

VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 5: “TEMPORARY DUTY TRAVEL (TDY)”

SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

All changes are denoted by **blue font**.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an * symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by **bold, italic, blue and underlined font**.

The previous version dated November 2008 is archived.

PARA	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
All	Verify and update references.	Update
All	Verify and update hyperlinks.	Update
All	Changes chapter title from “Temporary Duty Travel (TDY) – NonDefense Travel System” to Temporary Duty Travel (TDY) to clarify that Volume 9, Chapter 5 is applicable for all TDY travel, not just travel for other than the Defense Travel System (DTS) use.	Update
050201.I	Updates duties of Certifying Officers to bring them into alignment with current law and regulatory guidance.	Update
050203	Makes minor change to language to improve accuracy regarding false claims.	Update
0503	Adds clarification that, in order to ensure proper reimbursement, travel orders should list the actual TDY location.	Update
050702	Updates guidance on deductible meals furnished at conferences.	Update

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CHAPTER 5

*TEMPORARY DUTY TRAVEL (TDY)

0501 GENERAL

This chapter identifies the DoD financial management policies and procedures governing travel administration for travelers performing official government business. This guidance identifies procedures covering the payment of travel and transportation allowances. It does not include every condition in which travel and transportation allowances are either authorized, or limited by, the Joint Federal Travel Regulations/Joint Travel Regulations (JFTR/JTR). Information contained in this volume does not supersede the JFTR/JTR.

0502 RESPONSIBILITIES

*050201. Accountable Official Responsibilities

Accountable officials involved in the travel management process shall serve as control points within the organization. These positions shall be designated in writing as prescribed by Volume 5, section 3305 of this Regulation. Accountable officials for the TDY process include the government travel card agency program coordinators (APCs), authorizing officials (AO), resource managers, fundholders, automated information system (AIS) administrators, approving officials, and certifying officers.

A. General Responsibilities

1. Acknowledge appointment and responsibilities as an accountable official by signature.
2. Implement, maintain, and enforce system internal procedures and control points within an organization to minimize opportunities for erroneous payments.
3. Comply with all applicable DoD regulations, policies, and procedures.
4. Respond in a timely manner to inquiries by reviewing officials.

B. Government Travel Card APCs. APCs implement and execute the government travel card program. See Chapter 3 of this volume for additional information and APC responsibilities.

C. Approving Officials

1. Approve TDY orders.
2. Approve travel claims.

3. If required by the DoD Component, then approve claims by signing and dating the DD Form 1351-2 "Travel Voucher and Subvoucher," and forwarding approved vouchers to the appropriate travel computation office. If a voucher is disapproved, then annotate the reason and return to the traveler for correction or clarification as necessary.

4. If the entitlement or itinerary changes, then approve after-the-fact allowable expenses and itinerary or status changes by signing and dating the DD Form 1351-2 and forwarding the approved voucher to the travel computation office.

D. Authorizing Officials

1. Authorize all travel entitlements except when a higher authority is required, such as for first-class travel.

2. Review lines of accounting.

3. Assign travel order control numbers.

4. Determine that travel was performed as authorized.

5. Approve travel claim when there is a change from the written travel order involving entitlements, itinerary, or reimbursable expense, such as a rental car. (NOTE: The act of signing and dating the traveler's DD Form 1351-2 in block 21A, with remarks in block 29, negates the need for amendments.)

6. Sign and date all travel claims when required by the DoD Component.

7. Ensure the claim is forwarded to the appropriate liaison office or travel computation office within 2 working days following the traveler's submission.

E. Resource Managers/Fundholders

1. Ensure proper assignment of funding.

2. Maintain funds control.

3. Certify fund availability.

F. Supervisory Review

1. Review, sign, and date all travel claims for military and civilian personnel.

2. Submit the travel claim to the appropriate travel computation office for processing prior to payment.

G. Travel Computation Offices

1. Establish adequate internal controls to process travel claims.
2. Notify traveler if voucher is incorrect or incomplete, and request correction.
3. Notify the submitting office or person if travel claim is received at the wrong office for computation.
4. Compute and determine the travel entitlement.
5. Forward the computed travel claim and supporting documents to the disbursing office for payment or interface with the disbursing system for payment.

H. Automated Information System Administrators. The AIS administrators operate and maintain systems to support travel management. They support the entitlement, certifying, and disbursing systems.

* I. Certifying Officers. Certifying Officers are pecuniarily liable under 31 United States Code (U.S.C.) 3528. Also see Title 41 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), section 301.71.203 and Volume 5, Chapter 33. They shall:

1. Be appointed by appropriate authority.
2. Acknowledge by signature their appointment as a certifying officer.
3. Complete DD Form 577, "Signature Card."
4. Maintain DD Form 577, "Signature Card", of accountable officials.
5. Certify for reasonableness and validity of travel claims.
6. Certify claims for payment as outlined in Volume 5, section 3306 of this Regulation.
7. Forward certified claims to the supporting disbursing office.
8. Compare pre-trip and post-trip estimate of expenses.
9. Review all lodging receipts.
10. Review individual reimbursable expense receipts of \$75 or more.

