



ERD

Early Return of Dependents



Authorities

- AER 55-46 (Command Sponsorship and Travel Overseas, dated 6 August 2019)
- Joint Travel Regulation (JTR)
- AER 600-77-DOD-SOFA in Germany
- AER 600-700 (Identification Cards and Individual Logistical Support 30 May 2018)-describes MOH requirements



What is an ERD per regulation?

- **Early Return of Dependents:**

- A sponsor-requested (command approved) or a command directed permanent-change-of-station (PCS) move of dependent Family members out of an OCONUS location before the sponsor's expiration-term of service date or the date eligible for return from overseas, and before publication of PCS orders that would move the sponsor out of that OCONUS location



Let's Break this Down

Early-When

Return-Where?

Dependents-Who qualifies?



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Early



What does Early mean? It depends!

A dependent must begin travel before the Service member is issued a new PCS order from the PDS OCONUS,

UNLESS the travel is for disciplinary reasons.*



Return

Where can a dependent family member be ERD'd to?

- A Designated place in the CONUS
- Non-foreign location OCONUS
- Dependent's native country, if foreign born



Dependents

Command Sponsored Dependents



Qualifying Reasons for an ERD

Reasons for Return. The return must be caused by one of the following:

1. An official situation.
2. A matter of national interest.
- 3. A personal situation at the PDS OCONUS.**
4. Disciplinary action against a Service member stationed OCONUS.



An Official Situation

Table 5-20. Early Return of Dependents (ERD) for Official Situations			
If the dependent...		And is involved in an incident that is any of the following:	Then...
1	is command-sponsored and resides at the Service member's current PDS OCONUS	a. embarrassing to the United States,	dependent travel and transportation allowances may be authorized at PCS rates through the Secretarial Process to a designated place.
2	was command-sponsored at an old PDS OCONUS and remains there while the Service member serves a dependent-restricted tour at another PDS OCONUS	b. prejudicial to the command's order, morale, and discipline,	
3	is a foreign-born dependent who was moved at Government expense to the dependent's native country while the Service member serves a dependent-restricted tour at a PDS OCONUS	c. facilitates conditions in which the dependent's safety can no longer be ensured due to adverse public feeling in the area or due to force protection and antiterrorism considerations,	
		d. requires the dependent to register as a sex offender under the laws of any jurisdiction,	



It's Official

- The approving authority for this will probably be deleted to either
 1. Installation Commander
 2. Headquarters that directs the Service's dependent transportation policies and procedures for travel to a foreign-born dependent's native country
 3. Commanding Officer of the unit to which the service member is assigned



A Matter of National Interest

- National interest is national interest
- “A command-sponsored dependent at a location OCONUS may be eligible for travel and transportation allowances when the Secretary concerned or a more senior official determines that a dependent must return early for reasons of national interest.”



Disciplinary Action and Personal Situation at the PDS OCONUS.



Table 5-22. Eligibility for Dependent Travel due to Personal Situations

1	When disciplinary action is taken against a Service member who is	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. sentenced by a court martial to be confined or to be dismissed or punitively discharged.b. sentenced to confinement in a foreign or U.S. civil confinement facility.c. discharged OCONUS under other than honorable conditions.d. returned to the CONUS for discharge under other than honorable conditions.e. returned to the CONUS to serve a sentence of confinement in a civil or military confinement facility.f. serving OCONUS and is dropped from the rolls, sent to prison under sentence, or transferred as a prisoner to a place of detention.g. serving OCONUS and is transferred to a different ship or location to await trial by court martial as a deserter or straggler.h. discharged under other than honorable conditions after surrendering to military authorities in the CONUS following a period of absence without leave from the PDS OCONUS,i. convicted by a court martial and placed on leave involuntarily while awaiting completion of an appellate review. A statement of authorization or approval required under this situation must support the transportation procurement documents for allowances, which are limited to the cost to the Service member's HOR or PLEAD.
2	Other circumstances	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. There is a death, serious illness, or incapacitation of a dependent ordinarily caring for a Service member's minor dependent that requires, in the opinion of the



A personal situation at the PDS OCONUS.

