

COVID-19 STOP-MOVEMENT FACT SHEET

On March 16, the Secretary of Defense ordered the military to stop movement and travel to preserve the health and readiness of the force amid the 2019 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

The number of unique circumstances involved with TDY, PCS, and reassignments compels commanders at all levels to exercise the tenets of mission command. Commanders have a broad array of authorities to manage individual cases and grant exceptions to policy to meet the Secretary's intent.

The information below conveys the intent of DoD and Army directives and orders. For details, implementing instructions, and more information, review ALARACTs and Army EXORD 144-20 "Army-wide preparedness and response to COVID-19" and its associated FRAGOS.

What is the guidance for permanent change of station moves?

- The intent is to delay all PCS moves until further notice. Soldiers, Civilians, and family members already in transit for CONUS moves should complete their movement. OCONUS moves require an exception to policy.
- The stop movement directive does not apply to Soldier TDY, PCS, or reassignments within the same duty station or to duty stations when there is no change in Soldier residence (e.g. low cost/no cost PCS).
- When movements are required for the mission, amend orders to account for a 14-day self-quarantine in addition to travel time.
- Losing commands must ensure Soldiers and Civilians understand the responsibility to contact the gaining command for guidance.
- Gaining commands are responsible for requesting exceptions to policy for mission essential purposes, losing commands are responsible for exceptions for hardship reasons.
- Soldiers under restriction of movement to their next permanent duty station may request assignment deletion or deferment for up to one year.

What is the guidance for TDY travel?

- Travel restrictions do not apply to patients, medical attendants, and medical providers for the purpose of medical treatment for DoD personnel and their family members.
- Government-funded, non-local travel for Soldiers, DA Civilians, and family members has elevated approval requirements (see matrix below).
- The stop order and travel approval requirements do not apply to family member travel not funded by the Government.
- No concurrent official travel for family members of Soldiers and DA Civilians.
- Soldiers on temporary change of station (TCS) orders fall under the TDY/deployments guidance. TCS is TDY in support of contingency operations.

What are the leave and pass policies?

- Commanders should apply leave and liberty policies liberally, consistent with DoD force health protection guidance and mission requirements, for Soldiers and Soldiers who care for family members.

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- Commanders may exercise their authority to assign an alternate place of duty for any Soldier on active duty and may authorize relevant work to be performed remotely.
- There are no changes to approval authorities for leave and passes within local areas.
- Commanders may authorize non-chargeable leave for individuals directed to self-isolate who are otherwise unable to work remotely or in an alternate place of duty.
- The first GO/SES in Soldiers' and Civilians' chain of command or supervision may approve emergency leave, return from TDY, and return from leave to their home station.
- Army Civilian leave and personal travel are not affected by the stop movement order. Supervisors shall not impose distance or location requirements on Civilian leave.
- Special Leave Accrual (SLA) has not been approved.

Do retirements and separations continue?

- Individuals separating or retiring are exempt from the stop-movement, and proceed on transition leave as planned.
- Reserve Component members being released from active duty (REFRAD) may voluntarily extend their orders through the stop movement. If they will not or cannot extend, they may proceed with REFRAD, according to their orders.

How do entitlements change?

- In most cases, existing regulations and pay authorities apply. See published ALARACTs for information about entitlements relating to COVID-19.
- Quarantine and self-isolation sites are considered temporary and will not affect basic allowance for housing (BAH).
- TDY and PCS orders will be extended as necessary to allow for 14 days of self-monitoring at the destination site. Soldiers are authorized travel, per diem, and transportation allowances during such periods, if away from the permanent duty station.
- DoD authorized an isolation allowance payable to Soldiers completing a PCS move from an OCONUS location that requires self-monitoring.
- Soldiers ordered into a period of self-monitoring or who are delayed at a port of entry or port of departure may be authorized per diem while awaiting transportation.
- Soldiers not on a travel status ordered to self-isolate where the Soldier incurs an additional cost to acquire lodging may be eligible for up to \$1,500 (taxable) of hardship duty pay—restriction of movement (HDP-ROM).
- Soldiers may be entitled to family separation allowance if not separated solely as a result of leave travel being halted, delayed, or cancelled in accordance with the travel restrictions.
- Family separation allowance cannot be paid when dependents are within 50 miles of the Soldier's duty station.

What are the Army Disaster Accountability and Assessment System considerations?

- All Soldiers and Civilians shall update ADPAAS contact information for sponsors and family members with the most current physical address and contact information.
- Ensure each person's emergency contact information is updated in ADPAAS.
- Soldiers, Civilians, and family members departing a country associated with an authorized or ordered departure will proceed with travel as directed.

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What are the concerns for Active Guard and Reserve Component Soldiers?

- Consider mobilization and demobilization travel and requirements for Guard and Reserve Soldiers entering or leaving active duty. The intent is to minimize movement of Soldiers, Civilians, and family members outside local travel areas.
- Commanders may request exceptions to extend orders for Guard and Reserve Soldiers on voluntary or involuntary active duty.

What are the considerations for Army Civilians?

- Minimize official travel and movement where possible and follow local HPCON.
- Continue onboarding new employees within local commuting area. Consider adjusting onboarding procedures to facilitate virtual process and reduce movement of new hires through the use of telework to the extent feasible.
- Commanders may extend OCONUS Civilian employment to minimize movement.

Army COVID-19 resources: <https://www.army.mil/coronavirus/#resources>

Human Resources Command Call Center: 1-800-582-5552

Army G-1 COVID-19 Collaboration Site (requires CAC access)
<https://g357.army.pentagon.mil/od/PCC/COVID19/default.aspx>

G-1s with further questions may contact the HQDA Personnel Contingency Cell at:
usarmy.pentagon.hqda.mbx.pccima04@mail.mil

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Approval Authorities for Domestic Movement

Category	SECARMY / CSA / SMA	USA / VCSA	ACOM CG / ASCC CG / HQDA Principal Official	Corps CG / 3-Star Approval / DRU	First GO / SES in Chain of Command
Permanent Change of Station (PCS) and other travel deemed mission essential, warranted due to extreme hardship or necessary for humanitarian reasons.	Inform	Approval			
Domestic temporary duty (TDY) for professional military education (PME), training, and modernization efforts		Inform / SMA for NCO PME	Approval		
Domestic TDY for mission essential requirements to support operational and other critical missions, to include associated mobilization, fielding and training requirements for deployment			Inform	Approval	
Soldier Non-local leave (for a humanitarian reason or warranted due to extreme hardship) (For local leave, see below, note 3)			Inform	Approval	
Domestic operational movement in support of HQDA Directed missions (FEMA, K9, EOD, CBRNE)					Approval
Casualty assistance activities, emergency leave, and return to home station from TDY or leave (for TDY/leave commenced prior to stop movement order)					Approval
Prisoner movements with escorts, including pretrial confinement, initiation of adjudged confinement, release from confinement, and appellate leave due to punitive discharge					Approval

1. ARNG SMs in a Title 10 status (e.g., ADOS-AC, ADOS-RC), except those assigned to NGB (who are under the authority of the CNGB) or a CCDM, will follow the same ETP authorities as Active Duty SMs/units.

2. ARNG SMs in a Title 32 status are not subject to the SECARMY stop movement/OSD delegation but are subject to their respective governors'/state's/TAG's orders.

3. Local leave remains at the current command levels.