Responsive…Fueling the Fight!