J. Travelers. Travelers shall:

1. Prepare the DD Form 1351-2 to include identifying the duration of the TDY in block 17.
2. Attach all supporting documentation, including the original or legible copies of orders and receipts, for all lodging expenses, as well as claimed reimbursable expense of \$75 or more.
3. If information is not on file or requires updating with the travel computation office, identify electronic funds transfer (EFT) information using an [SF1199A Direct Deposit Sign-Up Form](#), including account and financial institution routing transit number and account type.
4. If selecting split disbursement, ensure that government travel card information is on record and indicate the dollar amount to be sent to the government travel card account.
5. Sign, date, and include home or unit address and unit telephone number on travel claim.
6. Forward or fax the original DD Form 1351-2 and supporting documents to the AO or travel computation office as appropriate.
7. Provide to the AO copies of all receipts for lodging expenses and individual reimbursable expenses of \$75 or more.

050202. Reviewing Officials

Reviewing officials conduct prepayment and postpayment review of travel payments certified by certifying officers. The person appointed as a reviewing official may not serve concurrently as an accountable official or as a certifying or disbursing officer. Except where impracticable within afloat or tactical operating forces, persons appointed as reviewing officials shall not be in the supervisory chain of command of a certifying or disbursing officer.

*050203. Suspected False Claims

Travelers are liable under [18 U.S.C., sections 287](#) and [1001](#), and the False Claims Act [U.S.C. 31, section 3729-3731](#), if they knowingly submit false, fictitious, or fraudulent claims. When a suspected fraudulent claim is presented for payment, certifying officers or disbursing officers shall follow the policies and procedures outlined in Volume 5, section 2504 of this Regulation.

*0503 TRAVEL ORDERS

Travel orders are prepared in accordance with DoD Component management guidance and administrative instructions (including [JFTR, Chapters 2 and 7](#) for uniformed members, [JTR, Appendix I](#) for civilian employees and [JFTR/JTR, Appendix E](#) for invitational travel authorizations). The travel order establishes in writing the conditions for official travel and transportation at government expense. To ensure proper reimbursement, the actual TDY duty location must be listed on the travel orders (i.e., If going TDY to Ft. Bliss, TX, the travel orders must explicitly state “Ft. Bliss, TX”, not El Paso, TX). Travel orders must identify the traveler as either a government travel card cardholder or noncardholder. This statement authorizes alternative payment methods (e.g., transportation tickets being charged to a centrally billed account). The TDY travel orders shall include the travel computation unit (location/address) to which travel vouchers must be forwarded (faxed/mailed). (See [JFTR, Chapter 2, par. U2500](#) and, [JTR, Appendix I](#))

050301. Funding

A. All orders, wherever possible, shall be funded by the traveler’s organization unless group orders or alternative methods are more efficient. If funding is to be provided by another office, then the traveler’s organization shall, prior to issuing travel orders, obtain a fund cite from that office in an amount sufficient to pay for the travel.

B. In the event of a split-year funded trip, the traveler must return to his or her official duty station if no DoD Appropriation Act has been signed or continuing resolution has been enacted. Expenses incurred in returning to the traveler’s duty station will be posted in the new fiscal year as necessary costs to close down operations.

050302. Variations

A. Variations Authorized. The authorization of travel variations should not be used in place of adequate advance planning, nor shall they be used to grant an open travel authorization. Variations shall be authorized in the order and are permitted only when considered mission essential in accordance with [JFTR, Chapter 2, par. U2135](#) and [JTR, Chapter 4, par. C4425](#). “Variations Authorized” permit:

1. Omission of travel to a place, or places, stated in the travel order.
2. Change in the order of travel to places shown.
3. Travel to places not shown.

B. Verbal Variations. Confirmation of a verbal order is required, and may not be delegated, when the AO gives the traveler a verbal order to:

1. Change the order of places to be visited.
2. Change the time at each location.

3. Add or omit locations.

C. No Amendments Needed. No amendments are needed if:

1. The traveler departs within a period of 7 days before or after the specified date of departure.

2. The TDY is extended by 100 percent of the original time or 7 days, whichever is less. For example, if a TDY of 5 days is authorized, then the traveler could be extended for 5 additional days (100 percent) without amendments (the lesser of 7 days and 100 percent (5 days)). On the other hand, if a TDY is authorized for 14 days, then the traveler could extend 7 additional days without amendments (the lesser of 7 days and 100 percent (14 days)).

050303. Issued in Advance

A travel order is issued before the travel is performed unless an urgent or unusual situation prevents prior issuance. Travel orders may not be revised or modified retroactively after the effective date so as to increase or decrease the rights and benefits which have been fixed under the applicable statutes or regulations. (NOTE: This does not prohibit confirmation of verbal orders.)

050304. Basis for Reimbursement

The travel order is the basis for the traveler's reimbursement. Reimbursement for travel is not authorized when the travel is performed in anticipation of verbal orders. The right to allowances is established when travel expenses are incurred under orders. Travelers are entitled to travel and transportation allowances only while in a travel status.

050305. Object Classification

Accounting for TDY travel shall be accomplished through the use of a single object classification code. All temporary duty orders shall be issued using the single object classification code of 21, "Travel and Transportation of Persons." Temporary exemptions to the mandatory use of the two-digit (21) object classification code to accommodate Component-unique accounting requirements may be permitted only with the advance approval of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) or designee.

050306. Registration Fees

All registration fees incurred while DoD travelers are on TDY travel shall be charged to object classification code 21, "Travel and Transportation of Persons."