Table 5-22. Eligibility for Dependent Travel due to Personal Situations

qualifying dependent travel eligibility	<p>authorizing or approving authority, that the minor dependent be transported to a place where proper care may be maintained.</p> <p>b. There are compelling personal reasons, such as financial difficulties, marital difficulties, unforeseen family problems, death or serious illness of a close relative, or for reasons of a humanitarian or compassionate nature or other situations which adversely effects the Service member's performance of duty, and the movement of dependents serves the best interest of the Service member, the dependents, or the Government.*</p> <p>c. Essential medical treatment is neither available at the Service member's PDS nor readily available in the theater.**</p> <p>d. Educational facilities or housing for the dependent is inadequate.***</p> <p>e. Conditions in a theater OCONUS are such that, although the evacuation of a dependent is neither warranted nor desired, the Service member is concerned justifiably for the dependent's safety and wellbeing.****</p> <p>f. A dependent receives an order from a Selective Service Board to report to the United States for induction into the U.S. Armed Forces.</p> <p>g. Acceptable employment opportunities for a dependent child age 18 years or older at the foreign PDS OCONUS are lacking.*****</p>
	<p>*The AO's statement must support the circumstance and must not be used to authorize dependent student transportation to the CONUS to attend school.</p> <p>**The Service member's request must be supported by medical documentation, including a statement by the attending physician, indicating that the treatment is essential to the dependent's wellbeing.</p> <p>***A statement from the AO is required that explains the inadequacy of educational facilities or housing is due to conditions beyond the Service member's control and that knowledge of those conditions arose after the dependent began to travel to the Service member's PDS OCONUS.</p> <p>****The Combatant Commander (CCDR) must make such determinations considering the recommendation of the major commander in the area for the Service concerned. Determination authority may be delegated to no lower than a General Officer or flag officer in the respective CCDR's headquarters.</p> <p>*****The commanding officer of the activity concerned must determine that the lack of employment opportunity at the PDS and the resulting idleness may likely cause the dependent child to become involved in situations creating embarrassment to the United States that place additional administrative burdens on the commanding officer or adversely effect on the Service member's performance and that early return is in the best interest of the Service member, or dependent, and the United States.</p>



Disciplinary Action

- For disciplinary action, travel and transportation allowances are **limited** to the cost from the Service member's last or former PDS OCONUS or the place to which the dependent was last transported at Government expense, as applicable, to the designated place or, if the dependent is foreign-born, to the dependent's native country. If the Service member is convicted by court martial and placed on leave involuntarily while awaiting completion of an appellate review, then **allowances are limited to the cost to the Service member's home of record or PLEAD.**



Who can initiate an ERD?

Either the sponsor

OR

The Command

Can a family member initiate an ERD to receive their items? What if family member wants to go back but Soldier will not go through ERD process?



Who is the Authorizing Official?

The USAG commander who is a COL or COL equivalent is normally the approving authority for ERD actions returning family members to CONUS

Deputy garrison managers will send command-initiated ERD actions to the next higher command for decision



What else can the USAG Commander do?

- (1) May stipulate travel requirements on the orders for the ERD action
- (2) Can revoke the command sponsorship of Family members who refuse to depart the command after a command-directed ERD order has been issued because of official situations or to support U.S. national interests.



What about outside the US?

- ASA M&RA (Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs))
- The requesting individual* will
 1. Obtain the USAG commander's endorsement
 2. Send the request through the USAG MPD (with the USAG commander's endorsement attached) to the FTS at email: usarmy.sembach.id-europe.mbx.g1-family-travel@mail.mil.



The Authority Chart

Table 5-21. Delegated Authority for ERD Travel and Transportation Allowances

Dependent traveling...		Authority...
1	to a location in the CONUS or non-foreign location OCONUS	An officer grade O-5 or higher, or equivalent-grade civilian employee, where the Service member is assigned and who is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. At the activity-commander level. b. Support group's commander. c. Unit's commanding officer.
2	to a foreign-born dependent's native country	The headquarters that directs the Service's dependent transportation policies or procedures for travel to a foreign-born dependent's native

Table 5-21. Delegated Authority for ERD Travel and Transportation Allowances

Dependent traveling...		Authority...
		country.
3	when disciplinary actions are taken against Service member	The officer exercising special or general court martial jurisdiction over the Service member.



