

VOLUME 9, CHAPTER 4: “TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCES”**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 [August 2020](#) is archived.

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
All	Verified and updated references, hyperlinks, and formatting to comply with current administrative instructions, and made clarifying editorial changes.	Revision
All	This publication has been reviewed by the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) in accordance with Department of Defense Directive 5154.31, Volume 5, dated October 16, 2015, as PDTATAC Case RR220006. 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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CHAPTER 4

TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCES

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 Purpose

This chapter provides general policy guidance to official travelers on transportation allowances.

1.2 Authoritative Guidance

This chapter provides guidance under authorities contained in statute, the Joint Travel Regulations ([JTR](#)), and the Federal Travel Regulation ([FTR](#)).

2.0 TRANSPORTATION MODE

The Authorizing Official (AO) should direct or authorize the transportation mode for official travel. If the AO does not direct a specific transportation mode, air transportation is ordinarily the authorized mode. The traveler must use the Travel Management Company (TMC). (See the JTR, paragraph 010201.) The Transportation Office(r) (TO) is responsible for issuing policy on the use and procurement of transportation. Travelers should contact the TO for information regarding available transportation services and costs.

3.0 TRAVEL BY PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLE (POV)

3.1 Use of POV

An AO may authorize, but cannot direct a traveler to use a POV in connection with travel on official Government business. This limitation also applies to travel as a passenger in a POV. (See the JTR, paragraph 020210.) NOTE: An employee may not be prohibited from using a POV on official travel. See FTR 301-70.105 on administering the authorization and payment of employee POV travel expenses.

3.2 When POV Use is More Advantageous to the Government

POV use on a temporary duty assignment (TDY) trip is to the Government's advantage for locations within 800 miles round-trip (400 miles one-way) between authorized locations, versus travel by commercial air. Commands may authorize POV use for TDY travel of such distances without completing a cost comparison. (See the JTR, Table 2-10.)

3.3 When POV Use is Not More Advantageous to the Government

If a [traveler](#) elects to use a POV instead of the transportation mode authorized, then:

3.3.1. Reimbursement must be limited to the constructed cost of the authorized transportation mode, which is the sum of per diem and the transportation cost the Government would have incurred when traveling by the authorized transportation mode, [unless otherwise stated in the JTR \(see the JTR, paragraph 020201\)](#); and

3.3.2. Charge leave in accordance with personnel regulations for [travel time that is not official travel time](#). (See the JTR, paragraph 020302.)

3.4 Allowable Travel Time Policy

The standard Department of Defense (DoD) procedure for administering travel time for all DoD travelers is based on the traveler's required period of duty at the TDY point. [All time that is not official travel time must be accounted for in accordance with appropriate personnel regulations](#). (See the JTR, paragraph 020302.)

3.4.1. Day of Arrival at the TDY Point. When the traveler is required to perform duty at the TDY point on the day of arrival, that day is a day of duty. Travel time is granted prior to that first duty day. When the traveler performs no duty at the TDY point on the day of arrival, that day is a travel day.

EXAMPLE: POV travel is authorized as advantageous to the Government. The authorized travel time is two days. The traveler performs duty on the day of arrival at the TDY point. For this example, Departure/Arrival is D/A, Permanent Duty Station is PDS, Private Automobile is PA and Mission Complete is MC.

<u>D/A</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MODE</u>	<u>REASON FOR STOP</u>
Dep	1 Oct	PDS	PA	
Arr	3 Oct	TDY point A		TD
Dep	8 Oct	TDY point A	PA	
Arr	10 Oct	PDS		MC

NOTE: Refer also to DoD [\(DD\) Form 1351-2](#), Travel Voucher or Subvoucher, for explanation of codes.

In this example, October 3 is a day of duty and October 1 and 2 are travel days. Using the same example, if the traveler did not perform duty on October 3 at the TDY point, October 2 and 3 are the travel days. The AO must determine if October 1 should be charged as leave in accordance with DoD Component procedures.

3.4.2. Day of Departure From the TDY Point. When a traveler is required to perform duty at the TDY point on the day of departure, that day is a day of duty. Travel time is granted after that last day. When a traveler is not required to perform duty at the TDY point on the day of departure from the TDY point, that day is a travel day.

