

Relocation Allowances

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(ii) Separation is for reasons beyond the control of the individual and acceptable to the agency concerned.

(3) The head of the agency also shall consider requiring a service agreement in connection with the transfer of employees not otherwise covered by this subpart. The agreement shall provide that in determining any employee indebtedness for violation of such agreement, credit shall be given to the extent of any unused entitlements he/she may have earned for return travel and transportation to his/her place of actual residence for separation.

(c) *Employee liability.* The agreement to remain in the service of the Government for 12 months following the effective date of transfer is not voided by a subsequent transfer whether such subsequent transfer is at the employee's request or in the interest of the Government, nor is such agreement voided by another service agreement made in connection with a second transfer. The liability of the employee for any funds expended by the Government for his/her travel, transportation, and relocation allowances is a separate liability for each service agreement. The liability in each instance is effective for the full 12-month period in connection with the transfer for which the service agreement was made.

[54 FR 20306, May 10, 1989, as amended by FTR Amdt. 16, 56 FR 15050, Apr. 15, 1991; FTR Amdt. 17, 56 FR 23656, May 23, 1991; FTR Amdt. 26, 57 FR 28635, June 26, 1992; FTR Amdt. 84, 64 FR 29163, May 28, 1999]

§ 302-1.6 Time limits for beginning travel and transportation.

All travel, including that for the immediate family, and transportation, including that for household goods allowed under this chapter, shall be accomplished as soon as possible. The maximum time for beginning allowable travel and transportation shall not exceed 2 years from the effective date of the employee's transfer or appointment, except that:

(a) The 2-year period is exclusive of the time spent on furlough for an employee who begins active military service before the expiration of such period and who is furloughed for the duration of his/her assignment to the post of

duty for which transportation and travel expenses are allowed;

(b) The 2-year period does not include any time during which travel and transportation is not feasible due to shipping restrictions for an employee who is transferred or appointed to or from a post of duty outside the continental United States; and

(c) The 2-year period shall be extended for an additional period of time not to exceed 1 year when the 2-year time limitation for completion of residence transactions is extended under § 302-6.1(e).

[54 FR 20306, May 10, 1989, as amended by FTR Amdt. 26, 57 FR 28635, June 26, 1992]

§ 302-1.7 Short distance involved.

(a) *Transfers.* When the change of official station involves a short distance (at least 10 miles between stations as provided in § 302-1.3(a)(1)) within the same general local or metropolitan area, the travel and transportation expenses and applicable allowances in connection with the employee's relocation of his/her residence shall be authorized only when the agency determines that the relocation was incident to the change of official station. Such determination shall take into consideration such factors as commuting time and distance between the employee's residence at the time of notification of transfer and his/her old and new posts of duty as well as the commuting time and distance between a proposed new residence and the new post of duty. Ordinarily, a relocation of residence shall not be considered as incident to a change of official station unless the one-way commuting distance from the old residence to the new official station is at least 10 miles greater than from the old residence to the old official station. Even then, circumstances surrounding a particular case (e.g., relative commuting time) may suggest that the move of residence was not incident to the change of official station. (See also specific distance limitations applicable to individual allowances; i.e., househunting trips in § 302-4.3(c) and eligibility for temporary quarters subsistence expenses in § 302-5.4(b).)

(b) *Appointments.* For new appointees, whose place of actual residence at the time of selection for appointment and

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first duty station are located in the same general local or metropolitan area and who relocate their places of residence as a result of the appointment, the travel and transportation expenses as provided in §302-1.10 shall be authorized only when the agency determines that the relocation of residence was incident to the appointment. To the extent applicable, the principles prescribed for transferred employees shall be considered in making this determination.

[54 FR 20306, May 10, 1989, as amended by FTR Amdt. 17, 56 FR 23657, May 23, 1991; FTR Amdt. 59, 62 FR 13756, Mar. 21, 1997; FTR Amdt. 63, 62 FR 13768, Mar. 21, 1997]

§ 302-1.8 Two or more family members employed.

(a) *Members of the same immediate family who are employees.* When two or more employees are members of the same immediate family, the allowances authorized under this chapter shall apply either to:

(1) Each employee separately, in which instance none of the employees is eligible for any allowance as a member of the immediate family; or

(2) Only one of the employees selected in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section, in which case the other employee(s) is eligible for allowances solely as a member(s) of the immediate family.

(b) *Non-employee members of the immediate family.* When two or more employee members of the same immediate family elect separate allowances under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, non-employee members of the immediate family shall not receive duplicate allowances because of the fact that the employee members elected separate allowances.

(c) *Payment limitation.* When employee members of the same immediate family elect separate allowances under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the employing agency or agencies shall not make duplicate payment for the same expenses.

(d) *Procedures.* A determination as to which of the two alternatives provided in paragraph (a) of this section is selected shall be made in writing and signed by all employee members of the same immediate family. When em-

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ployee family members elect separate allowances under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the determination also shall specify under which employee member's authorization non-employee family members will receive allowances. A copy of this determination shall be filed with the agency in which each employee member is employed.

[FTR Amdt. 20, 56 FR 46989, Sept. 17, 1991]

§ 302-1.9 Reduction in force involved.

(a) *Impending separation.* When an employee is assigned to a new official station after having been notified of involuntary separation not for cause but incident to the reduction, cessation, or transfer of the work at the station where he/she was employed, the transfer of the employee is deemed to be in the interest of the Government unless there is an affirmative administrative determination that the transfer is primarily for the employee's convenience or benefit.

(b) *Reemployment after separation.* A former employee separated by reason of reduction in force or transfer of function who within 1 year of the date of separation is reemployed by an agency for a nontemporary appointment, at a different permanent duty station from that where the separation occurred, may be allowed and paid the expenses and other allowances (excluding nontemporary storage when assigned to an isolated permanent duty station within the continental United States) in the same manner as though he/she had been transferred in the interest of the Government to the permanent duty station where reemployed, from the permanent duty station where separated, without a break in service, and subject to the eligibility limitations as prescribed in this chapter.

[54 FR 20306, May 10, 1989, as amended by FTR Amdt. 26, 57 FR 28635, June 26, 1992]

§ 302-1.10 New appointees.

(a) *Coverage.* New appointees to any position are eligible for payment only of those travel and transportation expenses listed in paragraph (e) of this section in relocating to their first official station. New appointees include student trainees who are assigned upon