You've Gone Through the Steps

- Appropriate time period
- Location determined
- Command Sponsored Dependant
- Qualifying Reason

What now?



Where to find the actual how

- AER 55-46
- APPENDIX B PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTS FOR EARLY RETURN OF FAMILY MEMBERS



A Soldier-Requested ERD Packet Requires:

1. DA Form 4187
2. Memorandum For Record Statement of Understanding
3. AE Form 55-46 C the Checklist
4. ERB or ORB
5. PCS move orders with command sponsorship approval annotated or approval letter attached
6. Copies of passports (and SOFA stamp)
7. AE Form 55-46A

Ensuring this is complete will prevent legal objections from the administrative law department



Command Directed ERD

1. DA Form 4187
2. AE Form 55-46C
3. ERB or ORB
4. OCONUS PCS move orders with command-sponsorship approval annotated or approval letter
5. Copies of passports (and SOFA stamp)

Note: MFR-SOU is not required for a command-directed ERD request packet



So when can I buy my ticket?



- Soldiers who receive early-return orders must process through the local official travel office for Family-member travel and transportation.



This process sounds lengthy

- Soldiers who return Family members to CONUS at personal expense before early-return orders are issued will normally **not** be reimbursed for travel.
- On Form 55-46 C Enclosures d through f are not required for after-the-fact requests, but enclosure g is required. Enclosure g is required only for after-the-fact requests.



DA Form 4187

Attachments Menu

PERSONNEL ACTION For use of this form, see DA PAM 600-8; the proponent is the DCS, G-1.		
PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT AUTHORITY: 10 U.S.C. 7013, Secretary of the Army, DA PAM 600-8, Military Human Resources Management Administrative Procedures. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: To request or record personnel actions for or by Soldiers in accordance with DA PAM 600-8. NOTE: For additional information see the System of Records Notice A0600-8-104 AHRC. https://dpcl.d.defense.gov/Portals/49/Documents/Privacy/SORNs/Army/A006-8-104-AHRC.pdf ROUTINE USE(S): There are no specific routine uses anticipated for this form; however it may be subject to a number of proper and necessary routine uses identified in the system of records notice(s) specified in the purpose statement above. DISCLOSURE: Voluntary, however, failure to impart pertinent information may result in a delay or error in processing the request for personnel action.		
SECTION I - PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION		
1. THRU (Include ZIP Code)	2. TO (Include ZIP Code)	3. FROM (Include ZIP Code)
4. NAME (Last, First, MI)	5. GRADE OR RANK / PMOS / AOC	6. DOD ID NUMBER
SECTION II - DUTY STATUS CHANGE (AR 600-8-6)		
7. The above Soldier's duty status is changed from _____ to _____ effective _____ hours, _____		
SECTION III - REQUEST FOR PERSONNEL ACTION		
8. I request the following action: (Check as appropriate)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Service School (Enl only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Forces Training/Assignment	<input type="checkbox"/> Identification Card
<input type="checkbox"/> ROTC or Reserve Component Duty	<input type="checkbox"/> On-the-Job Training (Enl only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Identification Tags
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering For Oversea Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Retesting in Army Personnel Tests	<input type="checkbox"/> Separate Rations
<input type="checkbox"/> Ranger Training	<input type="checkbox"/> Reassignment Married Army Couples	<input type="checkbox"/> Leave - Excess/Advance/Outside CONUS
<input type="checkbox"/> Reassignment Extreme Family Problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Reclassification	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name/SSN/DOB
<input type="checkbox"/> Exchange Reassignment (Enl only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Officer Candidate School	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> Airborne Training	<input type="checkbox"/> Asgmt of Pers with Exceptional Family Members	
9. SIGNATURE OF SOLDIER (When required)		10. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
SECTION IV - REMARKS (Applies to Sections II, III, and V)		
<div></div>		
SECTION V - CERTIFICATION / APPROVAL / DISAPPROVAL		
11. I certify that the duty status change (Section II) or that the request for personnel action (Section III) contained herein - <input type="checkbox"/> HAS BEEN VERIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMEND APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMEND DISAPPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> IS APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> IS DISAPPROVED		
12. COMMANDER / AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	13. SIGNATURE	14. DATE (YYYYMMDD)



