

# Pay & Personnel Newsletter

United States Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center

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**About the PPC Customer Newsletter:** An authorized publication, the PPC Customer Newsletter is published under the direction of the U.S. Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Coast Guard. The PPC Customer Newsletter shall not be considered an authority for any official action and is non-record material. The PPC Customer Newsletter is published quarterly. Articles are solicited from all readers.

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## **Designation of Saudi Arabia for Imminent Danger Pay**

[Assistant Secretary of Defense Memo dated 04 June 2020](#) designates the land area of Saudi Arabia for imminent danger pay (IDP) purposes, effective September 14, 2019.

## **Direct-Access Update - Isolation Leave**

We added a new leave type, "[Isolation Leave](#)" to DA. Leave type is available under "delay enroute" in PCS orders and also as a "non-chargeable absence". If a member has CG SMR running and goes on "Isolation Leave", DA will automatically credit back the meal charges to the member. Members that will continue to have meals provided by the government should not be put on "Isolation Leave". Both PCS and Non-Chargeable Leave procedural guides have been updated.

## **COVID-19 Impacted AY20 PCS and HHG Shipments-SITREP 6**

[ALCOAST 224/20 COVID-19: IMPACTED ASSIGNMENT YEAR 20 \(AY20\): PCS AND HHG SHIPMENTS – SITREP 6](#)

## **Military Qualifications and Insignia Manual Updated**

[Military Qualifications and Insignia, COMDTINST M1200.1A](#), dated 3 June 2020, is now available. This edition includes changes to Coxswain and Misspelled Word Surfman Insignia Eligibility. Removal of Aviation Evaluation Board, Marine Safety Insignia, Port Security Unit (PSU) Insignia qualifications from this Manual and pointers added to existing directives issued by respective program managers.

## **COVID-19 Temporary Change to Vehicle Processing Center Selection**

[ALCOAST 221/20 - JUN 2020 COVID-19: TEMPORARY CHANGE TO THE CG SUPPLEMENT TO JTR - VEHICLE PROCESSING CENTER \(VPC\) SELECTION](#)

## **2020 PCS Season - Vehicle Shipping (Flag Voice 524)**

To allow flexibility in risk based decisions in PCS moves, the Coast Guard has temporarily adjusted the policy regarding shipping personal vehicles on government orders to and from OCONUS. As announced in ALCOAST 221/20. [See Flag Voice 524.](#)

## **October 2020 Reserve Servicewide Exam (RSWE) Announcement**

[ALCGRSV message 026/20](#) announces the OCT 2020 RSWE competition for pay grades E-5 through E-9. A member's failure to receive, review and follow the guidelines of this message will not justify a waiver of these requirements. Commanding Officers shall ensure dissemination of this message to all Reserve enlisted members in their AOR.

## **Tattoo, Body Marking, Body Piercing, and Mutilation Policy**

[ACN 066/20](#) announced the promulgation of Tattoo, Body Marking, Body Piercing, and Mutilation Policy, COMDTINST 1000.1D. This version incorporate policy changes announced in ACN 118/19, which is canceled. Coast Guard policy on tattoos, branding, piercing, and other body art has changed over the years in order to align with social norms regarding

## **Direct-Access Password Reset Guidance**

During a recent Direct Access (DA) system upgrade, the forgot password security question "What is your mother's maiden name?" was disabled in DA to reduce the possibility of a compromise of personally identifiable information (PII). For users who originally chose this as a security question, the hint question will now default to "What town were you born in?" but the ANSWER has NOT changed from what the user originally established for "What is your mother's maiden name?"

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### Temporary Separation Program Update (FLAG Voice 523)

For nearly 30 years, various Temporary Separation programs have been in place to assist our workforce. [See Flag Voice 523.](#)

### TRICARE Health Matters Newsletter Issue 2, 2020

Do you want to learn more about how to get health care, telehealth appointments, and prescriptions during COVID-19? Here are just some of the articles you can read in the latest issue of the [TRICARE Health Matters Newsletter](#): TRICARE Responds to the COVID-19 Crisis Pharmacy Options: Filling Prescriptions When Social Distancing Getting Care During COVID-19 Staying Mentally Fit at Home

### Temporary Separation Guides Published

[ALCGPSC message 064/20](#) announces the publication of the Temporary Separation Guide for Officers and the Temporary Separation Guide for Enlisted, which provide guidance and procedural information to support Coast Guard personnel and commands in navigating the processes and procedures for Temporary Separation (TEMPSEP) from the Coast Guard and return to active duty.

### COVID-19 Travel and Leave Policy-Update 2

[This ALCOAST](#) provides all Coast Guard members with updated travel and leave policy as it relates to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The intent of this ALCOAST is to assist unit commanders to preserve force readiness, accomplish CG missions, and to provide our members healthy outlets to improve mental health and work-life balance while remaining ready and resilient during these unprecedented times.

