

Family Stability Act Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Family Stability Act? The Family Stability Act permits certain members with dependents housing flexibility while under a permanent change of station (PCS) within the United States during a covered relocation period.
2. When is the Family Stability Act effective? The Family Stability Act is effective for certain members with dependents who have an effective PCS departure date on or after 1 October 2018.
3. How long is the Covered Relocation Period? When used with respect to a permanent change of station (PCS), the covered relocation period begins 180 days before the date of the PCS, which is the date the member departs the current permanent duty station (PDS) and ends 180 days after the date of the PCS.
4. Does the Family Stability Act apply to members transferring on a permanent change of station to a duty station outside of the United States? No, only eligible members transferring on a PCS within the United States.
5. What are the reasons that a member with dependents would be eligible for housing flexibility? The member:
 - (1) Has a spouse who is gainfully employed or enrolled in a degree, certificate, or license-granting program.
 - (2) Has one or more dependents attending an elementary or secondary school.
 - (3) Has one or more dependents enrolled in the Coast Guard Special Needs Program.
 - (4) Has an immediate family member with a chronic or long-term illness at the beginning of the covered relocation period for whom the member is caring.
6. My family and I reside in Government-owned or leased housing. What is my housing eligibility?
 - A. Continuation of housing for the spouse and other dependents. If a spouse or other dependent of a member whose request is approved resides in Government-owned or Government-leased housing at the beginning of the covered relocation period, the spouse or other dependent may continue to reside in such housing during the covered relocation period.
 - B. Early housing eligibility. If a spouse or other dependent of a member whose request is approved is eligible to reside in Government-owned or Government-leased housing following the member's permanent change of station within the United States, the spouse or other dependent may commence residing in such housing at any time during the covered relocation period.
 - C. Temporary use of Government owned or leased single-type housing intended for members without a spouse or dependent. If a spouse or other dependent of a member relocates at a time different from the member in accordance with a approved request, the member may be assigned

to Government-owned or Government-leased housing intended for the permanent housing of members' dependents until the member's detachment date of the dependents' arrival date, but only if such Government-owned or Government-leased housing is available without displacing a single member at such housing.

7. My family and I reside in private sector quarters and I receive BAH. What am I authorized?

The member's dependent(s) may perform PCS travel at a different time than the member once the PCS order has been issued. Unless otherwise authorized or approved for a different location, the members housing allowance is based on the PDS. However, an eligible member may request a housing allowance based on the dependents location. If authorized or approved for dependents who relocate in advance or after the member's housing allowance may be based on one of the following:

- a. The new PDS. The member must receive a release from assignment to Government housing at the new duty station.
- b. The dependents location when the member departs for the new PDS (only for the period of time the dependents reside at that location).
- c. The area of the members former PDS, but only if that area is different from the area in which the spouse or other dependents reside. The member has departed their former PDS, and the dependent remains in the residence shared with the member, and the member made a daily commute to and from their former PDS.

8. I am eligible for housing flexibility. How do I apply? Members will complete and submit the Family Stability Act BAH/Housing Worksheet (CG-7220H) to CG PSC-PSD-FS. The CG-7220H is located on the PPC forms and worksheets web site:

<https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/pd/forms/>

9. I am in receipt of PCS orders within the United States and my child is homeschooled, am I eligible?

Answer: No. The eligibility requirements in the CG Pay Manual, under Article 3.G.12 states that a member with dependents in receipt of a PCS order within the U.S. may be authorized housing allowance flexibility if their dependent(s) are attending an elementary or secondary school at the beginning of their covered relocation period. Home-schooled children do not meet the standard for approval to receive BAH rate protection under the Family Stability Act.