

VOLUME 7A, “DEFINITIONS”

SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

Changes are identified in this table and also denoted by [blue font](#).

Substantive revisions are denoted by an asterisk (*) 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 [July 2022](#) is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
Allowance; Active Duty; Active Service; Basic Pay; Certifying Officer (CO); Dependent; Designated Place; Excess Leave; Field Duty; Flag Officer; Fully Qualified Health Professional; He, His, Him; Hostile Fire; Operational Flying Duty; Permanent Change of Station; Permanent Duty Station (PDS);	Updated definitions for clarity amongst Volume 7A chapters.	Revision

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC); Spouse; Support	Updated definitions for clarity amongst Volume 7A chapters.	Revision
Active-Duty List	Updated to include the U.S. Space Force in accordance with Public Law 116-92, section 952, dated December 20, 2019.	Revision
Combat Zone	Updated definition to match the definitions as they appear in DoDI 1340.09, "Hazard Pay Program," January 26, 2018, Change 1, February 2, 2024, and DoDI 1340.24, "Combat Zone Tax Exclusion (CZTE)," September 28, 2010.	Revision
PDS Vicinity	Added definition for clarity amongst Volume 7A chapters.	Added
Reenlistment Bonus	Updated the definition with the correct statute. The Fiscal Year 2008 National Defense Authorization Act consolidated special pays, incentive pays, and bonuses, resulting in cancellation of Section 308 of Title 37. Reenlistment bonus provisions are now found in Section 331 of Title 37.	Revision

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DEFINITIONS

1.0 GENERAL

The following list defines general terms of significance or importance relating to military pay entitlement policies for the DoD that are discussed in various chapters in Volume 7A. This list of definitions provides general information. It is by no means an exhaustive list of all financial management terms, and it does not define terms when standard dictionary definitions apply. Authoritative guidance with more detailed explanations or nuances may be found in Volume 7A specific chapters.

2.0 LIST OF DEFINITIONS

Absence Over Leave

Absent beyond the period for which leave was authorized.

Absent Without Leave

Absence from a place of duty without permission or authorization and without the intention of deserting.

Active Duty

Full-time duty in the active [military](#) service of [the United States](#), including full-time training duty, annual training duty, and attendance, while in the active service, at a school designated as a Military Service school by law or by the Secretary concerned.

Active Duty for a Period of More Than 30 Days

Active duty under a call or order that does not specify a period of 30 days or less.

Active Duty for Training

Full-time duty in the active Military Service of the United States for training purposes.

*Active-Duty List

A single list for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or [Space Force](#), which contain the names of all officers of that Armed Force who are serving on active duty, other than officers described in [10 United States Code \(U.S.C.\) § 641](#).

*Active Service

Active service means service on active duty [or full-time National Guard duty](#).

Advance Payment

Payment of pay (pay and allowances in certain cases) before it is earned.

Advanced Leave

Leave authorized before it is accrued.

Aerial Flights

Flights in military aircraft or spacecraft, and also flights in nonmilitary aircraft when required by competent orders to fly in such aircraft. A flight begins when the aircraft or spacecraft takes off from rest at any point of support located on the surface of the earth and terminates when it next comes to a complete stop at a point of support located on the surface of the earth.

Air National Guard

The part of the organized militia of several states, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Canal Zone, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia, active and inactive, that:

1. is an air force;
2. is trained, and has its officers appointed, under the sixteenth clause of section 8 article I, of the Constitution;
3. is organized, armed, and equipped wholly or partly at Federal expense; and
4. is federally recognized.

Allotment

A definite portion of the pay and allowances of a person in the Military Service, which is authorized to be paid to a qualified allottee.

Allottee

The person or institution to whom the allotment is made payable.

Allotter

The person from whose pay the allotment is made.

*Allowance

A monetary amount paid to an individual for specific needs, such as food, housing, uniforms, or equipment.

Appropriation

An amount of money specifically authorized by Congress against which obligations may be incurred and from which payments may be made.

Approved

The ratification or confirmation of an act already done.

Armed Forces of the United States

Includes the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, and Coast Guard, and all components thereof.

Army National Guard

The part of the organized militia of several states, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Canal Zone, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia, active and inactive, that:

1. is a land force;
2. is trained, and has its officers appointed, under the sixteenth clause of section 8 article I, of the Constitution;
3. is organized, armed, and equipped wholly or partly at Federal expense; and
4. is federally recognized.

