

## MILPERSMAN 7220-180

### BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE (BAS) - PROCEDURES FOR SERVICE MEMBERS ON SEA DUTY

|                           |              |                  |   |                            |
|---------------------------|--------------|------------------|---|----------------------------|
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|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>References</b> | (a) 37 U.S.C. §402<br>(b) DoD 7000.14-R Financial Management Regulation, Volume 7A, Military Pay Policy and Procedures Active Duty and Reserve Pay<br>(c) DoD Directive 1418.05 of 6 October 2007<br>(d) OPNAVINST 4700.7L |
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1. **Subsistence of Enlisted Members in Sea Duty Status.** Service members assigned to sea duty, defined in [MILPERSMAN 7220-150](#), are not normally eligible to receive a subsistence allowance per references (a) through (d). Refer to [MILPERSMAN 1746-020](#) and [MILPERSMAN 1746-030](#) for procedures when Service members are performing temporary duty ashore.

2. **Mess Membership of Chief Petty Officers.** Every chief petty officer (CPO), which includes Service members in pay grades E-7 through E-9, attached to or embarked in a ship having a separate CPO mess established, must belong to that mess, unless the CPO is assigned duty in another mess and subsists there.

3. **Messing for Ships in Overhaul**

a. Per reference (d), it is the responsibility of the commanding officer (CO) and availability resource sponsor to plan for and provide messing and berthing pertinent when shipboard facilities are expected to become unusable or uninhabitable. This pertains to all private and public shipyard availabilities.

b. COs of ships undergoing maintenance should use decision criteria in the table below to help in selecting appropriate messing option:

| IF the ship galley or messing facility is... | AND the ship is located...             | THEN COs may...   |
|--|--|---|
| inoperable due to repair work,               | where no Government mess is available, | grant basic allowance for subsistence (BAS) at the "messing not available" rate.  |
|  | where Government mess is available,    | request permission, from responsible commanding officer (RCO) via immediate superior in command (ISIC), to receive approval to mess separately (RATSSEP). |

c. **Submitting Requests for RATSSEP.** Requests must be submitted to RCO via the ISIC.

d. **Criteria for Granting RATSSEP.** The criteria for granting RATSSEP in these instances are the same as defined in [MILPERSMAN 1746-020](#).

e. **Analysis of Factors Prior to Authorizing RATSSEP.** Due to the potential impact on Military Personnel, Navy - MPN budgeting caused by large unprogrammed expenditures; the CO, RCO, and ISIC should make every attempt to ensure available Government messing is utilized, and resort to RATSSEP only after other alternatives have been thoroughly investigated. The following factors should be considered prior to authorizing RATSSEP:

- (1) availability and location of any general mess in the vicinity,
- (2) impact use the mess would have on the ship's work,
- (3) number of personnel to be authorized to mess separately,

- (4) availability and cost of Government mess ashore, and
- (5) anticipated duration of ship's gallery closure.

4. **Messing for Pre-Commissioned Units.** BAS II is authorized until the effective date of commission into naval service; refer to [MILPERSMAN 7220-182](#).

5. **Messing for Ships Being Decommissioned.** Enlisted crewmembers of ships being decommissioned may request RATSSEP upon the permanent closure of that ship's general mess.

a. Requests must be submitted via the chain of command to the RCO.

b. COs of ships being decommissioned must coordinate these requests with the RCO prior to closure of the ship's general mess.

6. **Subsistence in Private Messes Afloat**

a. Enlisted Service members subsisting in private messes afloat (e.g., cabin and wardroom messes) are authorized to subsist in the mess to which assigned without charge, or subsist in the general mess at the discretion of the CO.

b. When subsisting in the private mess, since food is purchased by these messes, daily rations that would have been credited to the activity's general mess to feed these Service members are "commuted" to the private mess in an amount equal to the daily RATSSEP rate.

c. Crediting Rations. Rations are credited by submitting appropriate pay documents prepared according to the Defense Joint Military Pay System Procedures Training Guide stating that rations of the Service members listed are to be commuted to a specific mess, and that the value of the rations will be paid to the treasurer of that mess.

d. Mess Treasurer Action. The mess treasurer submits the following information to the disbursing officer:

- (1) Name(s) of Service member(s),
- (2) social security numbers,

(3) number of rations,  
(4) applicable dates for each Service member whose  
rations are commuted, and

(5) total number of rations being commuted.

e. Disbursing Officer Action. The disbursing officer will perform a DS01 transaction to reimburse the mess treasurer.