

as described in section 502 (a)(1) of Public Law 101-510, as amended (subject to Status of Forces Agreements overseas); extended and commissary privileges as detailed in section 502(a)(1) of Public Law 101-510, as amended (subject to Status of Forces Agreements overseas); travel and transportation allowances, as detailed in section 503 of Public Law No. 101-510, as amended; continuation of enrollment in Department of Defense Dependents Schools as detailed in section 504 of Public Law 101-510, as amended (subject to Status of Forces Agreements overseas.)

(c) *Special separation benefit and voluntary separation incentive.* Voluntary separation programs established in section 661 and section 662 of Public Law 102-190, as amended. Service members separated under these programs are eligible for both transition services and separation entitlements outlined in paragraphs (b) and (d) of this section.

(d) *Transition services.* Preseparation counseling, individual transition planning, employment assistance, excess leave and permissive temporary duty, and relocation assistance for personnel overseas as described in section 502 (a)(1) of Public Law 101-510, as amended.

§ 88.4 Policy.

It is DoD policy that: (a) Transition assistance programs prepare separating Service members and their families with the skills, tools, and self-confidence necessary to ensure successful reentry into the Nation's civilian work force.

(b) Transition assistance programs be designed to complete the military personnel "life cycle." This cycle begins with the Service member's recruitment from the civilian sector, continues with training and sustainment throughout a Service members's active service in the Armed Forces, and ends when the Service member returns to the civilian sector.

(c) Transition assistance programs include: (1) Transition service as defined in § 88.3 (d) to be provided to Service members and their families for up to 90 days after separation, space and work load permitting.

(2) Separation entitlements as defined in § 88.3 (b) for Service members

who are involuntarily separating as defined in § 99.3 (a) or separating under the Voluntary Separation Incentive or Special Separation Benefit Programs as defined in § 88.3 (c).

(d) Service members from one Service shall not be restricted from participating in another Service's transition assistance program unless workload or other unusual circumstances dictate. Every effort will be made to accommodate all eligible personnel, especially if referral to another transition site will require the Service member to travel a long distance and incur significant expense.

(e) [Reserved]

(f) When being discharged, released from active duty, or retiring (hereafter referred to as "separating Service members"), Service members and their families bear primary responsibility for their successful transition into the civilian sector.

(g) Spouses shall be encouraged to participate in transition planning and counseling to the maximum extent possible.

(h) Enhanced transition programs shall be established for Service members and their families who are overseas to help alleviate the special difficulties overseas personnel encounter when job and house hunting.

(i) Installations in the United States shall give priority transition assistance to personnel who recently returned from overseas.

§ 88.5 Responsibilities.

(a) The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness shall: (1) Issue guidance on transition assistance programs for Service members and their families, as necessary.

(2) Coordinate, as necessary, within the Department of Defense to ensure the availability of high quality, equitable, and cost-effective transition programs among the Military Services.

(3) Coordinate with and seek the assistance of the Departments of Labor and Veterans Affairs, and other Federal Agencies to facilitate delivery of high quality transition assistance programs to separating Service members.

(4) Evaluate the level of resources needed to deliver quality transition