Authorized

1. Permission given before an act.
2. Giving through regulations an allowance to an eligible individual requiring no other action.

Example: When the regulation states that a Service member is authorized an allowance, it means that an eligible individual has that allowance without further action by any other activity.

Aviation Service and Aviation Skills

Service or skills identified by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned that require the knowledge, skills, or ability to fly or operate flight capable machines.

Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)

An amount of money prescribed and limited by law which an officer or enlisted member receives to pay for quarters not provided by the Government.

Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)

An allowance payable to officers and enlisted members for the purpose of subsisting themselves. BAS is payable at all times when entitled to basic pay after completion of initial military training, except as otherwise prohibited by law.

*Basic Pay

The **fundamental component of military** pay of an officer or enlisted member, **determined** according to grade/rank and years of service. **Basic pay does not include special pay, retainer pay, incentive pay, retired pay, or equivalent pay, or allowances.**

Beneficiary

The recipient of certain benefits due as a result of relationship to or designation by a member **consistent with applicable law.**

Captive Status

A missing status resulting from a member's involvement in a hostile action. Hostile action is determined by the Secretary of Defense.

Captivity-Related Offense

An offense, committed while in a captive status and related to the status, which is listed in **5 U.S.C. § 8312(b)** or (c) or **10 U.S.C. Chapter 47**, that is punishable by dishonorable discharge, dismissal, or confinement for a minimum of 1 year.

*Certifying Officer (CO)

An individual **designated** to attest to the correctness of statements, facts, accounts, and amounts appearing on a voucher, **or other documents.** **A CO is pecuniarily liable for payments in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 3528.**

Clothing Monetary Allowance

Refers to the several types of clothing maintenance allowances paid by cash; (for example: standard, basic, or special).

Combat Operation

A military action that may involve carrying out a strategic, operational, or tactical mission against a hostile or unfriendly force, to include carrying on combat and any related movement, supply, attack, defense, and maneuvers needed to gain the objectives of a battle or campaign.

*Combat Zone

An area [the President of the United States designates](#) by Executive Order [in accordance with 26 U.S.C., § 112](#) as an area in which U.S. Armed Forces are engaging in or have engaged in combat. [In this context, the combat zone is generally designated in response to a national emergency and involves persistent, violent confrontations with hostile forces.](#) Usually, an area becomes a combat zone or ceases to be a combat zone on the dates [the President designates](#) by Executive Order.

Command Sponsored Dependent

1. A dependent residing with a Service member at an Outside Continental United States (OCONUS) location at which an accompanied by dependents tour is authorized, the Service member is authorized to serve that tour, and who is authorized by the appropriate authority to be at the Service member's Permanent Duty Station (PDS).

2. The Service member is authorized to receive station allowances, Cost of Living Allowance (COLA), and Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) at the with dependent rate on behalf of a command sponsored dependent as a result of the dependent's residence at/in the Service Member's PDS vicinity.

3. Command sponsorship is not required to receive Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) at the with dependents rate.

Commissioned Officer

Unless otherwise qualified, a member of the uniformed services having rank or grade of second lieutenant, ensign, or above, either permanent or temporary, in any of the uniformed services.

Commuted Rations

The value of in-kind government subsistence (rations) converted to a cash equivalent payment.

Competent Orders

Orders issued by the Secretary concerned, or such officer or officers as the Secretary may designate, to members of their respective Service or to members of other Services when such latter members are performing duty with a Service other than their own.

Continental United States (CONUS)

Unless otherwise qualified, means the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia.

Contingency Operation

Any military operation that:

1. Is designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which members of the U.S. Armed Forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against an opposing military force; or

2. Results in the call or order to, or retention on, active duty of members of the uniformed services under [10 U.S.C. §§ 688, 12301\(a\), 12302, 12304, 12304a, 12305, or 12406](#); [10 U.S.C. Chapter 13](#); [14 U.S.C. § 3713](#); or any other provision of law during a war or national emergency declared by the President or the Congress.

Cost of Living Allowance (COLA)

A supplemental allowance designed to offset higher prices in the highest cost locations.

