

# TLA & COLA



CONUS AND OCONUS



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# OVERVIEW



In this lesson we will cover:

- OCONUS COLA
- TEMPORARY LODGING ALLOWANCE
- CONUS COLA



OCONUS COLA - NON-TAXABLE ALLOWANCE DESIGNED TO OFFSET THE HIGHER PRICES OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR SVM'S SERVING OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

- Entitlement to COLA generally begins the day a member reports to a new PDS ends the day before the SVM departs PDS (Loss Date).
- Payment depends on pay grade, command sponsored deps and living arrangements I.E barracks, ship, base housing or living in the economy.
- When SVM departs they are authorized an extension of OCONUS COLA for a dependent who may reside OCONUS through secretarial process.
- Dependents must be Command Sponsored in order for SVM to receive TLA for his/her dependents.



# TEMPORARY LODGING ALLOWANCE (TLA)



TLA - PARTIALLY OFFSETS THE COST OF LODGING, MEALS AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES INCURRED WHILE OCCUPYING TEMPORARY LODGING OCONUS.

- TLA is authorized for a specific period when forced to occupy hotel like accommodations incident to a PCS.
- SVM may receive TLA in an OCONUS status upon arrival or when detaching from an overseas PDS.
- TLA begins the day temporary lodging is first used and ends on the day before permanent housing is occupied or when OCONUS TLA authority determines TLA is no longer justified.
- SVM authorized 60 days of TLA upon arrival at OCONUS PDS.
- SVM authorized 10 days of TLA upon departure from the OCONUS PDS.

# CONUS COLA



CONUS COLA - TAXABLE SUPPLEMENT ALLOWANCE DESIGNED TO HELP OFFSET HIGHER THAN AVERAGE COST OF LIVING IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

- CONUS COLA eligibility depends on location, rank, yrs. of service and dep status.
- Entitlement begins day of arrival to PDS ends the day before detaching PDS.
- Locality for CONUS COLA is commonly found in areas such as CA, NY, VA, WA.
- MIL to MIL- Both SVM's are both entitled to CONUS COLA, authority exists if the married SVM's maintain a joint residence.
- MIL to MIL- With dependent, CONUS COLA is paid to one spouse at the with dependent rate and the other spouse at the without dependent rate.
- Secretarial Waiver is required when the primary dependent does not reside at the PDS and is determined necessary to maintain permanent residence CONUS.

# CONUS COLA - ELIGIBILITY



- When or if the primary dependent has established a residence in CONUS area. While SVM is assigned to unaccompanied PDS in OCONUS, CONUS is authorized.
- SVM may still receive CONUS COLA regardless assigned to ship or afloat. Unless SVM is receiving COLA for dependent at different location.

# CONUS COLA - AUTHORIZATION



- Primary dep relocates in the CONUS area from PDS in CONUS.
- Primary dep resides in CONUS area, SVM performs TDY incident to unaccompanied PDS.
- Primary dep resides in CONUS area due to SVM transfer to an unaccompanied PDS OCONUS.

# CONUS COLA - RATES



- Primary dep doesn't relocate CONUS would be based on the rate payable for dep SVM old PDS or dep permanent residence
- Primary dep permanent residence is at different location than old PDS.
  - SVM is paid based on the rate for the old PDS.
  - Entitlement starts on the day SVM reports to new PDS.
- CONUS COLA is paid to one spouse with dependent rate and paid to the other without dependent rate (MARRIED).



# REFERENCES



- [MILPERSMAN 7220-250](#) Overseas Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) policy.
- [MILPERSMAN 7220-270](#) Overseas Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) policy.
- [DoD FMR Vol. 7A Ch. 67](#) Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) in the Continental United States (CONUS).
- [DOD FMR Vol. 7A Ch. 68](#) Cost of Living Allowance Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS COLA) and Temporary Lodging Allowances (TLA).

# SUMMARY AND REVIEW



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- OCONUS COLA
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- CONUS COLA



## Questions?

Thank you for your participation!