050307. Errors on Travel Orders

A. Personal Data. When travel orders contain erroneous data (e.g.,

misspelled names, incorrect Social Security numbers, or incorrect grades), claims may be paid without amending the orders. The traveler may make and initial any necessary changes.

B. Appropriation Data. When the accountable (funding) station is the disbursing station, the incorrect accounting classification data may be corrected without an amendment. If the accountable (funding) station is different than the disbursing station, then changes to the incorrect accounting classification data shall be supported by one of the following:

1. Separate funding documents
2. A letter from the accountable disbursing official/comptroller
3. A documented telephone call to the accountable disbursing official or comptroller.

050308. Retroactive Amendments to Orders

A. Amendment Required. Travel orders may not be amended to increase or decrease entitlement to travel allowances after travel is performed. The original order, however, may be amended after travel is performed when an error is obvious or travel requirements change en route. A written amendment confirming a verbal order is not included in this category provided the verbal order was issued on or before the effective date of the directed change.

B. Amendment Not Required. Some provisions of the [JFTR/JTR](#) provide for after-the-fact approval (e.g., rental cars and communications expenses). In this case, the approval is not a retroactive amendment. Such expenses are claimed on the voucher and approved by the AO. An AO signature on a DD Form 1351-2 constitutes approval of the claim.

0504 TRAVEL ADVANCES

050401. Policy

Cash travel advances shall not be authorized unless an exception is granted. Annotate the maximum advance amount authorized on the travel order. The standard practice is for the traveler to use his or her government travel card to obtain cash from an automated teller machine (ATM). Also annotate on the travel order the maximum ATM cash advance amount that may be withdrawn using the government travel card. Personnel who are not eligible for government travel cards may obtain travel advances only via electronic funds transfer. The supervisor, in coordination with the disbursing officer, may authorize cash advances in limited situations where no other process is available to accomplish the mission. See Chapter 3 of this volume for additional guidance on the government travel card program.

050402. Managing Financial Resources

To manage financial resources more effectively for travel expense purposes, DoD Components shall:

A. Hold to a minimum the amounts of cash advances for travel purposes as provided in section 0505 of this volume.

B. Ensure that travelers submit vouchers within established time frames, as provided in paragraph 050405.

C. Process travel vouchers promptly to assure timely payment to employees or members or to recover any excess travel advances as indicated in the [JTR, Chapter 1, par. C1105.A](#). DoD Components must establish internal policies and procedures to ensure travel vouchers are paid within 25 working days after the end of a trip or travel period.

050403. Cadets and Midshipmen

Cadets and midshipmen travel in accordance with the policies of the respective service academy. If a cadet or midshipman wants a travel advance or seeks settlement at a disbursing office, then the respective office listed below shall be contacted for authorization, as follows:

U.S. Military Academy:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
ATTN: Travel Operations
325 Brooks Road
Rome, New York 13441
DRO-ArmyTravel@dfas.mil

U.S. Naval Academy:

Midshipman Disbursing Office
100 Cooper Road USNA-Bancroft Hall
Annapolis, MD 21402-5024
Commercial Phone: (410) 267-3297
DSN: 281-3297/3298

U.S. Air Force Academy:

10 ABW/FMFPPP
2304 Cadet Drive Suite 220
U.S. Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, CO 80840-5040
Commercial Phone: (719) 472-2649
DSN: 333-2649

050404. Invitational Travel Authorizations

Travel advances may be authorized for travelers using invitational travel authorizations. The amount of the advance shall be approved by the orders approving official and included on

the invitational travel authorization. Limit advances to the authorized amount (refer to paragraph 050401).

050405. Monitoring Advances

A. General. When a travel advance is authorized, it shall be monitored to ensure that a corresponding travel claim is filed within 10 working days of the traveler's return to or arrival at the permanent duty station (PDS), or immediately when the orders are canceled. Travelers whose TDY extends beyond 30 days may file travel claims within 5 working days after the end of every 30 calendar day period or travel accrual payments may be provided in accordance with Service-specific regulations.

B. Failure To Submit Travel Claim. If a traveler has not submitted a claim within 15 days after the estimated date of return/arrival (provisions for separatees/retirees are in paragraph 050515), then the following action shall be taken:

1. Marine Corps Members. Fifteen days after the member's estimated date of arrival/return, recoup the total amount of the advance through pay account deduction (see DFAS-Kansas City 7220.31-R, "Marine Corps Total Force Automated Pay Systems Manual"). System acceptance of this transaction activates the delayed deduction program. The member is notified of the impending deduction on the next leave and earnings statement. The amount then is deducted from the member's pay the following month.

2. Other Travelers. Each DoD Component shall ensure that it has a process to monitor travelers' advances. Issue a letter advising travelers of their responsibility to submit travel claims and/or repay advances. If, on the 46th day after the traveler's estimated date of return/arrival, no response to the letter has been received, then collect from the traveler's pay account. See Volume 5, section 3002 of this Regulation regarding administrative offset procedures.

0505 TRAVEL ADVANCE LIMITATIONS

050501. General

Except as provided in paragraph 050503, DoD Components shall limit travel advances to those estimated expenses that a traveler is expected to incur for authorized travel (including travel incident to permanent duty travel/temporary change of station (PDT/TCS) that ordinarily would be paid using cash (see "cash transaction expenses" as defined in paragraph 050502). This limitation applies to all advances. Advances issued for travel under single trip, as well as open travel authorizations, are limited to the estimated cash transaction expenses for no more than a 45-day period.