*Dependent

The term dependent means [the following individuals in relation to a Service member](#):

1. Spouse, [as defined by this chapter](#);
2. Unmarried child under the age of 21, including an adopted child or a stepchild, but not after the divorce of the member from the stepchild's natural parent;
3. An unmarried illegitimate child under the age of 21, provided the parentage on the part of the [Service](#) member is established by [one of the following](#): a birth certificate with the member's name cited, a court order, or a signed affidavit of parentage (signed and sworn by a notary) from the member;
4. An unmarried child under the age of 21 who has been placed in the member's home by a local, state, or foreign government placement agency, or a government-approved adoption agency as a part of a normal adoption process provided the member produces a document from such agency establishing the fact of relationship and the effective date of relationship;
5. An unmarried child who is at least 21 years of age, but under 23 years of age, [and](#) is enrolled in a full-time course of study at an institution of [higher learning](#) approved by the Secretary concerned, when the member demonstrates [in the manner prescribed](#) that the child is in fact dependent on the member for over one half of the child's support;

6. An unmarried child **who is**, 21 years of age or older, **and is** incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical incapacity **that occurred (1) before the age of 21 or (2) before the age of 23 while the child was enrolled in a full-time course of study at an institution of higher learning approved by the Secretary concerned**, and who is in fact dependent upon the member for more than one half of the incapacitated child's support;

7. A parent **of the member or the member's spouse**, including a stepparent **or** parent by adoption, or any person who has stood in loco parentis **to the member** at any time for a continuous period of at least five years before the member's 21st birthday, **and whose** dependency on the member has been determined in accordance with the rules and regulations established by the Secretary concerned; and

8. A ward, who is an unmarried person who meets each of the following criteria:

8.1. A court of competent jurisdiction in the United States, Puerto Rico, or a possession of the United States has placed the person in the **legal** custody of the member:

8.1.1. either permanently; or

8.1.2. for a period which lasts at least 12 months from the date of the order;

8.2. The person must be:

8.2.1. Under 21 years of age;

8.2.2. At least 21 years of age, but under 23 years of age, and enrolled in a full-time course of study at an institution of higher learning approved by the Secretary concerned; or

8.2.3. Incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical incapacity that occurred while the person was **in the legal custody of the member, met the criteria of subparagraph 8.2.1 or 8.2.2, and was in fact dependent upon the member for more than one half of their support**.

8.3. The person must be dependent upon the member for over one half of the person's support;

8.4. The person must reside with the member unless separated by the necessity of Military Service to receive institutional care as a result of disability or incapacitation, or under such other circumstances as the Secretary concerned may prescribe;

8.5. The person may not be a dependent of any member under any other part of this definition; and

8.6. The person is considered to be in the same class of dependents as a member's children, **if any**, for the purpose of determining entitlement.

Deployment

1. A Service member of a Military Service within the DoD is considered deployed or on a deployment on any day on which, pursuant to orders, the Service member performs service for an operation at a location or under circumstances that make it impossible for them to spend off-duty time in the housing in which they reside when on garrison duty at their permanent duty station or homeport. In accordance with [10 U.S.C. § 991](#), if an RC Service member is performing active service pursuant to orders that do not establish a permanent change of station, that housing is any housing, including the Service member's residence, that the Service member usually occupies during off-duty time when on garrison duty at the Service member's permanent duty station or homeport.

2. A deployment begins when a unit, detachment, or individual not attached to a unit or detachment leaves a homeport, station, or base or leaves from an en-route training location to meet a Secretary of Defense–approved operation to meet an operational requirement. An event is an operation if it is recorded in the joint capabilities requirement manager or contained in the annual Global Force Management Data Initiative–compliant tool under the Global Force Management Data Initiative reporting structure specified in DoD Instruction 8260.03. Forces deployed pursuant to Executive orders, operational plans, or concept plans approved by the Secretary of Defense are also considered deployed.

3. A deployment ends when most of the unit or detachment, or an individual not attached to a unit or detachment, returns to their homeport, station, or base. Forces operationally employed by Secretary of Defense's orders or in "prepare-to-deploy order" status at their home station are not deployed. Movement of forces that do not meet operational requirements (e.g., movement of forces to meet training, readiness, or exercise requirements) are not considered deployments and, therefore, are not subject to deployment-to-dwell and mobilization-to-dwell limits and specified goals.

Deployment-to-Dwell Ratio for Active Component (AC)

The ratio of time a unit, detachment, or individual is deployed to the time the unit, detachment, or individual is in dwell. For example, an AC unit that is deployed for 7 months and in dwell for 21 months has a deployment-to-dwell ratio of 1:3.

