



U.S. Coast Guard Spouse License Reimbursement Program Frequently Asked Questions

Current as of July 9, 2019

Q1: Who is eligible for this program?

A1: This is a Total Force program, so any Regular Coast Guard member or Coast Guard Reserve member on long term active duty PCS orders may be eligible, providing the situation meets the criteria established in the policy.

Q2: What is the eligibility criteria for a qualifying PCS?

A2: The following criteria must be met to be considered a qualifying PCS:

- The member's PCS orders must be authorized on or after Dec. 12, 2017 and must authorize movement of the member's dependents at government's expense.
- The member is PCSing from a duty station in one state to a duty station in another state, including Hawaii; Alaska; Washington, DC; and the U.S. territories.
- Reimbursement is not authorized for moves upon accession, Temporary Separation Program, retirement, or separation from the armed forces.
- Qualifying relicensing costs must be incurred and paid after the date the member's PCS orders are authorized and before authority to provide reimbursement expires on Dec. 31, 2022 (unless amended by law).

Q3: Which licenses/certifications qualify for this program?

A3: License/certification requirements vary by state; however, some examples include but are not limited to teaching, cosmetology, real estate, or nursing. Learn more about licensing and certifications from your servicing Work-Life Transition Relocation Manager, the Department of Labor website at <https://www.veterans.gov/milspouses>, and CG SUPRT at www.CGSUPRT.com or 855-CG SUPRT.

Q4: What is a "qualified" relicensing cost?

A4: For the purposes of this policy, "qualified relicensing costs" means costs, including exam and registration fees, imposed by the state of the new duty station to secure a license or certification to engage in the *same* profession in which the spouse engaged while in the state of the last duty station.

Q5: What if my spouse's qualifying relicensing fees only add up to \$300? Will we receive the full \$500?

A5: No. You can be reimbursed *up to* \$500 for qualifying relicensing costs; in this scenario, you can be reimbursed \$300.

Q6: When can I start applying for this reimbursement?

A6: This program will be implemented immediately; any member who meets the rest of the eligibility criteria during the authorized timeframe may apply for reimbursement.

Q7: How many times can we apply for this program?

A7: This is a one-time reimbursement in connection with each reassignment. Members may seek reimbursement for each qualifying PCS, providing the circumstances meet the criteria specified in the policy.



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Q8: How do I apply for reimbursement?

A8: You may process your reimbursement application. You will be required to provide a copy of the applicable PCS orders, a copy of your spouse's new state occupational license, and the paid receipts for items required to obtain relicensing from the new state (exam fees, registration fees, etc.).

Explicit instructions and amplifying information can be found at:

<https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/military/slr>.

Q9: I'm retiring soon and will be PCSing from Base Alameda, CA back to my hometown of Guin, AL. My spouse wants to update her accountant certification – do I qualify for this program?

A9: This program is not authorized for moves upon accession, the Temporary Separation Program (TEMPSEP), separation or retirement. The language in the NDAA is very specific in that it requires members to PCS from "a duty station in one state to a duty station in another state."

Accession, CIP, separation, and retirement moves involve relocating to/from a Home of Record or Home of Selection.

Q10: I'm PCSing from Sector Los Angeles/Long Beach, CA to Base Portsmouth, VA. My spouse recently completed nursing school and wants to get their nursing license in Virginia – do I qualify for this program?

A10: This program does not reimburse costs for obtaining licenses for a new profession; it reimburses *relicensing* costs. However, there are other programs that may assist in your situation; learn more about licensing and certifications from your Work-Life Transition Relocation Manager, the Department of Labor website at <https://www.veterans.gov/milspouses>, and www.CGSUPRT.com or 855-CG SUPRT

Q11: I'm PCSing from Activities Europe, The Netherlands to Sector New York, NY. Before The Netherlands, we were stationed at Sector New Orleans, Louisiana, where my spouse was a teacher. My spouse wants to update her Louisiana teaching certificate to New York – do I qualify for this program?

A11: This program is not intended for a PCS to or from overseas locations (with the exception of those previously listed). The language in the NDAA is very specific in that it requires a member to PCS from "a duty station in one State to a duty station in another State."

Q12: I'm PCSing to Bahrain for a 1-year unaccompanied (dependent-restricted) assignment. While I'm gone, my spouse is going to move to our hometown in Tennessee – do I qualify for this program?

A12: This program is not intended for a PCS in which movement of dependents at government expense is not authorized. However, if you receive an approved accompanied follow-on assignment, you may be eligible for this program at the follow-on location after your PCS orders are issued for that location.



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Q13: I'm PCSing from Base St. Louis, MO to Station Monterey, CA and movement of dependents at government expense is authorized. My spouse, who is a teacher, is going to move to her parents' home in Kentucky and teach there while I'm in Monterey, CA. Since movement of dependents at government expense is authorized, do I qualify for this program?

A13: No. Reimbursement of qualifying relicensing/recertification costs apply to those costs imposed by the State of the *new duty station*, which in your situation is California. You would only qualify for this program (in this example) only if your spouse updated her teaching license/certificate to the State of California.

Q14: I'm stationed at PSU 305, Fort Eustis, VA and deploying on a 180-day deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. My spouse is a social worker, and wants to move to Texas with her sister while I'm deployed. While she is in Texas, my spouse wants to continue her career in social work, which would require her to update her social work license to the State of Texas – do I qualify for this program?

A14: This program is intended for a PCS in which movement of dependents at government expense is authorized. A 180-day deployment is considered a Temporary Duty (TDY); as such, you do not qualify for this program in this situation.

Q15: I am PCSing from Base Honolulu, Hawaii to Station Miami, Florida. My spouse is a member of the Coast Guard Reserve, and is an architect in the civilian sector. They want to update their license in Florida – do they qualify for this program, even though they're in the military?

A15: This program is intended to reimburse qualified relicensing costs of the spouse of a member of the armed forces; in the situation described above, you are eligible for this program.

Q16: What if I have other questions?

A17: The following Points of Contact can help answer additional questions:

View information at the Office of Military Personnel website's CG-1332 section at

<https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/military/slr>

Forward any questions via e-mail to: Compensation@uscg.mil SUBJ: SLR

Claim submission: FINCEN at: FIN-SMB-Invoices@uscg.mil.

Resources and Referral: Learn more about licensing and certifications from your Work-Life Transition Relocation Manager, The Department of Labor website

(<https://www.veterans.gov/milspouses>), or www.CGSUPRT.com / 855-CG SUPRT.