EXAMPLE: POV travel is authorized as advantageous to the Government. The authorized travel time is two days. The traveler performs duty on the day of departure from the TDY point.

<u>D/A</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MODE</u>	<u>REASON FOR STOP</u>
Dep	1 Oct	PDS	PA	
Arr	3 Oct	TDY point A		TD
Dep	8 Oct	TDY point A	PA	
Arr	10 Oct	PDS		MC

In this example, October 8 is a day of duty and October 9 and 10 are travel days. Using the same example, if a traveler performs no duty on October 8 at the TDY point, October 8 and 9 are travel days. The AO must determine if October 10 should be charged as leave in accordance with DoD Component procedures.

4.0 BUSINESS/FIRST CLASS (PREMIUM) ACCOMMODATIONS

Travelers are not entitled to reimbursement for premium accommodations unless properly authorized or approved. (See the JTR, paragraph 020206.) It is DoD policy that travelers using commercial air carriers for official travel must use economy or coach accommodations. This does not preclude the traveler from accepting a complimentary seating upgrade offered by the carrier.

5.0 UNUSED/LOST/STOLEN TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS OR TICKETS

5.1 Unused/Lost/Stolen Transportation Requests or Tickets

If a traveler does not use the ticket (paper or electronic) for Government-procured transportation, the traveler must return that ticket to the TO/TMC. Travelers utilizing electronic tickets for which they do not have an issued boarding pass must return a copy of their itinerary to the TO/TMC. The traveler must complete and have the issuing authority (i.e., TO/TMC) sign an original and one copy of a [DD Form 730](#), Receipt for Unused Transportation Requests and/or Tickets, Including Unused Meal Tickets. The Standard Form [\(SF\) 1170](#), Redemption of Unused Tickets, may also be used if its use is in accordance with Service regulations. The traveler must attach a copy of the DD Form 730/SF 1170 (or other receipt) to the travel claim. If a traveler loses a paper ticket or transportation request, the traveler must contact the TO/TMC for assistance. A traveler remains financially responsible to the Government for the cost of a lost or stolen paper ticket or transportation request, regardless of fault or negligence. If the travel order directs use of Government-procured transportation, do not reimburse the traveler for personally procured transportation unless the AO provides a statement to allow reimbursement. (See the JTR, paragraph 020206.)

5.2 Involuntarily Relinquished Airline Accommodations

Penalty payments or credits issued by air carriers under certain provisions of their tariffs for failing to furnish accommodations for confirmed reserved space belong to the U.S. Government, and not the traveler, when the payments result from travel on official business and the traveler was involuntarily denied boarding. In accordance with the JTR, paragraph 020206,

travelers must request that the transportation carrier show “Treasurer of the United States” as the payee on the compensation check and forward the payment according to Service/DoD Agency directives.

6.0 RENTAL VEHICLES

An AO must authorize or approve use of a rental vehicle. It is mandatory that travelers use an available TMC to obtain a rental vehicle. When a TMC is available, but not used, reimbursement is limited to what the cost would have been if a TMC made the arrangements. (See the JTR, Table 2-8.) Only the individual authorized a rental vehicle on their travel order, and named on the rental agreement/contract, may receive reimbursement for authorized rental car expenses. (See the JTR, paragraph 020209.)

6.1 Receipts

When a traveler is authorized and uses a commercial rental vehicle, a receipt from the rental agency must be attached to the claim for costs of \$75.00 or more. (See the JTR, paragraph 010301.)

6.2 Mileage Charges

When a mileage charge is included in the cost of a rental vehicle, the total cost of which is \$75.00 or more, a statement showing the official distance driven must be attached to the claim.

6.3 Leisure Use With Official Use

A traveler who is on official travel with an authorized rental vehicle will only be reimbursed for the use of a rental car while on official travel. The Defense Travel Management Office (DTMO), [*U.S. Government Rental Car Agreement*](#), only covers official travel. Rental car vendors have different procedures and the traveler must check with the rental car vendor to determine if the rental car must be returned after the official business portion of TDY in order to obtain another rental car for personal use.

