# VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 1: "GENERAL INFORMATION" 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 June 2021 is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	<b>PURPOSE</b>
All	Verified and updated references, hyperlinks, and formatting to comply with current administrative instructions, and made clarifying editorial changes.	Revision
6.0	Revised "premium class" and "other than coach class (OTCC)" language in accordance with the Federal Register Volume 87, Number 175 published September 12, 2022.	Revision
All	This instruction has been reviewed by the Per Diem, Travel, and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) staff in accordance with Department of Defense Directive 5154.31, Volume 5, dated October 16, 2015 as PDTATAC Case RR23004. Any conflict between this publication and the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) is resolved based on the JTR and not this publication.	Revision

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\*June 2023

#### CHAPTER 1

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## 1.0 PURPOSE

The policies addressed in Volume 9 apply to all personnel traveling under orders funded by the Department of Defense (DoD). This includes military members, civilian employees, members of the Reserve Components, dependents on official orders, and travelers on DoD invitational travel authorizations. Individual DoD Component travel implementing guidance remains in use to provide direction for travel order preparation, administration and accounting.

### 2.0 AUTHORITATIVE GUIDANCE

Volume 9 provides supplemental instructions on the payment of allowances authorized by the Joint Travel Regulations (<u>JTR</u>). The DoD-chartered Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) publishes the JTR. The JTR directly implements the travel and transportation allowances authorized by law for members of the Uniformed Services, and also implements guidance from the General Services Administration's (GSA) Federal Travel Regulation (<u>FTR</u>) for DoD civilian employees.

## 2.1 Additional Guidance

- 2.1.1. Additional guidance pertinent to the U.S. Air Force and Space Force is in the **Department of the Air Force Instruction 24-602, Volume 1, Passenger Movement.**
- 2.1.2. Additional guidance pertinent to the U.S. Navy is available in the *Navy Passenger Transportation Manual (OPNAVINST 4650.15C CH-1)*.
- 2.1.3. Additional guidance pertinent to the U.S. Marine Corps is in the *Marine Corps Assignment, Classification, and Travel System Manual (ACTSMAN)*.
- 2.1.4. Additional guidance pertinent to the use of Nonappropriated Funds is in the **DoD Instruction 1400.25, Volume 1405**.

## 2.2 Exceptions

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) (OUSD(C)) is the approving authority for exceptions to policy. Requests for exceptions must include a justification, a recommendation and approval from the appropriate DoD Component command channel at or above the level of the Deputy Chief Financial Officer (DCFO), OUSD(C). Send requests through the appropriate DoD Component to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Director, Strategy, Policy and Requirements, Finance Policy Division (DFAS-ZPF), 8899 E. 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Indianapolis, IN, 46249. DFAS-ZPF will review and recommend approval/disapproval to the DCFO, OUSD(C), who will make the final decision.

### 3.0 EFFECTIVE DATE OF JTR CHANGES

See the information on "EFFECTIVE DATE OF REGULATION CHANGES" in the Introduction to the JTR for explanations of JTR effective dates. The DFAS-ZPF may release policy memorandums affecting Volume 9 that implement PDTATAC determinations, if necessary. These policy memorandums remain in effect until published in a change to Volume 9.

### 4.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

The OUSD(C) has ultimate responsibility for the policies contained in Volume 9. The DoD Components may submit requests for changes to DFAS-ZPF. The DFAS-ZPF will review requests and initiate recommended changes to Volume 9 if necessary.

### 5.0 ROUTING AND FORMAT FOR RECOMMENDING CHANGES

Recommendations for changes should include a full explanation regarding the need and rationale for the proposed change. Provide details when the proposal is the result of an actual situation. Addresses for submission of proposed changes are:

Army: Assistant Secretary of the Army

(Financial Management and Comptroller)

109 Army Pentagon

Washington, DC 20310-0109

Navy: Senior Civilian Official

Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller)

1000 Navy Pentagon

Washington, DC 20350-1000

Air Force Assistant Secretary of the Air Force

and Space Force: (Financial Management and Comptroller)

1130 Air Force Pentagon Washington, DC 20330-1130

U.S. Marine Corps: Commandant of the Marine Corps

Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps Programs & Resources Department 3000 Marine Corps Pentagon

Washington, DC 20350-3000

Defense Agencies and DoD Field

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

and DoD Field Attention: DFAS-ZPF Activities: 8899 East 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46249

NOTE: DFAS-ZPF will return recommendations from the Military Services if they have not passed through the specified organization.