Desertion

Absence without leave with intent to remain away permanently.

*Designated Place

Except as noted in item 6, the location where a Service member's dependent intends to establish a bona fide residence until authorized further dependent transportation at Government expense. The Service member must certify this intent to receive allowances associated with a designated place move. A designated place may be one of the following locations:

1. A **location** in the CONUS or non-foreign OCONUS area.
2. A foreign **location** OCONUS where a dependent is specifically authorized to travel at Government expense when a Service member is ordered to an unaccompanied or dependent-restricted tour. This is limited to the native country of a foreign-born spouse for DoD Services and Coast Guard.
3. A **location** OCONUS where a Service member is scheduled to serve an accompanied tour after completing an unaccompanied or dependent restricted tour, and to which dependents are specifically authorized travel at Government expense.
4. The OCONUS **location** in the old PDS vicinity at which a dependent remains while a Service member serves an unaccompanied or dependent-restricted tour.
5. A **location in the** CONUS, non-foreign OCONUS, or foreign OCONUS place to which a dependent is specifically authorized travel at Government expense when early return of dependents is authorized. This is limited to the native country of a foreign-born spouse for DoD Services and Coast Guard.
6. For evacuation allowances, a designated place is a location where a dependent establishes a permanent residence during an evacuation if conditions are not expected to improve.

Disbursing Officer

A military member or a civilian employee of a DoD Component designated to disburse monies and render accounts according to laws and regulations governing the disbursement of public money (see [31 U.S.C. § 3321](#)). Disbursing officers must be U.S. citizens.

Dual Status

Enlisted members of the Navy or Marine Corps Reserve on duty as temporary officers.

Duty Station

The place at which the member is assigned for regular duty. Also, the place at which the member performs an assigned duty.

Dwell Time Active Component (AC)

In accordance with 10 U.S.C. § 991, dwell time (“dwell”), for the purposes of calculating the AC deployment-to-dwell ratio, is redefined as the time a unit, detachment, or individual not attached to a unit or detachment is not on a deployment. Dwell begins when most of a unit or detachment, or an individual not attached to a unit or detachment, returns to their homeport, station, or base from a deployment. Dwell ends when the unit or individual leaves on a deployment. An AC unit or individual is either on a deployment or in dwell.

Dwell Time Reserve Component (RC)

Defined in [DoD Instruction 1235.12](#) as the term “dwell.”

Enforced Separation

Involuntary separation of the member from dependents as a result of official orders.

Enlisted Member

A person enlisted, enrolled, or conscripted into a Military Service.

Enlistee

A person who has voluntarily enlisted for Military Service.

Enlistment

The term enlistment refers to:

1. A voluntary entrance into Military Service under enlisted status, as distinguished from induction through Selective Service; or
2. A period of time, contractual or prescribed by law, which enlisted members serve between enrollment and discharge.

Entitlement

The legal right to receive items of pay and/or allowances.

Erroneous Payment

A payment of pay and/or allowances to a member to which he/she is not entitled.

*Excess Leave

Leave granted in excess of that accrued or advanced and for which the Service member is not entitled to pay and allowances. Generally, a negative leave balance at the time of release from active military duty, discharge, first extension of an enlistment, desertion, or death shall be considered excess leave regardless of the authority under which the leave resulting in the negative balance was granted.

Exigencies of the Service

Urgent demands of a Military Service.

Expiration of Term of Service

The end of a required or contracted period of service.

Extension of Enlistment

Contractual agreement, which extends an enlisted member's current enlistment for a stated period beyond normal expiration of that enlistment.

*Field Duty

Any maneuvers, war games, field exercises, or similar operations where a member is assigned to a unit being subsisted in a dining facility operated by or on behalf of the U.S. Government or with an organization drawing field rations. Members may be on per diem orders.

Financial Organizations

Any bank, savings and loan association or similar institution, or federal or state-chartered credit union.

*Flag Officer

An officer of the Navy or Coast Guard serving in or having the grade of admiral, vice admiral, or rear admiral or rear admiral (lower half); comparable to an Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Space Force general officer.

Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve

A component of the Regular service to which members may be transferred and released from active duty after obtaining 20 or more years of active federal service.