050502. Cash Transaction Expenses

Cash transaction expenses are those travel expenses that, as a general rule, cannot be charged and, therefore, must be paid using cash, personal checks, or traveler's checks. Travelers

shall use the government travel charge card to charge major expenses, such as common carrier transportation fares, lodging costs, and rental of automobiles and airplanes. Cash transaction expenses are those items listed below:

- A. Meals, when the government charge card is not accepted, and incidental expenses covered by the per diem rate, or Actual Expense Allowance (AEA).
- B. Miscellaneous transportation expenses, such as:
 - 1. Local transit system fares.
 - 2. Taxi fares.
 - 3. Parking fees.
 - 4. Ferry fees.
 - 5. Bridge, road, and tunnel fees.
 - 6. Airplane parking, landing, and tiedown fees.
- C. Gasoline and other variable expenses covered by the mileage allowance for advantageous use of a privately owned conveyance (POC) for official business.
- D. Other authorized miscellaneous expenses which cannot be charged using a charge card and for which a cost reasonably can be estimated before travel.

050503. Exceptions to Travel Advance Limitations

A. Authorized Exceptions. The limitation in paragraph 050501 does not apply to any of the following PDT/TCS expenses:

- 1. Temporary quarters subsistence
- 2. Transportation and temporary storage of household goods (HHG)
- 3. Mobile home transportation.

B. Discounted Conference or Training Registration Fee (41 C.F.R. §301-74.25). Advance payment of discounted conference or training registration fee may be paid as indicated in paragraph 050507. (See JTR, Chapter 1, par. C1101.C and JFTR, Appendix R, Part II, par. H)

C. Order-Issuing Official's Discretion. The order-issuing/authenticating official may, under limited circumstances, increase the travel advance amount paid to a traveler. Those circumstances are as follows:

1. Use of Government Travel Charge Card Precluded. Travel circumstances are expected to preclude the use of a government travel charge card to purchase transportation, lodging, car rental, or other travel expenses that ordinarily are charged.

2. Government Travel Charge Card Not Offered. The employee is not offered a government travel charge card in accordance with Chapter 3, paragraph 030302 of this volume.

3. Permanent Duty Travel/Temporary Change of Station (PDT/TCS). Use of a government travel charge card is not feasible for PDT/TCS travel or a househunting trip incident to a transfer between official stations, particularly a transfer between agencies.

D. Allowable Amount for Meals and Incidental Expenses (M&IE). Unless a different amount has been prescribed in the travel order/AEA, the amount advanced for meals and incidental expenses shall not exceed the M&IE allowance prescribed in the [JTR, Chapter 4, par. C4553.C.2](#), and [JFTR, Chapter 4, pars. U4100 through U4150](#).

E. Amount Allowed. Travel advances should not exceed 80 percent of the estimated lodging and transportation costs in the event that: a travel card is not accepted at the TDY location; a Service/Agency does not authorize the travel card to be used for PDT or TCS travel; or the employee has not been offered the travel card. This information shall be shown in block 16 of the travel order and shall serve as the basis for authorizing an advance up to 80 percent. If the 80 percent limitation results in a financial hardship on the employee, then the order issuing official may authorize an advance for up to 100 percent of the estimated expenses for:

1. An individual trip.
2. An open travel authorization not to exceed a 45-day period.

F. Travel Under a Reduced Per Diem Rate. When a reduced per diem rate is prescribed in accordance with the [JTR, Chapter 4, pars. C4550.C and C4560](#) employees or members may be authorized a cash travel advance of 100 percent of the authorized per diem rate for no more than a 45-day period, provided that the following three conditions are all met:

1. The period of TDY exceeds 60 days
2. Travel vouchers are to be filed at least every 30 days
3. The government charge card cannot be used.

050504. Per Diem Amount

A. TDY or AEA. An advance based on the per diem allowance is limited to a period of 45 days under an individual travel order unless the employee is:

1. assigned to TDY for a period in excess of 45 days at a place where there are no facilities available for processing travel vouchers, or

2. performing extended TDY aboard a Navy ship.

B. PDT or TCS

1. Travel Between Old and New PDSs. An advance for the employee and/or dependents, based on the applicable per diem allowance, shall be limited to the amount payable for the allowable travel time.

2. Round Trip Travel to Seek Permanent Residence. An advance for the employee and/or spouse, based on the per diem allowance, shall be limited to the amount payable for the actual number of days authorized in the travel orders.

050505. Mileage Amount

A. TDY. An advance based on the mileage allowance shall be limited to the official distance between the PDS and the TDY location.

B. PDT or TCS

1. Travel Between Old and New PDSs. An advance, based on the mileage allowance of the military member/civilian employee and/or dependents, shall be limited to the official distance between the old and new PDSs.

2. Round-Trip Travel to Seek Permanent Residence. An advance, based on the mileage allowance of the civilian employee and/or spouse, shall be limited to the official distance between the old and new PDSs.