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DA Form 4187



[Attachments Menu](#)

ADDENDUM - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL / DISAPPROVAL			
15. NAME (Last, First, MI)		16. DOD ID NUMBER	
AUTHORITY	a. TO	b. FROM	
c. ACTION: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVED RECOMMEND: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL			
d. NAME (Last, First, MI)		e. RANK	f. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
g. TITLE / POSITION		h. SIGNATURE	
i. COMMENTS			
AUTHORITY	a. TO	b. FROM	
c. ACTION: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVED RECOMMEND: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL			
d. NAME (Last, First, MI)		e. RANK	f. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
g. TITLE / POSITION		h. SIGNATURE	
i. COMMENTS			
AUTHORITY	a. TO	b. FROM	
c. ACTION: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVED RECOMMEND: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL			
d. NAME (Last, First, MI)		e. RANK	f. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
g. TITLE / POSITION		h. SIGNATURE	
i. COMMENTS			
AUTHORITY	a. TO	b. FROM	
c. ACTION: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVED RECOMMEND: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL			
d. NAME (Last, First, MI)		e. RANK	f. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
g. TITLE / POSITION		h. SIGNATURE	
i. COMMENTS			

DA FORM 4187, DEC 2022

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MFR SOU



[Plain bond paper]

AEXX-XX [unit office symbol]

[date]

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Statement of Understanding (SOU) for Early Return of Dependents (ERD) – _Last Name_

1. Spouse SOU. I acknowledge that I am aware my sponsor is requesting an early return of dependent Family members (an ERD). I **(DO or DO NOT)** [select and circle one, line thru other] concur with this request _____. [initials]. If the ERD is approved, I understand that I will not be authorized to return to the duty location outside the continental United States at Government expense. I further understand that I will be moved through a permanent change of station (PCS) to the address specified on the DA Form 4187 request form (that is, _____ [street, city, state, zipcode]).

_____. (Signature)
First MI. Last
_____. (Date)

2. Soldier SOU. I understand that approval of this request for an ERD will terminate command sponsorship upon departure of my dependents from Europe and my Family members will not be allowed to return to my overseas place of duty at Government expense during my current tour. I further understand that if I am not accompanied by command-sponsored Family members, I am required to clear Government housing within 15 days after my Family members' departure from this command, to update my basic allowance for housing and cost of living allowance authorizations, and to update or recertify my DD Form 93 and Servicemembers Group Life Insurance designations. My Family members and I have reached an agreement on the division and shipment of household goods (HHG). If I ship a privately owned vehicle (POV) at this time, I understand I will not be authorized another shipment of a POV at Government expense during this tour.

_____. (Signature)
FIRST MI. LAST
Rank, Branch
_____. (Date)

3. Commander Verification. I have interviewed and counseled the Soldier and Family member on the guidelines and procedures of requesting an ERD action. The Soldier and Family members agree to the action and have agreed on a division of the HHG and POVs. The Family members have agreed to meet the port call on the date, time, and location that will be established. The Soldier understands that he or she must update his or her finance and housing information with the appropriate offices immediately after his or her Family members depart. The Soldier further understands that if the ERD is approved, he or she will still be required to financially support his or her Family members as required by applicable regulations and laws.

_____. (Signature)
FIRST MI. LAST
Rank, Branch
_____. (Date)

Figure B-2. Sample Memorandum for Record–Statement of Understanding



AE Form 55-46C

[Print Form](#) | [E-mail Form](#) | [Reset Form](#)
[Prescribing Directive](#)