Flight Requirement

The number of hours or minutes of flying time required to qualify for entitlement to incentive pay for a specific period of time.

Former Captive

A member who was held in a captive status.

Full-Time National Guard Duty

Training or other duty, other than inactive duty, performed by a member of the Army National Guard of the United States or Air National Guard of the United States, as a member of the National Guard of a state or territory, Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia under

[32 U.S.C. §§ 316, 502, 503](#), or [505](#), for which the member is entitled to (or has waived entitlement to) pay from the United States.

*Fully Qualified Health Professional

A fully trained or licensed, registered, or certified health professional (non-HCP) who meets the requirements of the Secretary concerned for accession or retention on AD.

Government Dining Facility

A generic term used for Government mess, general mess, dining hall, dining activity, mess hall, galley, field kitchen, flight kitchen, or similar terms describing appropriated funds dining facilities. Includes general or Service organizational dining facility, a state National Guard Camp dining facility, an officers' wardroom mess, a warrant officers' and chief petty officers' mess afloat, and a flight kitchen that furnishes box lunches, in-flight meals, or rations on military aircraft are government dining facilities if used by or made available to Service members. This does not include activities operated with non-appropriated funds such as officer's club, enlisted club, squadron mess, organized mess, or similar terms, except when those activities provide meals or rations under contract or agreement with the applicable operating and food costs borne by appropriated funds.

Government Quarters or Housing Facilities

1. Sleeping accommodations owned, operated, or leased by the U.S. Government, or obtained by contract, at no cost to the traveler;
2. Dormitories or similar facilities operated by cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contractors;
3. Quarters in a state-owned National Guard Camp at no expense to the member; or
4. Any sleeping or housing facilities furnished by a foreign government on behalf of the U.S. Government.

*He, His, Him

"He," "his," and "him" include the terms "she," "her," "hers," "they," "them," and "theirs."

Home

The place recorded as home of record when the member was ordered to active duty.

*Hostile Fire

A use of force against the United States, U.S. forces, or other designated persons by an enemy of the U.S., a foreign terrorist, or a person or group of people inspired or motivated by a foreign terrorist organization.

Inactive Duty Training

The term “inactive duty training” describes:

1. Duty prescribed for members of a Reserve Component by the Secretary concerned under [37 U.S.C. § 206](#) or any other law;
2. Special additional duties authorized for members of a Reserve Component by an authority designated by the Secretary concerned and performed by them on a voluntary basis in connection with prescribed training or maintenance activities of the units to which they are assigned; and
3. [The special additional duties described in paragraph 2](#) when performed by members of a Reserve Component in their status as members of the National Guard, but (except as provided in [37 U.S.C. § 206 \(d\)\(2\)](#)) does not include work or study in connection with a correspondence course of a uniformed service.

NOTE: For pay purposes, inactive duty training may be documented on a Service-prescribed form or order covering a specific assignment and prescribed time limit.

Inductee

One who is inducted.

Induction

The act of taking a person into any of the U.S. Armed Services without voluntary action on his or her part.

In Loco Parentis

A person who [stands in the](#) place of the natural parent(s) to the Military Service member. (See also "Parent.")

Issue in-Kind

An issue in goods rather than in money.

Lost Time

That period of time not included in determining cumulative years of service for all military purposes.

Medical Officer

An officer of the Medical Corps of the Army, [an officer of the Medical Corps of the Navy](#), or an officer of the Air Force designated as a medical officer.

Member

A person appointed or enlisted in, or conscripted into, uniformed service. (Cadets or midshipmen of the Service academies are considered members only for the purpose of establishing entitlement under the provisions of Chapter 34.)

Military Specialty

An element of the enlisted classification structure Military Occupational Specialty, Air Force Specialty Code, Navy Enlisted Classification, career field subdivision, career management field, and occupational field, as appropriate to the Military Service concerned, that identifies an individual position or group of closely related positions on the basis of the similarity of the duties involved. It is also the primary identifier of members who possess the ability, knowledge and other occupational qualifications required for effective performance in such positions.

A military specialty provides occupational standards for procurement, training, classification, and career development; identifies military skills so closely related that a degree of interchangeability exists between members assigned to the military specialty; and provides a normal career progression pattern for members within that military specialty.

Missing Status

Includes missing, missing in action, interned in a foreign country, captured, beleaguered, besieged by a hostile force, or detained in a foreign country against a member's will.