050506. Commercial Transportation Amount

When an employee who does not have a travel card is authorized to perform travel by commercial transportation, an advance may be paid based on the estimated cost of the required transportation, not to exceed 80 percent for each trip authorized under the travel orders. If the 80 percent limitation results in a financial hardship on the employee, then the order-issuing official may authorize an advance for up to 100 percent.

050507. Advance Payment of Discounted Conference or Training Registration Fee

A. General. Travelers may be permitted to register early and be reimbursed for an advanced discounted payment for a conference or training registration fee as soon as they have been approved for the event, and they submit a proper claim for the expenses incurred.

B. Traveler is Unable to Attend an Event for Which Reimbursement was Made. If the advance payment was made in accordance with subparagraph 050507.A, and the

traveler is unable to attend the event, then the traveler must seek a refund of the registration fee and repay the advance with any refund received. If no refund is made, then the DoD Component concerned must absorb the advanced payment as a preparatory travel expense if the traveler's failure to attend the event was caused either by a decision of the DoD Component concerned or for reasons beyond the traveler's control that are acceptable to the DoD Component concerned, e.g., unforeseen illness or emergency. If no refund is made, and the traveler's failure to attend the scheduled event is due to reasons deemed inexcusable by the DoD Component concerned, then the traveler must repay the amount advanced.

050508. HHG Amount

An advance for the cost of HHG transportation shall be limited to the cost of shipping the estimated weight of the employee's goods within the maximum weight for which an employee is eligible, at the applicable rate and distance shown in the commuted rate schedule. An advance for the cost of temporary storage shall be limited to the applicable commuted rate for the weight of HHG and period of storage, not in excess of 90 days and not in excess of the maximum HHG weight for which an employee is eligible. A request for an advance by an employee should be accompanied by a written statement designating the points of origin and destination, the estimated HHG weight to be shipped, and any anticipated temporary storage not to exceed 90 days. The estimate of weight required in support of an advance may consist of a statement of the estimated weight signed by the carrier selected to handle the shipments.

050509. Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense (TQSE) Amount

Advances may be paid in 30-day increments for subsistence expenses covered in the [JTR, Chapter 5, par. C5370.B](#). The initial advance for funds for TQSE shall not exceed the maximum amount allowable under [JTR, Chapter 5, par. C5372](#), for the first authorized period of 30 days or less. Thereafter, advances for subsequent 30-day periods may be paid as authorized by the DoD Component. When an advance is needed for the second and subsequently authorized 30-day periods, DoD Components should advise employees or members to submit the request for advance in sufficient time to allow for processing, approval, and issuance of the advance.

050510. Mobile Home Transportation Amount

A. Within the Continental/Contiguous United States (CONUS). When the point of origin and the PDS to which movement is authorized both are located within CONUS, an advance for the cost of transportation of a mobile home moved by a commercial transporter shall be limited to an amount computed at the applicable rates for transportation for the official distance and 90 days temporary storage prescribed in the commuted rate schedules for the maximum weight of HHG for which an employee is eligible. If a mobile home is moved by a means other than a commercial transporter between such points, then limit the advance to an amount computed at \$0.11 per mile for the official highway distance or the applicable commuted rates in the schedules, whichever is less ([Federal Travel Regulation \(FTR\), Chapter 300-10.300](#)).

B. Between CONUS and Alaska. For travel between the CONUS and Alaska involving movement through Canada, limit the advance to the constructive cost for transportation and temporary storage of HHG under a government bill of lading, subject to entitlement conditions and limitations prescribed in subparagraph 050510.A.

050511. Group or Charter Arrangements

When payment for transportation under group or charter arrangements cannot be made to a carrier with government-procured transportation documents, an advance may be paid based on the estimated cost of the transportation to be furnished.

050512. Requesting an Advance

Subject to the conditions in subparagraph 050512.A, an advance shall, upon request, be paid to an employee. The appropriate disbursing office shall compute the amount paid. (An exception to this requirement is authorized when individual travel orders are received via the Department of the Navy certified Automated Travel Order delivery system.) Do not pay an advance more than 10 days before travel begins unless specifically authorized by the authority directing the travel as necessary because of early departure incident to leave and Service exigencies. An advance is subject to the conditions stated in the following subparagraphs:

A. Number of Advances Authorized. Ordinarily, only one advance may be paid for a specific purpose under the same travel order. An exception to this rule may be made for employees or members on TDY in excess of 45 days aboard Navy ships or employees or members on other TDY assignments under an individual travel order in excess of 45 days at a place where there are no facilities available for processing travel vouchers. The total of the amounts advanced during the TDY assignment may not exceed the total amount authorized to be advanced in the traveler's orders.

B. Prior Advance Outstanding. No advances shall be paid to personnel who failed, for reasons unacceptable to the approving official, to submit a reimbursement voucher on a previous travel authorization/order in which an advance was paid, or have not made arrangements to settle an outstanding advance. This requirement may be waived when personnel have not had reasonable time to prepare and submit vouchers between successive travel assignments.

C. HHG Shipments. Advances for transportation or temporary storage of HHG or mobile home movement shall not be paid if such expense is not expected to be incurred by the employee concerned within 30 days from the authorizing date. In such cases, the advance may be paid later.

050513. Obtaining an Advance Payment

A. Document Submission

1. Department of the Navy. Prepare, and submit to the disbursing

office, one copy of the original travel order after it is signed. The travel order shall indicate the amount of the advance authorized.