ARMY IN EUROPE EARLY RETURN OF DEPENDENTS CHECKLIST (AE Reg 55-46)			
Soldier	Unit	USAG	Date (YYYYMMDD)
Request for early return of dependents (ERD) (Soldier-requested and command-directed ERD requests)			Initial NA Yes No
1. DA Form 4187. The request form must provide—			
a. The current location of Family members (physical address).			
b. The requested destination address (physical address).			
c. Information about Family members (that is, name, relationship, date of birth, passport number, passport expiration date, and citizenship).			
d. Identification of whether household goods or a privately owned vehicle will or will not be shipped.			
e. Identification of whether or not the Soldier is currently on assignment instructions.			
f. A valid justification (that is, the circumstances must meet the qualifications listed in the JTR, chap 5, sec 3, subsec A3c). An ERD will not be used instead of the Soldier's Family-care plan (during temporary duty (TDY) or as a result of deployment or notification of possible deployment).			
g. Signature of the Soldier.			
h. Signature of the unit (company-level) commander.			
i. Endorsement signature of the first commander who is a lieutenant colonel or higher in the Soldier's chain of command.			
2. Enclosures to the DA Form 4187. The ERD request packet must include all of the following that are applicable:			
a. Assumption-of-command orders, if applicable (for example, approvals by acting commanders).			
b. Proof of command sponsorship (for example, PCS orders, command sponsorship approval letter).			
c. Enlisted record brief (ERB) or officer record brief (ORB), as applicable.			
NOTE: Enclosures d through f are not required for after-the-fact requests, but enclosure g is required. Enclosure g is required only for after-the-fact requests.			
d. A memorandum for record – statement of understanding (MFR–SOU) signed by the Soldier, the spouse, and the company-level commander (not required for command-directed ERD requests).			
e. AE Form 55-46A, Commander's Checklist for Soldier and Family Assistance.			
f. Copies of Family members' passports and, if applicable, green cards.			
g. A statement from the Soldier explaining why the Family members departed the OCONUS location before approval of the ERD request, if applicable.			
h. Any other documentation that supports the reason for the request. The documentation should show that all available local resources have been exhausted and the situation remains unresolved (for example, letters from attorneys, doctors, or marital counseling professionals; legal separation agreement; other documents).			
3. Checklist approval. Each level of command should review the ERD request packet using this checklist. If any item is answered "No" (company-level reviewers should leave item 1i unchecked), the request packet is not ready for forwarding to the next level of approval authority.			Initial
a. Company-level review (a block should be checked in each line of sections 1 and 2, except for 1i).			
b. Battalion-level review (a block should be checked in each line of sections 1 and 2).			
c. Brigade-level review, if applicable.			
d. Higher-level review, if applicable.			

AE FORM 55-46C, JUN 15

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AE Form 55-46A

COMMANDER'S CHECKLIST FOR SOLDIER AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE (AE Reg 55-46)				
Data Required by the Privacy Act of 1974				
Authority: 10 USC 3013, Secretary of the Army.				
Purpose: To provide unit commanders a ready source of information for day-to-day operations and administrative determinations pertaining to assigned and attached personnel and to enable them to recommend appropriate resources to assist Families facing separation or hardships (for example, financial problems, marital difficulties, medical issues, other Family member support issues).				
Routine uses: In addition to disclosures permitted under 5 USC 552a(b) of the Privacy Act, these records or the information they include may specifically be disclosed pursuant to 5 USC 552a(b)(3) as follows: DOD Blanket Routine Uses.				
Disclosure: Voluntary. However, if you do not provide the requested information, commanders may not be able to recommend appropriate services.				
1. Name (last, first, MI)			2. Grade	
3. Unit			4. Deros (YYYYMMDD)	
Section I — Army Community Service (ACS)			Date counseled (YYYYMMDD)	
Financial Readiness. Classes on money, debt and checkbook management, savings, investing, and spending plan for recurring monthly bills.				
Budget Counseling Classes. Classes on leave and earnings statement (LES), budget, and credit card statements.				
Army Emergency Relief Commander's Referral Program. Limited emergency financial assistance and food vouchers.				
Employment Readiness. Job preparation workshops, job development and contact with potential employers, and job-skill development and assessment.				
Debt Liquidation. Classes on debt liquidation. ACS financial counselors help members contact creditors to establish a payment plan.				
Family Advocacy Program (FAP). Stress management, interpersonal communication, anger and conflict resolution, couples relationship, positive discipline for children, transitional compensation, and parenting teenagers.				
Consumer Finance Affairs. Automobiles and property issues, privacy of personal financial information, and financial planning.				
I verify that the Soldier has completed this section.	Name (last, first, MI)	Telephone (military)	Date (YYYYMMDD)	Signature
Section II — Chaplain Services			Date counseled (YYYYMMDD)	
Pastoral Counseling. Supported counseling for the person's belief and values system, and facilitation of spiritual growth.				
Crisis Intervention. Intervention provided when a crisis threatens the individual or a Family from functioning.				
Marriage Counseling. Counseling on marital problems and disagreements.				
Family Counseling. Counseling for a Family unit on Family problems and disagreements.				
I verify that the Soldier has completed this section.	Name (last, first, MI)	Telephone (military)	Date (YYYYMMDD)	Signature
Section III — Medical Services			Date counseled (YYYYMMDD)	
Family Advocacy Clinic. Marriage and Family counseling, services for couples experiencing marriage difficulties, and help with other Family-related issues.				
Mental Health Department (if commanders deem necessary). Adult and child psychiatric or psychological clinical assessment and treatment in the form of medication management and individual and group psychotherapy.				
I verify that the Soldier has completed this section.	Name (last, first, MI)	Telephone (military)	Date (YYYYMMDD)	Signature
Section IV — Legal Assistance			Date counseled (YYYYMMDD)	
Family Law. Family-support guidelines, child custody, separation agreements, Family care plan, power of attorney, and wills.				
I verify that the Soldier has completed this section.	Name (last, first, MI)	Telephone (military)	Date (YYYYMMDD)	Signature