Mobilization-to-Dwell Ratio (RC)

For Reserve units, detachments, or individuals, the mobilization-to-dwell ratio is defined in DoD Instruction 1235.12.

National Guard

The Army [National Guard](#) and the Air National Guard.

Non-Foreign OCONUS Area

The States of Alaska and Hawaii, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Marianas Islands, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S. territories and possessions.

Nurse Corps Officer

An officer of the Nurse Corps of the Army or Navy, or an officer of the Air Force designated as a nurse.

Officer

A commissioned or warrant officer.

Operational Deployment

An operational deployment begins when the majority of a unit or detachment, or an individual not attached to a unit or detachment, departs homeport, station, base, or departs from an en route training location to meet a Secretary of Defense-approved operational requirement.

*Operational Flying Duty

Enlisted. Flying performed under competent military orders by Regular or Reserve Component Enlisted Service members while holding or training for a military career enlisted flyer occupational specialty or ratings designated by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned. Personnel must be serving in assignments, to include assignments as Unmanned Aerial System and dropsonde system operators, in which basic aviation skills normally are maintained in the performance of assigned duties, as determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

Officer. Flying performed under competent military orders by a Regular or Reserve Component officer while holding or training for an aeronautical rating or designation and while serving in assignments in which basic aviation skills normally are maintained in the performance of assigned duties, as determined by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS)

Locations outside of the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia.

Overpayment

An amount paid to a member, which is in excess of that to which entitled.

Parent

The natural father or mother, or father or mother through adoption. It also includes persons who have stood "in loco parentis" to a member. Also see definition for "Dependent."

*Permanent Change of Station

The **permanent** assignment, detail, or transfer of a member or unit to a different **permanent** duty station (**PDS**) under competent orders, which **does not** specify the duty as temporary, provide for further assignment to a **second** new **PDS**, or direct return to the old **PDS**. (For a more detailed definition, see the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR), Appendix A.)

*Permanent Duty Station (PDS)

In general, the post of duty or official station to which the member is assigned for permanent duty. (For a more detailed definition, see the JTR, Appendix A.) The primary residence of a Reserve Component member is considered the **PDS** for the purpose of determining allowances.

*PDS Vicinity

1. The PDS vicinity is the U.S. territory or possession, state when in Alaska or Hawaii, or the entire country (excluding the United States), where the Service member's PDS is located.
2. Member Assigned to PDS in the Continental United States (CONUS). The PDS vicinity is the local commuting area of the PDS.
3. Member commutes to OCONUS/CONUS PDS. When a Service member resides with a dependent outside the applicable PDS vicinity and commutes to the PDS, the dependent is considered to be residing at or near the vicinity of the PDS.

Primary Residence of a Reserve Component (RC) Service Member Other Than a Member of the Active Guard and Reserve (AGR)

1. The dwelling (e.g., house, townhouse, apartment, condominium, mobile home, houseboat, vessel) where the RC member resides before being ordered to active duty.
2. An RC member can have only one primary residence at any given time.
3. The primary residence location may determine an RC member's entitlement to certain allowances as otherwise specified in Volume 7A.
4. The Services' administrative policy shall ensure this is a known location prior to notification (verbal or written) of the call to active duty or issuance of the travel order.

5. If the RC member relocates the primary residence during an active-duty order period, and upon termination of the order is issued a new active-duty order, the allowances under the new order are based on the new primary residence on the first active-duty day only if there is a break in service or active duty exceeding one full day. The command may request the RC member provide documentation to support the location of their primary residence.

6. The primary residence can only change if there is a break in service or active duty exceeding one full day.

Prisoner of War

A member who was or is held in captivity by another nation's government as a result of hostilities between that nation and the United States (whether or not by declaration of war).

Privatized Housing

Housing units on or near a military facility in the U.S. and/or its territories and possessions that are acquired/constructed by a private company under the authority of [10 U.S.C. §§ 2871 - 2885](#). Privatized housing is not considered Government quarters or Government-controlled quarters, for allowance purposes.

Punitive Discharge

A dishonorable or bad conduct discharge ordered as punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

Rations in-Kind

Meals or rations furnished by or on behalf of the government at no charge when BAS or commuted rations are not otherwise payable to a member in a pay status.