2. Marine Corps. Prepare, and submit to the appropriate paying office, an original and three copies of the DD Form 1351 accompanied by three copies of the employee's travel order; or other requirements as provided by the appropriate paying office.

3. All Others. Prepare, and submit to the appropriate paying office, an original and three copies of the DD Form 1351 accompanied by three copies of the employee's travel order.

B. Payment. The disbursing office pays an advance. Necessary records of advances paid to employees or members are maintained by the appropriate office as specified in paragraph 050514.

050514. Advance Repayment

A. General. An employee or member who has received an advance shall submit a travel claim voucher within 5 working days of the employee's or member's return after the end of each trip so that settlement of the advance account can be made. The responsible settlement office that accounts for funds against which the advance was charged is responsible for settlement or collection action in accordance with the applicable Component's accounting or disbursing regulation. The DoD Components shall implement internal controls to assure that:

1. Travelers with outstanding travel advances are notified of any delinquencies in filing vouchers and repaying outstanding travel advances.

2. Travelers are paid amounts owed them within 15 working days after receipt of claims in the paying office.

3. Outstanding travel advances and unpaid travel vouchers are reviewed and settled prior to an individual's separation.

B. Deduction From Vouchers. The settlement office shall ensure that the amount previously advanced is deducted from the total expenses allowed or otherwise is recovered. In instances where a traveler is in a continuous travel status, or where periodic reimbursement vouchers are submitted on individual trip authorizations, the full amount of travel expenses allowed may be reimbursed to that traveler without any deduction of the advance until such time as the final voucher is submitted. If the amount advanced is less than the amount of the voucher on which the advance is deducted, then pay the traveler the net amount. If the advance exceeds the reimbursable amount, then the traveler immediately shall refund the excess.

C. Delayed Use of Advance Funds. In the event of cancellation or indefinite postponement of authorized travel, the traveler promptly shall notify the accounting and finance office and refund any advance for the authorized travel. If a traveler does not refund the advance promptly, then the accounting and finance office shall take immediate steps to collect the advance from the traveler.

D. Outstanding Advances. An employee or member should be informed that any over-advanced amount indicated in a travel claim settlement voucher immediately must be repaid. If an employee does not make voluntary settlement of indebtedness, then take action to collect the outstanding advance from money due the employee or member.

E. Recovery of Advances. Outstanding travel or transportation advances that have not been fully recovered by deductions from reimbursement vouchers or voluntary refunds by the traveler shall be collected promptly in accordance with applicable debt collection laws and regulations. In the event that an employee or member dies before settling a travel advance, any travel advance in excess of earned entitlement is subject to collection. In the event the amount due is not refunded within a reasonable period, effect collection by salary offset, retired pay, or otherwise from the person to whom advanced, or the traveler's estate, by deduction from any amount due from the U.S. Government or by such other legal recovery method as may be necessary. Salary or other amounts due shall be used to settle the advance before setoff against the retirement credit. In view of these protections, a traveler is not required to furnish a bond in order to obtain a travel advance.

F. Accounting for Advances. Accounting for cash advances for travel purposes, recovery, and reimbursements shall be in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Government Accountability Office (GAO). (See the [GAO Policy and Procedures Manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies, Title 7, Fiscal Procedures.](#))

050515. Advances for Service Member Separates or Retirees

A. General. A Service member who is separating or retiring may be paid an advance through EFT incidental to separation/retirement no more than 10 days prior to the member and/or dependent(s) actual travel dates. Upon completion of the travel, a member who has received an advance shall submit the travel claim to the appropriate disbursing office.

B. Late Travel Claim. If the claim is not received within the required time frame, then the disbursing official responsible for settling the advance shall prepare a letter to the Service member advising that: (1) he or she is responsible for submitting the travel claim to the appropriate disbursing office; (2) a response is required within 30 days; and (3) if the travel claim is not received within this required time, then the total amount of the advance becomes a debt. For retirees, refer the debt for offset against the retired pay account. For separated Service members, refer the debt for collection action to include possible offset against future Federal income tax returns. If no response is received within the 30-day time frame, then the responsible disbursing official holding the debt shall forward the debt and necessary documentation to:

DFAS-IN/Debt and Claims
Dept. 3300 ATTN: Debt Establishment
8899 East 56th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46249-3300

0506 TRAVEL STATUS

050601. General

Travel status begins when a traveler departs the home or office and ends when the traveler returns to the office or home. (See [JFTR, Chapter 2, Part C, par. U2200](#), and [JTR, Chapter 1, par. C1060.A and Appendix A](#))

050602. Aircrew

Travel status begins with take-off from the PDS and ends with landing at the PDS. (See [JFTR, Chapter 2, Part C, par. U2200](#))

0507 FURNISHED MEALS

050701. Complimentary Meals Furnished by a Hotel

When a traveler is furnished a complimentary meal by a commercial lodging establishment, that meal is not a deductible meal. There is no deduction from the M&IE rate regardless of whether the meal was consumed by the traveler. For rules concerning lodgings and meals furnished by government contract, see [JFTR, Chapter 4, Part B, par. U4143](#), and [JTR, Chapter 4, Part B, par. C4552.H](#).