AE FORM 55-46A, JUN 15

Previous editions are obsolete.

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The ERD Process

1. Soldier goes to Civilian misconduct actions officer and/or other HR official
2. Complete the packet
3. HR Official forwards packet to admin law dept. for legal review
4. Packet goes to approving authority for approval (or denial)



How are ERD funded?

- OMA Funds
- What to do if command says they don't have the funding?
 - Consider working with the IG or filing a Congressional



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BAH



When all of a Service member's dependents are returned from a PDS OCONUS at Government expense not due to a PCS, regardless of the reason for the return, the Service member is **authorized a housing allowance** at the with dependent rate based on the dependent's permanent residence location effective on the arrival day



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COLA



- If Family members leave Germany for more than 30 days, the COLA will be decreased by the number of dependents who have left Germany.



Foreign Criminal Jurisdiction

- No EROD orders will generally be issued to persons subject to foreign criminal jurisdiction without proper approval authority or until the foreign jurisdiction terminates.
- The Government will not reimburse transportation of civilians or Family members accused or suspected in incidents where foreign criminal jurisdiction is possible.



Some Considerations

- Cannot return government funded
- If family returns at personal expense, they must request command sponsorship
- Soldiers who return Family member to an overseas location at personal expense after those Family members returned to CONUS must request command sponsorship.



Divorce

- Dependent Travel Due to Divorce or Annulment is a separation section of the JTR-050805
- If marriage ends by divorce or annulment, authorized travel and transportation allowances for a **former dependent**.
- The former dependent must have been a formerly command-sponsored dependent residing with the Service member at the duty location OCONUS. Movement of a former dependent must be in the best interest of the United States, the Service member, and the former dependent concerned.



Divorce Cont...

1. The travel for the former dependent must be authorized through the Secretarial Process.
2. The Service member should request movement of the former dependent.
3. If the Service member is unavailable or declines to initiate a request for movement, the former dependent concerned may initiate the request.



- Travel must originate at or in the vicinity of the Service member's present or former PDS OCONUS and must end in the United States, a non-foreign location OCONUS, or in the former dependent's native country.
- The allowances authorized are payable to the Service member, but may be paid directly to the former spouse **when the Service member authorizes direct payment.**



Divorce-Timeline

- Travel must be completed within 1 year after the final divorce decree or annulment's effective date or 6 months after the date the Service member completes personal PCS travel from the PDS OCONUS, whichever occurs first.



