

fiscal year to provide travel and transportation allowances under this chapter, the Secretary concerned may reimburse a member of the uniformed services for qualified relicensing costs of the spouse of the member when—

(A) the member is reassigned, either as a permanent change of station or permanent change of assignment, between duty stations located in separate jurisdictions with unique licensing or certification requirements and authorities; and

(B) the movement of the member's dependents is authorized at the expense of the United States under this section as part of the reassignment.

(2) Reimbursement provided to a member under this subsection may not exceed \$1000 in connection with each reassignment described in paragraph (1).

(3) No reimbursement may be provided under this subsection for qualified relicensing costs paid or incurred after December 31, 2024.

(4) In this subsection, the term “qualified relicensing costs” means costs, including exam, continuing education courses, and registration fees, incurred by the spouse of a member if—

(A) the spouse was licensed or certified in a profession during the member's previous duty assignment and requires a new license or certification to engage in that profession in a new jurisdiction because of movement described in paragraph (1)(B) in connection with the member's change in duty location pursuant to reassignment described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) the costs were incurred or paid to secure or maintain the license or certification from the new jurisdiction in connection with such reassignment.

(Added Pub. L. 112–81, div. A, title VI, §631(b), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1457; amended Pub. L. 113–66, div. A, title VI, §621(c)(1), (h), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 783, 784; Pub. L. 114–328, div. A, title V, §522(c), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2116; Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title VI, §622(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3676.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 116–283 added subsec. (g).

2016—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 114–328 struck out subsec. (g). Text read as follows: “A member may be reimbursed as specified in regulations prescribed under section 464 of this title for travel and related expenses incurred by the member as a result of the cancellation of previously approved leave when the leave is cancelled in conjunction with the member's participation in a contingency operation and the cancellation occurs within 48 hours of the time the leave would have commenced. The settlement for reimbursement under this subsection is final and conclusive.”

2013—Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 113–66, §621(h), substituted “(including household goods in temporary storage, but excluding packing and crating)” for “(including packing, crating, and household goods in temporary storage)”.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 113–66, §621(c)(1), added subsec. (g).

§ 454. Travel and transportation: pilot programs

(a) PILOT PROGRAMS.—Except as otherwise prohibited by law, the Secretary of Defense may

conduct pilot programs to evaluate alternative travel and transportation programs, policies, and processes for Department of Defense authorized travelers. Any such pilot program shall be designed to enhance cost savings or other efficiencies that accrue to the Government and be conducted so as to evaluate one or more of the following:

(1) Alternative methods for performing and reimbursing travel.

(2) Means for limiting the need for travel.

(3) Means for reducing the environmental impact of travel.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—(1) Not more than three pilot programs may be carried out under subsection (a) at any one time.

(2) The duration of a pilot program may not exceed four years.

(3) The authority to carry out a pilot program is subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

(c) REPORTS.—(1) Not later than 30 days before the commencement of a pilot program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the pilot program. The report on a pilot program under this paragraph shall set forth a description of the pilot program, including the following:

(A) The purpose of the pilot program.

(B) The duration of the pilot program.

(C) The cost savings or other efficiencies anticipated to accrue to the Government under the pilot program.

(2) Not later than 60 days after the completion of a pilot program, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the pilot program. The report on a pilot program under this paragraph shall set forth the following:

(A) A description of results of the pilot program.

(B) Such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Secretary considers appropriate in light of the pilot program.

(d) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “congressional defense committees” has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(16) of title 10.

(Added Pub. L. 112–81, div. A, title VI, §631(b), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1458.)

§ 455. Appropriations for travel: may not be used for attendance at certain meetings

Appropriations of the Department of Defense that are available for travel may not, without the approval of the Secretary concerned or his designee, be used for expenses incident to attendance of a member of an armed force under that department at a meeting of a technical, scientific, professional, or similar organization.

(Pub. L. 87–649, Sept. 7, 1962, 76 Stat. 476, §412; renumbered §455, Pub. L. 112–81, div. A, title VI, §631(d)(1), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1460.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
412	5:174a.	Aug. 1, 1953, ch. 305, §605, 67 Stat. 349.