*050702. Meals Furnished at Conferences

When some but not all meals are included in conference fees, the traveler is entitled to the proportional meal rate on nontravel days on which those meals are provided. [Light refreshments, including a continental breakfast, are a deductible meal when served at a meal time \(e.g., breakfast 0600-0800\). Light refreshments served during a break \(not at a meal time\) are not a deductible meal.](#) (See [JFTR, Appendix R, Part 1, paragraph O](#), and [JTR, Appendix R, Part 1, paragraph O](#).)

0508 GOVERNMENT QUARTERS AND DINING FACILITY AVAILABILITY

050801. Nonavailability Statements

Travelers are not required to obtain written nonavailability statements before obtaining reimbursement for commercial lodging costs and the local M&IE rate. The availability of government quarters, contract quarters, and dining facilities shall be confirmed when a reservation request is made. The Commercial Travel Office (CTO) or traveler shall obtain the confirmation by using the following procedures:

A. [Lodging](#). The CTO or traveler should contact the destination billeting office or Army Central Reservation Center for availability of quarters. If quarters are not available, then the billeting office or Army Central Reservation Center is required to give the CTO or traveler a confirmation or nonavailability number or the name and phone number of the person contacted. When government or contract quarters are not confirmed as available, they are not available and a confirmation or nonavailability number is to be issued. The CTO or traveler

enters the confirmation or nonavailability number on the travel order or voucher. If the CTO or traveler is not able to obtain a confirmation or nonavailability number from the billeting office or Army Central Reservation Center, then the CTO or the traveler shall note on the travel order or voucher the date and time the attempt was made. The commercial lodging and per diem rate then shall be paid.

B. Dining Facilities. The traveler should obtain information on the availability of government dining facilities through the CTO or the destination billeting office or Army Central Reservation Center if the AO directs use of a government dining facility while the traveler is quartered on-base. If not available, then the M&IE rate for commercial meals is authorized. If the CTO or the traveler is not able to obtain messing availability information through the CTO arrangements process or directly from the destination billeting office or Army Central Reservation Center, then the commercial meals rate is authorized and the CTO or the traveler must note on the travel order or voucher the date and time an attempt was made.

050802. Government Dining Facility

A. Government Dining Use Required. If the AO directs use of a government dining facility while the traveler is quartered on-base but, during the trip, no such facility is available, then the member may be reimbursed the full M&IE rate if all three meals are not available. (NOTE: The dining facility and on-base government quarters shall be on the same installation.) If one or two meals are not available (provided the AO accepts the member's certification of nonavailability), then the traveler shall be reimbursed the proportional meal rate or the full M&IE rate as determined by the AO. The appropriate government facility rate shall be paid when civilian travelers consume all three meals in a government mess or the proportional rate on any day in which one or two, but not all three, meals are consumed in a government mess. (See [JTR, Chapter 4, Part A, par. C4554.A.](#))

B. Government Dining Use Impractical. The use of a government dining facility is impractical on any day in which the member actually is traveling between or among locations (see [JFTR, par. U4400-B.](#)), except for meals incidental to special status as outlined in section 0509 of this volume.

050803. TDY Not at an Installation

When the TDY location is not at an installation, the Service member is not required to use nearby government facilities. If the Service member chooses to use government quarters at a nearby installation, however, then a government dining facility is "not available" for M&IE purposes. (See [JFTR, par. U4400-B.](#))

050804. TDY at an Installation

A. Military Personnel TDY to an Installation. Military members are required to check the government quarters availability (e.g., through their CTOs) when TDY to a U.S. installation. Availability/nonavailability documentation must be obtained per [JFTR, Chapter 1, par. U1045.C.](#) Members should use adequate available government quarters when TDY to a

U.S. installation; however, when adequate government quarters are available on that U.S. installation and other lodgings are used, lodging reimbursement is limited to government quarters cost. (See [JFTR, Chapter 1, par. U1045.](#))

B. Civilian Personnel TDY to an Installation. In compliance with the requirement to exercise prudence when incurring expenses, employees should check for government quarters availability. Civilian employees may not be ordered/required to use government quarters, nor may lodging reimbursement simply be limited to the government quarter cost; However, if government quarters are available on that installation for an employee TDY to a U.S. installation, then the proper authority may prescribe a reduced per diem rate based on the government quarters cost. Reduced per diem rates can only be established before travel begins. (See [JTR, Chapter 1, par. C1055.](#))

0509 SPECIAL STATUS AND PER DIEM RATES

Reduced or zero per diem rates for a special status, such as field duty, sea duty, hospitalization, rehabilitation, and essential unit dining, take effect at 12:01 a.m. the day after the traveler enters the status and ends at 12:00 a.m. the day preceding the day the traveler leaves that status. (See [JFTR, Chapter 4, Part B, par. U4105.](#))

050901. Departure From and Return to PDS

Seventy-five percent of the appropriate M&IE rate is paid to travelers on the day of departure from and return to the PDS when entering or exiting a special status providing all meals.

050902. Other Changes in Status

For all other days of travel when the traveler enters or exits a special status providing all meals, those meals provided before entering and after exiting the status are available and the proportional meal rate applies on those days. If no travel is involved and the traveler goes from one zero per diem status directly into another zero per diem status, then no per diem is paid for that day. Otherwise, apply normal per diem computations, at the special status rates, for that day.