## \*6.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

Federal agencies are required by the GSA to report the use of Government aircraft to carry senior Federal officials and non-Federal travelers, on a semi-annual basis in accordance with (IAW) the FTR 301-70.906 and 301-70.907. Agencies must also report all instances of first class and business class travel, on an annual basis IAW the FTR 300-70, Subpart B.

NOTE: DoD Service Components/Agencies must be mindful of any additional Office of Management and Budget travel-specific reporting requirements, which often originate from Executive Orders (EO).

6.1 Report for Travel on Government Aircraft by Senior Federal Officials

Except when a trip is classified, the following information must be reported to the GSA:

- 6.1.1. The person's name with indication that he/she is either a senior Federal official or a non-Federal traveler, whichever is appropriate;
- 6.1.2. The traveler's organization and title or other appropriate descriptive information (e.g., dependent or press);
  - 6.1.3. Name of the authorizing agency;
  - 6.1.4. The official purpose(s) of the trip;
  - 6.1.5. The destination(s);
- 6.1.6. For personal or political travel, the amount that the traveler must reimburse the Government (i.e., the full coach fare or appropriate share of that fare);
- 6.1.7. For official travel, the comparable City Pair Program fare (if available to the traveler) or the full coach fare if the City Pair Program fare is not available; and
- 6.1.8. The cost to the Government to carry this person (i.e., the appropriate allocated share of the Federal or Close Air Support aircraft trip costs).

NOTE: Additional information concerning the GSA's requirement to report travel on Government aircraft by senior Federal officials and non-Federal travelers, to include the Senior Federal Travel Reporting tool and submitting negative reports is available at *Senior Federal Travel Reporting*.

\*June 2023

## 6.2 Other Than Coach Class (OTCC) Reporting

OTCC accommodations are defined in the FTR as first class, business class and premium economy class. When reporting OTCC accommodations to GSA, agencies are only required to report first class and business class. Reporting is not required for premium economy class accommodations. Agencies must separate first class from business class when reporting. An agency must submit a negative report when it has no OTCC accommodations to report. All instances of first class and business class accommodations paid by the Government, which includes any accommodations used as part of a multi-leg or multi-segmented trip paid by the Government must be reported. Beginning in fiscal year 2015, GSA requires agencies to report premium class travel by ticket, rather than segments as in previous years. If any portion of the ticket purchased involves first class or business class accommodations, the entire cost of the ticket must be reported.

- 6.3 First Class and Business Class Accommodations That Do Not Require Reporting:
  - 6.3.1. Any first class or business class accommodation paid by the traveler,
  - 6.3.2. Those acquired by the traveler through frequent flyer points or benefits,
  - 6.3.3. Those which are considered a free upgrade, or
- 6.3.4. When the Federal Government pays coach class fares for first class or business class accommodations.
- 6.4 Negative Reports and Exceptions to Reporting First Class and Business Class Travel
- 6.4.1. <u>Negative Reports</u>. DoD Components that have no first class or business class accommodations to report must still submit a negative report to GSA annually.
- 6.4.2. Exceptions to Reporting Premium Class Travel. Agencies are not required to report data protected from public disclosure by statute or EO; however, they must submit, in a cover letter to the GSA the following aggregate information:
  - 6.4.2.1. Aggregate number of authorized OTCC trips protected from disclosure,
  - 6.4.2.2. Total cost of actual OTCC fares paid that exceeded coach class fare, and
- 6.4.2.3. Total cost of coach class fares that would have been paid for the same travel.

NOTE: Additional information concerning the GSA requirements for reporting first class or business class accommodations, to include gaining access to the on-line reporting tool, may be found at *Travel Reporting*.