Custody Change Consideration

- If a custody agreement changes, or the Service member makes other legal arrangements, and a former family member becomes a dependent of the Service member again, then the dependent's return to the Service member's PDS OCONUS may be authorized through the Secretarial Process.



Germany SOFA Considerations

- SOFA considerations per AER 600-77-DOD civilian employees, accredited-contractor employees, and their Family members as well as U.S. Forces Family members **lose their entitlement** and must turn in their SOFA ID certificates to the PAA when marriage is terminated by annulment, divorce, or death.



SOFA Considerations Continued

- “3) The marriage is terminated by annulment, divorce, or death. If the sponsor dies and the Family members remain in Germany, the PAA must issue a new SOFA ID certificate with an expiration date that is 90 days after the date of the sponsor’s death”.
- Note that 90 days is not granted by the regulation for divorce



Received PCS Orders

AER: 14. ADVANCE RETURN OF FAMILY MEMBERS

Soldiers may request advance return of Family members (glossary) any time after receiving PCS orders. Family members may be authorized travel and transportation allowances from the current permanent duty station (PDS) to the new PDS.



Member of Household Status

- **Chapter 10 of AER 600-700**
- **May be an option for close relatives who do not qualify as a dependent family member**
- **Provides SOFA status**
- **Does NOT authorize that person to patronize U.S. sales and recreation facilities**
- **LIMITED Entitlements**



Limited Entitlements-No ID card

- **MOH status does not confer military benefits**
- **MWR services**
- **VAT Forms**
- **MPS**
- **USAREUR vehicle registration and licensing**
- **Military banking/credit union**
- **DODDS services**



Things you do not qualify for

- **Probably don't qualify for Legal Assistance Services**
- **Need an ETP for Medical and Dental services**
- **Sponsors are not authorized additional living space or housing allowance**



Who Qualifies for MOH?

- **Unmarried children between the ages of 21 and 23 of AD soldiers, DOD civilians, and contractors provided that they...**
 - Financially or for reasons of health dependent on the sponsor (50% rule)
 - Live with the sponsor, even after departing Germany
 - Be present in Germany with the consent of U.S. Forces



Who Qualifies for MOH?

- **Other “close relatives”**
 - Grandchild, parent, parent-in-law, stepparent, grandparent, sibling/stepsibling, nephew or niece
 - Financially or for reasons of health dependent on the sponsor (50% rule)
 - Live with the sponsor, even after departing Germany
 - Be present in Germany with the consent of U.S. Forces
 - Be a U.S. citizen, lawful permanent resident of the United States, or an EU citizen/national (but not a citizen or an ordinary resident of Germany).



Can I have an exception please?

- **c. Requests for exceptions to policy for close relatives not listed above must be sent through command channels to the SOFA/ILS Office (IMCOM-Europe (IMEU-GBS), Unit 23103, APO AE 09136-3103) for review.**



How to Obtain

- **Sponsors will submit a written request to:**
 - **Soldiers/civilian employees → USAG commander**
 - **Contractors accredited by DOCPER → DOCPER**
 - **Contract Chaplains → IMCOM-Europe Religious Support Office**
 - **Educators/education contractors → ACES Director**
 - **Other contractors → SOFA/ILS Office**



What does this Request Need?

- **A sworn statement (more on this)**
- **Birth certificate or document establishing close relationship to sponsor**
- **Sponsor and close relative proof of citizenship status**
- **Proof of dependency for health/finances (more on this)**
- **If applicable, documentation to show the child/close relative between 21-23 is enrolled at University.**



Sworn Statement

- **Statement of the child or close relative's age, the relationship to the sponsor**
- **eligibility category in which the relationship falls.**
- **A statement certifying that the child or close relative resides with the sponsor and that will continue**
- **A statement that the child or close relative is dependent on the sponsor because of health or financial reasons**



Establish Proof of Dependency

- **Financial Dependency**
 - An explanation of how the sponsor provides more than 50% of relatives financial support
 - You must demonstrate this: copies of relative's income tax returns, income statements, etc.
- **Medical Dependency**
 - A statement from a physician attesting to the child's or close relative's poor health, weakness associated with advanced age, or physical or mental disability



Questions?