6.4 Reimbursement for the Cost of Damages to Commercial Rental Vehicles

Rental cars covered by the DTMO rental car agreement include full liability and vehicle loss, and damage insurance coverage in the Government rate. Reimbursement or payment to the rental agency for damages must be made by the Government, or by the traveler if it is determined that the traveler was not within the scope of employment when the loss occurred. When Government reimbursement is approved, and extra collision insurance is not purchased or included in the basic rental contract (e.g., in accordance with DTMO negotiated agreements), the traveler may be reimbursed for personal funds paid to the rental agency for the full amount of damage sustained, or the deductible amount (when contained in the rental agreement), for a vehicle properly rented and damaged in the performance of official business. The JTR, paragraph 020209 defines official purposes. The traveler submits a claim for reimbursement through the AO to the

claims office of the supporting Staff Judge Advocate for adjudication. Supporting documentation must include, but is not limited to:

6.4.1. Police accident reports and traffic citations;

6.4.2. Statements from witnesses; and

6.4.3. Statements and itemized bills from the traveler and rental agency to ensure that the claim is valid, not settled, and in an amount commensurate to the actual damage.

NOTE: The inclusion of an accident report assists legal authorities in establishing fault on the part of the party not employed by the Government, which may enable the Government to recoup its loss when the negligence of that party can be established without costly investigation. Reimbursement is prohibited for damage sustained to a rental vehicle while being used on other than official business, or by willful and wanton negligence on the part of the traveler.

6.5 Damage Claims Received From Rental Agencies

Rental agencies may submit a damage claim directly to the Government. To be considered for payment, these claims must be supported by appropriate documentation. Claims for reimbursement or payments made directly to the rental agency may be made in the full amount of damage sustained or the deductible amount (when contained in the rental agreement). At a minimum, include documentation provided in paragraph 6.4.

7.0 LOCAL TRAVEL IN AND AROUND PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY DUTY STATIONS

7.1 General

The AO should make sure local directives clearly define the local area in which transportation expenses may be authorized or approved for conducting official business. (See the JTR, paragraph 0206.) When two or more installations are in close proximity, the senior commander or senior Service commander should determine the local area. When travelers perform TDY in the local area and require lodging, travel orders are necessary to support the claim.

7.2 Prohibition on Self-Approval

Appointed AOs and approving officials may not approve their own vouchers for payment of local travel.

7.3 Permanent Duty Station

Travelers performing local travel in a POV must provide a trip-by-trip accounting of all travel performed on official business. [Refer to Chapter 8, paragraph 6.2 for claim submission instructions and the JTR, paragraph 020204 for distance determinations.](#) When like trips between

the same points occur on a repeated basis, one entry on the claim suffices, provided that it reflects the distance or costs between these points and the dates on which the trips occurred.

7.4 Temporary Duty Station

Travelers performing local travel in a POV at the TDY site may be authorized/approved reimbursement for transportation expenses necessarily incurred for conducting official business in the local area of their TDY stations using the TDY mileage rates for local and TDY travel. (See the JTR, paragraphs 020210 and 020212.)

8.0 TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION FOR FUNERAL HONORS DETAIL

8.1 General

A person not employed by the Government, who participates in a funeral honors detail for a veteran in accordance with Title 10, United States Code, section 1491, ([10 U.S.C. § 1491](#)) may be authorized transportation or transportation reimbursement and expenses. (See the JTR, paragraph 032004.)

8.2 Transportation Mode

The transportation mode used should be the least costly mode available that adequately meets the needs of the detail. When a POV is the authorized mode, actual expenses rather than a mileage allowance may be paid. Reimbursement for POV actual expenses are limited to fuel, oil, parking, ferry fares, and road, bridge, and/or tunnel tolls.

8.3 Lodging and Meals

The actual cost of lodging and meals may be reimbursed up to the per diem rate prescribed for the area concerned. If individuals serving on the funeral honors detail incur costs to include per diem, an invitational travel authorization will be used.

8.4 Reimbursable Expenses

Reimbursable expenses, in accordance with the JTR, paragraph 0204, may be authorized or approved.