050903. Payment for Meals

If a traveler is required to procure a meal or quarters other than at the special status rates, then reimbursement of the cost may be made not to exceed the proportional meal rate for the meal or lodging portion of the locality per diem allowance. This does not include payment of the basic food cost for officers, employees, or members in field duty, sea duty, or under essential unit messing (see [JFTR, Chapter 4, Part F, par. U4510](#), and [JTR, Chapter 4, Part F, par. C4710](#)). NOTE: Employees are reimbursed the basic food costs. (See [JTR, Chapter 4, Part B, pars. C4554.A.1.c and C4554.D.](#))

050904. Travel Orders

Travel orders shall identify the reduced per diem rates, availability or nonavailability of government quarters, authorization for government or proportional meal rate as applicable, identification of special status, and reference to the letter or message in which they were established.

0510 CONSECUTIVE TDY

051001. Per Diem

Per diem is payable for the interval between two periods of TDY if the interval exists through no fault of the traveler and the traveler either remains at the first TDY location or travels to the next TDY location within the allowable travel time.

EXAMPLE: The traveler completes the first TDY on October 5 and the next TDY starts October 8. The traveler is paid per diem during the delay at an authorized delay (AD) point in between the first and second TDY point.

<u>D/A</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MODE</u>	<u>REASON FOR STOP</u>
Dep	1 Oct	PDS		<u>PA</u>
Arr	1 Oct	TDY	Point A	TD
Dep	8 Oct	TDY	Point A	<u>PA</u>
Arr	8 Oct	TDY	Point B	TD
Dep	12 Oct	TDY	Point B	<u>PA</u>
Arr	12 Oct	PDS		MC

051002. Authorized Delay Enroute

To attain savings to the government, combine what would have been two separate TDY trips into one longer trip and provide for authorized delay (AD) at an intermediate location. Per diem is payable for the interval between the two periods of TDY. The amount of per diem paid should be based on the location of the AD.

<u>D/A</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MODE</u>	<u>REASON FOR STOP</u>
Dep	1 Oct	PDS	PA	
Arr	1 Oct	TDY point A		TD
Dep	5 Oct	TDY point A	PA	
Arr	5 Oct	The location in between the 1 st /2 nd TDY location	PA	AD
Dep	8 Oct	AD point	PA	
Arr	8 Oct	TDY point B		TD
Dep	12 Oct	TDY point B	PA	
Arr	12 Oct	PDS		MC

0511 LEAVE, PERMISSIVE TDY, OR ADMINISTRATIVE ABSENCE IN CONJUNCTION WITH FUNDED TDY

051101. Permissive/Administrative Travel Time

A traveler who takes leave, permissive travel, or an administrative absence before or after a funded TDY is entitled to travel allowances from the PDS to the funded TDY location and return to PDS. If the traveler takes leave, permissive travel, or an administrative absence between two TDY locations, then the traveler is entitled to allowances for direct travel between the two TDY locations.

051102. Travel Time When Using Privately Owned Conveyance (POC)

Permissive or administrative travel time is authorized when a traveler is authorized to travel by POC for personal convenience to a funded TDY of 16 days or more and reimbursement is based on a constructive schedule. Compute the allowable travel time based on the provisions of the [JFTR, Chapter 4, Part D, par. U4300](#) for military personnel and [JTR, Chapter 2, Part D, par. C2196](#) for civilian employees. Permissive or administrative travel time is not authorized when the orders direct a mode of transportation and that mode is available but not used. Per diem is not authorized for the additional period.

051103. Leave and Overtime in Conjunction With Official Travel

The unit commander, designated representative, or employee's supervisor shall make and document determinations regarding leave and duty status, to include overtime. The granting, accounting for, and associated reporting procedures are organizational responsibilities made in accordance with DoD Component instructions.

0512 RETURN TO THE PERMANENT DUTY STATION DURING TDY

051201. Authorized Return

When a travel order authorizes return to the PDS, the traveler is authorized travel, transportation allowances, and per diem for travel from the TDY site to the PDS and return to the TDY site. When the AO has authorized or approved the lodging costs maintained at the TDY site as mission essential, the incurred expenses shall be paid as a reimbursable expense. In making the decision to authorize or approve, the AO shall determine that the reasons for retaining the lodging are reasonable and necessary and not strictly for the convenience of the traveler. This determination should be made after considering the traveler's efforts to obtain lodging on a weekly or monthly basis or other long-term rental agreement. When the lodging retained is charged on a daily basis, the AO should consider such factors as the length of the TDY, the amount of personal belongings, the capability of the establishment to store those belongings, and the ability of the traveler to secure a room upon return. The AO shall state the reason for authorizing or approving reimbursement of the retained lodging. For this entitlement, the permanent quarters from which the traveler normally commutes to the PDS are the same as

the PDS. If the traveler goes to another location, then no allowances are authorized for the travel and per diem is computed as if the traveler remained at the TDY location.

051202. Voluntary Return

When a traveler voluntarily returns to the PDS during a TDY period, limit his or her entitlement to the lesser of the actual travel cost for the roundtrip to the PDS and what it would have cost had he or she remained at the TDY site. The factors included in determining actual travel costs are: per diem for the travel days; roundtrip transportation for the mode used; and cost for quarters retained at the TDY site. (See [JFTR, Appendix O, par. T4030.J](#), and [JTR, Chapter 4, Part E, par. C4677](#).)