



DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE  
ARLINGTON

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MAR 25 2005

DFAS-DOP

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, MILITARY PAY OPERATIONS, DEFENSE  
FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE (PM/CL)

SUBJECT: Interim Change to the DoDFMR, Volume 7A, Regarding Meal Charges in Hospital  
and Other Changes to Basic Allowance for Subsistence (DFAS Item N-34)

Attached is Interim Change 14-05 to Chapter 25 of the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation (DoDFMR), Volume 7A. This change removes the mandatory requirement to charge for meals served to members receiving Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) while a patient is in the hospital effective October 28, 2004. It also includes updated meal collection rates effective January 1, 2005. Finally, it makes certain technical corrections to the bibliography and eliminates reference to Supplemental BAS. Ensure Interim Changes 24-04 (Section 2501 rewrite) and 03-05 are processed before applying this change.

We have evaluated your comments on the proposed change and included your comments where appropriate. Assignment of the interim change number is your authority to initiate procedural modifications to implement this change. Use the attached to initiate the formal change to the DoDFMR, Volume 7A.

Lydia Moschkin  
Director for Policy and  
Management Requirements

Attachment:  
As stated

cc:  
OUSD(C)(ODCFO)(FP)  
ODUSD(MPP)(Comp)  
ODGC(F)  
Service Liaisons  
USCG/NOAA/PHS Liaisons  
DFAS-DDM/CL  
DFAS-PMA/CL

**MEAL CHARGES IN HOSPITAL AND  
OTHER CHANGES TO BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE**

1. Remove, from paragraph 250103, the sentence “Supplemental BAS, when authorized, is paid as a per meal addition.” The elimination of BAS at the Rations-in-Kind-Not-Available (RIKNA) rate obviates the need for a supplemental BAS.

2. Revise subparagraph 250104.C, to read as follows:

C. Military members may not be provided meals or rations at no charge by or on behalf of the government while entitled to BAS for the same period of service, except when a patient in a hospital.

3. Revise the first sentence in subparagraph 250105.A, to read as follows:

A military member being paid BAS must pay for all meals or rations received from a government mess or provided on behalf of the government (except when a patient in a hospital).

4. Replace Table 25-1, as renumbered by Interim Change 03-05, with the following:

<b>MEAL COLLECTION RATES (Effective January 1, 2005) (note 1)</b>			
<b>R U L E</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
	<b>When a member receiving BAS also receives subsistence (meals or rations) from a government mess or provided on behalf of the government at</b>	<b>and the meal received is</b>	<b>then the collection rate is</b>
<b>1</b>	discount meal rate (note 2)	breakfast	1.55
<b>2</b>		lunch	3.00
<b>3</b>		dinner	3.00
<b>4</b>		daily total	7.55
<b>5</b>	standard meal rate (note 3)	breakfast	1.90
<b>6</b>		lunch	3.50
<b>7</b>		dinner	3.50
<b>8</b>		daily total	8.90

**NOTES:**

1. Collections from a member's pay account will be made only when the member has not otherwise paid for meals provided by or on behalf of the government (i.e., by cash, personal check or charge, or by deduction/reduction of per diem). Collections from pay will be deducted from the member's pay account and credited to the appropriation specified by the Military Service concerned.
2. The discount meal rate applies to meals and rations provided by or on behalf of the U.S. Government to a member not paid per diem or other travel reimbursement for subsistence who is performing duty in a U.S. Government vessel, a U.S. Government aircraft, on maneuvers, war games, field exercises, or similar operations, in a group travel status, under essential unit messing or assigned essential station messing. The discount meal rate also applies to meals and rations provided to a member assigned to Joint Task Force operations (for other than training) at temporary U.S. installations, or through a temporary dining facility.
3. The standard meal rate applies to meals and rations provided to any member not authorized the discount meal rate. This includes any member being paid per diem for subsistence, except those on Joint Task Force Operations as described in note 2. Generally, when the standard meal rate is applicable, it will be collected, in cash from the member, by the dining facility.

**★Table 25-1. Meal Collection Rates**

5. Revise the bibliography for Section 2501 of Chapter 25 to read as follows:

## 2501—Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)

250101	37 U.S.C. 402
250102	DoD Directive 1418.5, October 6, 2003
250103	USD(P&R)(MPP)(Comp) Memo, December 9, 2004
250104.A.5	37 U.S.C. 420(c)
250104.A.6	10 U.S.C. 857, 858b
250104.C	Public Law 108-375, section 607, October 28, 2004
250105	37 U.S.C. 1011 DoD Directive 1322.6, February 24, 1997 10 U.S.C. 2603 5 U.S.C. 5536
Table 25-1	OUSDC memo, FY05 Reimbursable Rates, TAB G