### July 2020 AD/RES Payroll Processing Schedule

July 2020 AD Payroll Processing Schedule is as follows:

Event	Date	Note(s)
Mid-Month Finalize	10 Jul (Fri)	No calculations or input/approvals are permitted on these dates.
Mid-Month Holds Due	13 Jul (Mon)	NLT 1100
Treasury Files Transmission	13 Jul (Mon)	
Payday	15 Jul (Wed)	
End-Month Finalize	22 Jul (Wed)	No calculations or input/approvals are permitted on these dates.
End-Month Holds Due	27 Jul (Mon)	By COB
Treasury Files Transmission	28 Jul (Tue)	
Payday	31 Jul (Fri)	

### TRICARE FAQs: COVID-19 and Telemedicine Services

As you begin to schedule a doctor's appointment, you may have questions about your TRICARE benefit. You can find answers to your frequently asked questions (FAQs) and more on the TRICARE Coronavirus FAQs page. The following are some of the most frequently asked questions about telemedicine or telehealth and COVID-19. [Continue reading online.](#)

### Procedures for Processing Conscientious Objectors

[COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 1900.8A](#) establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and prescribes procedures governing conscientious objectors and processing requests for discharge or change of duty assignment based on conscientious objection.

### Coast Guard URM Study: Career Perspectives

RADM JOANNA M. NUNAN, Assistant Commandant for Human Resources — Thank you for your support thus far for the Coast Guard Holistic Study & Analysis for Recruiting & Retention of Underrepresented Minorities (URM Study, first introduced in ALCOAST 337/19). The focus group phase of research was completed in February 2020, after 109 focus group sessions at units in New York, Alameda, Miami Beach, New Orleans, Portsmouth, and

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Washington, DC. Based upon initial qualitative data, RAND researchers have created a service-wide online survey, which will serve as the next step in this important project.

## **Changes Coming Soon for Some TRICARE Select Retired Beneficiaries**

Starting on Jan. 1, 2021, TRICARE Select Group A retired beneficiaries must pay monthly enrollment fees in order to maintain their TRICARE health coverage. This is a change, and the first time this beneficiary group will pay enrollment fees. Here the key points you need to know. [Continue reading online.](#)

*June 23, 2020*

## **Enlisted Reserve Advancement Announcement**

All Coast Guard Reserve (ALCGRSV) message 031/20 announces reserve enlisted advancements authorized effective 1 July 2020.

## **Supplemental Clothing Allowance for Reduced Initial Seabag Issue**

[ALCOAST 099/20](#) announced that reduced initial seabags were being issued at accession points (Cape May/Academy). To account for this, we have created a new "Type" of Supplemental Clothing Allowance. For a member that is issued a reduced seabag, enter a Supplemental Clothing Allowance transaction and select "Reduced Initial Sea Bag" from the "Type". This will mostly impact the accession points, but if someone is missed, the servicing SPO may need to enter the transaction.

## **Reserve Supplemental Advancement Lists Updated**

The advancement eligibility lists for reserve supplemental advancements have been updated

## **BM2 Active Duty Supplemental Advancement Eligibility List Posted**

The advancement eligibility list for active duty BM2 supplemental advancements has been updated

## **Special Needs Program Enrollment Reminder**

The Special Needs Program is a mandatory enrollment program for all active duty (AD) and selected reserve members on orders for 181 days or more. Members must enroll in the Special Needs Program if they have family members who meet enrollment criteria listed in Special Needs Program, COMDTINST 1754.7 (series).

## **Funded Environmental Morale Leave Location Update - Johannesburg SA**

[Assistant Secretary of Defense Memo](#), dated 02 June 2020, designates Johannesburg, South Africa as a Funded Environmental Morale Leave (FEML) location.

## **Defense Travel Management Office Allowances Update**

The Defense Travel Management Office has updated the following information for 01 June 2020:

- [OCONUS Non-Foreign and Foreign Per Diem Rates](#)
- [Overseas Housing Allowances \(OHA\)](#)
- [Overseas Cost of Living Allowances \(COLA\)](#)
- [Joint Travel Regulations \(JTR\) and Appendices](#)

To access this information, visit the [DTMO Website](#).

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## Direct Access User Guides and Tutorials Updated in June 2020

This is a running list of known issues and procedural highlights for the past month.

**29 Jun:**

- [Pay Corrections Action Request SPO User Guide updated.](#)

**18 Jun:**

- [EES Enlisted Evaluation Report User Guide updated.](#)

**17 Jun:**

- [Competencies User Guide updated.](#) Users must not overwrite any existing competency code in Direct Access. This can cause serious issues including members being removed from the advancement list due to ineligibility. See the procedure (in the guide) for Adding a Previously Granted Competency when adding a second or subsequent competency with the same code.

**16 Jun:**

- [EES Enlisted Evaluation Report Command User Guide updated.](#)

**15 Jun:**

- [Enlisted Supplemental Clothing Allowance SPO User Guide updated.](#)

**11 Jun:**

- [Amending a Separation Order SPO User Guide updated.](#)

**09 Jun:**

- [Non-Chargeable Absence User Guide updated](#)
- [PCS Orders SPO User Guide updated.](#)

**03 Jun:**

- [Active Duty Reserve Orders Processing SPO User Guide updated.](#)