Ready Reserve

The Ready Reserve is comprised of Service members of the Reserve and National Guard, organized in units or as individuals, or both. These Service members are accessible for involuntary order to active duty in time of war or national emergency pursuant to 10 U.S.C. §§ 12301 or 12302 and 14 U.S.C. § 3713 in the case of members of the Coast Guard Reserve. The Ready Reserve consists of three sub-categories: the Selected Reserve, the Individual Ready Reserve, and the Inactive National Guard.

*Reenlistment Bonus

A monetary incentive offered to an enlisted member who reenlists under provisions of [37 U.S.C. § 331](#).

Reserve Components

The U.S. Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, U.S. Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve, and the Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service.

*Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)

An officer training and scholarship program for postsecondary students authorized under Chapter 103 of Title 10 of the United States Code.

Retired Reserve

The Retired Reserve consists of:

1. Reserves who are or have been retired under [10 U.S.C. §§ 7311, 8323](#), or [9311](#); or
2. Reserves who have been transferred to the Retired Reserve, retain their status as Reserves, if otherwise qualified.

Saved Pay

Special pay provisions that allow military members, under certain circumstances, to retain entitlement to amounts of pay and/or allowances authorized under prior laws or for a lower grade from which promoted.

Secretarial Process

Action by the Service Secretary or subordinate level specified by the Service Secretary. The Secretarial Process is an administrative and/or procedural issuance under the Service Regulation review process.

Selected Reserve

Within the Ready Reserve of each of the Reserve Components, there is a Selected Reserve. The Selected Reserves consists of units and, as designed by the Secretary concerned, are trained as prescribed in [10 U.S.C. § 10147\(a\)\(1\)](#) or [32 U.S.C. § 502\(a\)](#), as appropriate.

Separation

A general term that includes discharge, release from active duty or active service, release from custody and control of the Military Services, transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve, and similar changes in Active or Reserve status.

Service Academy Cadet or Midshipman

A person in training at one of the Service academies to become a commissioned officer.

Service Member

A member serving in one of the Uniformed Services including:

1. A commissioned officer, commissioned warrant officer, warrant officer, or enlisted person.
2. A retired Service member and members of the Fleet Reserve and Fleet Marine Corps Reserve who are in receipt of retainer pay.

*Spouse

An individual who is lawfully married (unless legally separated) to a Service member. An individual shall be considered married if that individual's marriage is between two individuals and is valid in the State where the marriage was entered into or, in the case of a marriage entered into outside any State, if the marriage is between two individuals and is valid in the place where entered into and the marriage could have been entered into in a State.

Statutory Limitations

The legal limits or restrictions as provided by law.

Stipend Payment

A fixed sum of money paid periodically for services or to defray expenses, especially payment to medical officers on duty at civilian medical facilities.

*Support

The term “support” includes food, shelter, clothing, medical and dental care, education, and the like.

Temporary Lodging Facilities

1. Specifically identified, Service-operated interim housing facilities that provide short-term housing accommodations for which there is a charge levied, without direct charge against the occupant's housing allowance.
2. Includes guesthouses, except transient visiting officer quarters occupied by official visitors to the installation.
3. Does not include facilities used primarily for rest and recuperation purposes, or unaccompanied officer and enlisted quarters.

Temporary Officer Status

A member of the Navy or Marine Corps appointed as a temporary officer under the provisions of [10 U.S.C. § 8146](#).

Territories and Possessions of the United States

Territories and Possessions of the United States are incorporated and unincorporated territories over which the United States exercises sovereignty or jurisdiction. These include but are not limited to; American Samoa, Baker Island, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, Howland Island, Jarvis Island, Johnson Atoll, Kingman Reef, Midway Island, Navassa Island, Palmyra Atoll, U.S. Virgin Islands, Wake Island, Petrel Island, and Serranilla Bank.

Total Forfeiture

Forfeiture of all pay and allowances as punishment under the UCMJ.

Uniformed Services

The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, Coast Guard, the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service.

United States

The 50 states, and the District of Columbia.

Unusually Arduous Sea Duty

Duty, specified in writing through the Secretarial process, aboard a ship, unit or afloat staff with expected absences from the assigned home port for the major portion of the sea duty assignment.

Warrant Officer

A person who is designated an officer by a warrant, as distinguished from a commissioned officer who is designated an officer by a commission, and a non-commissioned officer who is designated an officer, often by virtue of seniority.