

Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) Flexibility FAQs

What is BAH flexibility?

The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy has determined that family stability, to include but not limited to spousal employment and dependent education, is a circumstance that may require dependents to reside separately from the Service Member.

What is the eligibility criteria and locations for BAH flexibility?

It's the authority to pay BAH based on dependent location if Sailors with eligible dependents choose to leave their dependents at their last permanent duty station (PDS) or previously authorized location in the Continental United States (CONUS), Alaska, and Hawaii for the duration of their tour.

Who approves the BAH flexibility requests?

Sailors or CPPA's can send requests encrypted to PERS-451 email inbox: askmncc@us.navy.mil

What must be included in the request?

- Member's Request
 - The request must state that the member understands the potential financial implications of electing to receive BAH based on dependent location and that the dependents reside at the address on the NAVPERS 1070/602. The request must acknowledge the affirmative duty of the member to tell their command if their dependents move from the previous PDS or previously approved dependent location.
- Current Commanding Officer's endorsement.
- Current PCS orders
- Current NAVPERS 1070/602 (Page 2)
- For subsequent requests, a copy of previous determination(s)

Will I be able to receive Family Separation Allowance (FSA) if I leave my dependents at previous PDS or previous approved location?

FSA is not payable under this authority, as it is a personal decision to leave dependents at the previous PDS or previous approved location.

I would like to receive BAH at dependent's location, but there is no unaccompanied housing available (barracks, GQ) at my PDS, can I request FSH-B, so I can receive dual allowances?

Sailors who choose to leave their dependents at their previous PDS or previous approved location are only authorized a single housing allowance. If the member lives on economy, they are responsible for their housing costs.

I currently reside separate from my dependents. Is it mandatory that I live in government quarters?

No, unaccompanied government quarters are only available on a space available basis. Sailors should determine if they can financially sustain alternate housing arrangements at their PDS if government quarters are unavailable.

I currently reside separate from my dependents. Can I retroactively receive BAH?

No, if a Sailor's dependents are residing separately from the Sailor, in the vicinity of the previous PDS or previously authorized location in the CONUS, Alaska, or Hawaii, the Sailor may be authorized BAH at dependent location effective 1 Oct 24.

Can I get BAH flexibility if I intend to move my dependents partway through my tour?

No. BAH flexibility will not be approved for members that intend to move their dependents partway through the tour.

My previous PDS was in Japan, will I be able to receive housing allowance at dependent's location for Japan?

No, a housing allowance will not be paid for any locations outside of CONUS, Alaska or Hawaii under this authority.

I am currently receiving BAH with dependents solely due to child support and my dependent child resides with me, but will relocate child to a CONUS location with another custodian before I PCS? Will I be entitled to BAH at dependent's location for that location?

No, BAH at the dependent's location will be based on your last PDS or previous approved location or designated place. BAH based on child support is paid at the PDS rate not dependent location (BAH-DIFF).

I acquired a dependent after reporting to one of these locations can I request BAH for my new dependent's location?

No. DODFMR 261003 states when a Service member acquires a dependent, for example, through marriage, birth, or adoption, a with-dependent housing allowance is authorized as of the date the dependent is acquired. When the Service member is assigned to a PDS in the CONUS, the housing allowance is authorized based on the PDS.

I am stationed OCONUS and my dependents are at an approved Designated Place in CONUS, Alaska, or Hawaii. Will I be able to maintain BAH at their location for my next tour?

If your dependent's are at an approved Designated Place in CONUS, Alaska, or Hawaii,

you may request to maintain BAH at your dependent location provided they have not moved from the vicinity of the approved Designated Place. You must include previous determinations in your request to PERS-451.

I am currently receiving BAH at dependent's location because of my assignment to an Unusually Arduous Sea Duty (UASD) or unaccompanied OCONUS tour. I need to relocate my dependents to a different location. Can I receive BAH based on my dependent's new location.

No, if dependents relocate from the vicinity of the approved location, BAH at dependent's location will cease and any overpayments will be recouped.

Sailor is PCSing in the coming months, should the Sailor route approval for BAH Flex at current command or wait until they arrive at gaining command?

Because PCS orders are funded to relocate dependents, BAH flexibility should be routed once the member arrives new command and the NAVPERS 1070/602 has been updated to reflecting their address change to the new PDS and that dependents did not relocate from the previous location.