The words “may not . . . be used” are substituted for the words “shall not be available”. The words “on and after August 1, 1953” are omitted as executed. The words “Secretary concerned” are substituted for the words “Secretary of the department concerned” to conform to other sections of this revised title and to the definition in section 101(5) of this revised title. So much of the source statute as relates to civilian employees is omitted as superseded by the Act of July 7, 1958, Pub. L. 85-507, 72 Stat. 327.

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Act Aug. 1, 1953, cited as the source of this section in the Historical and Revision Notes above, is known as the Department of Defense Appropriation Act, 1954. Similar provisions were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

July 10, 1952, ch. 630, title VI, §606, 66 Stat. 531.
 Oct. 18, 1951, ch. 512, title VI, §606, 65 Stat. 445.
 Sept. 6, 1950, ch. 896, ch. X, title VI, §607, 64 Stat. 752.
 Oct. 29, 1949, ch. 787, title VI, §607, 63 Stat. 1018.
 June 24, 1948, ch. 632, 62 Stat. 652.
 July 30, 1947, ch. 357, title I, 61 Stat. 554.
 July 16, 1946, ch. 583, 60 Stat. 545.
 July 3, 1945, ch. 265, 59 Stat. 388.
 June 28, 1944, ch. 303, 58 Stat. 577.

AMENDMENTS

2011—Pub. L. 112-81 renumbered section 412 of this title as this section.

§ 456. Managed travel program refunds

(a) CREDIT OF REFUNDS.—The Secretary of Defense may credit refunds attributable to Department of Defense managed travel programs as a direct result of official travel to such operation and maintenance or research, development, test, and evaluation accounts of the Department as designated by the Secretary that are available for obligation for the fiscal year in which the refund or amount is collected.

(b) USE OF REFUNDS.—Refunds credited under subsection (a) may only be used for official travel or operations and efficiency improvements for improved financial management of official travel.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) MANAGED TRAVEL PROGRAM.—The term “managed travel program” includes air, rental car, train, bus, dining, lodging, and travel management, but does not include rebates or refunds attributable to the use of the Government travel card, the Government Purchase Card, or Government travel arranged by Government Contracted Travel Management Centers.

(2) REFUND.—The term “refund” includes miscellaneous receipts credited to the Department identified as a refund, rebate, repayment, or other similar amounts collected.

(Added Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title VI, §606(a), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1424.)

SUBCHAPTER II—ADMINISTRATIVE
PROVISIONS

§ 461. Relationship to other travel and transportation authorities

An authorized traveler may not be paid travel and transportation allowances or receive travel-in-kind and transportation-in-kind, or a combination thereof, under both subchapter I and subchapter III for official travel performed under a single or related travel and transportation order or authorization by the administering Secretary.

(Added Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title VI, §631(b), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1459.)

§ 462. Travel and transportation allowances paid to members that are unauthorized or in excess of authorized amounts: requirement for repayment

(a) REPAYMENT REQUIRED.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a member of the uniformed services or other person who is paid travel and transportation allowances under subchapter I shall repay to the United States any amount of such payment that is determined to be unauthorized or in excess of the applicable authorized amount.

(b) EXCEPTION.—The regulations prescribed under section 464 of this title shall specify procedures for determining the circumstances under which an exception to repayment otherwise required by subsection (a) may be granted.

(c) EFFECT OF BANKRUPTCY.—An obligation to repay the United States under this section is, for all purposes, a debt owed the United States. A discharge in bankruptcy under title 11 does not discharge a person from such debt if the discharge order is entered less than five years after the date on which the debt was incurred.

(Added Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title VI, §631(b), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1459.)

§ 463. Programs of compliance; electronic processing of travel claims

(a) PROGRAMS OF COMPLIANCE.—The administering Secretaries shall provide for compliance with the requirements of this chapter through programs of compliance established and maintained for that purpose.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The programs of compliance under subsection (a) shall—

(1) minimize the provision of benefits under this chapter based on inaccurate claims, unauthorized claims, overstated or inflated claims, and multiple claims for the same benefits through the electronic verification of travel claims on a near-time basis and such other means as the administering Secretaries may establish for purposes of the programs of compliance; and

(2) ensure that benefits provided under this chapter do not exceed reasonable or actual and necessary expenses of travel claimed or reasonable allowances based on commercial travel rates.

(c) ELECTRONIC PROCESSING OF TRAVEL CLAIMS.—(1) By not later than the date that is