

MILPERSMAN 1300-1000

MILITARY COUPLE AND SINGLE PARENT ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Responsible Office	NAVPERSCOM (PERS-451)	Phone:	DSN COM	882-4185 (901) 874-4185
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References	(a) SECNAVINST 1920.6C
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1. **Policy.** Chief of Naval Personnel supports the collocation of Navy members married to other military members. Every reasonable effort will be made for military couples to move together and establish a joint household whenever possible.

a. Assignments will be made to fill valid Navy requirements, considering the needs of the military family, as well as the manning of the losing and gaining activities; therefore, collocation and immediate reassignment may not always be possible.

b. Collocation of Navy members with members of other uniformed services or services of other countries are much more difficult and may not always be possible. Spouse collocation policy does not provide for assignment to duty near a civilian spouse, including civilian Government employees.

c. While there is no established maximum distance between duty stations for collocation, 90 driving miles should be used as a guide when considering collocation requests. In the Pacific Northwest, due to the geographical limitations presented by the Puget Sound, collocation duty station pairings should generally be on the same side of the sound (e.g., Whidbey Island with Everett or Bremerton with Bangor constitutes collocation; Whidbey Island with Bremerton requires excessive commuting time and is not considered collocation).

d. Any assignment preventing military couple collocation must be approved by Assistant Commander, Navy Personnel Command (ACNPC), Career Management Department (PERS-4).

2. **Requests**. Navy members desiring collocation must each submit a one-time request, with command endorsement, to their detailers noting their military couple status, service of spouse, and spouse's detailer's contact information.

a. Officer requests must be submitted on NAVPERS 1301/85 Officer Personnel Action Request. NAVPERS 1301/85 may be accessed on the Navy Personnel Command Web site using the following Web address: <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/reference/forms/NAVPERS/Pages/default.aspx>.

b. Enlisted requests must be submitted on NAVPERS 1306/7 Enlisted Personnel Action Request. NAVPERS 1306/7 may be accessed on the Navy Personnel Command Web site using the following Web address: <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/reference/forms/NAVPERS/Pages/default.aspx>. Sailors are encouraged to submit collocation preferences during the Career Management System Interactive Detailing application cycle.

c. **Agreement Required.** Navy members married to other Navy members must include a copy of their spouse's request to expedite communication between respective detailers. For Navy members married to members of other services, a statement from the inter-service spouse indicating concurrence for collocation and the contact information for their detailer or service equivalent must accompany the collocation request. Both members must be in agreement that collocation is desired. If not in agreement, Navy personnel will be detailed consistent with prescribed sea/shore tours (PST), obligated service and retainability requirements, recently acquired skills, milestones, and training.

d. **Collocation - High Priority.** Once requested, spouse collocation becomes the member's highest priority for every duty preference and will be given due consideration during the assignment process. If a couple does not desire collocation for a specific assignment, both members must communicate to their respective detailers that collocation is not a priority. Collocation will again be considered a high priority for the subsequent assignment.

e. **Collocation - Not Always Possible.** Members should be aware that due to the difficulties involved in spouse collocation, fulfilling duty preferences for geographical

location, or type of duty or unit may not be possible. Additionally, there may be other restrictions such as host nation law or status of forces agreement (SOFA) that preclude some military couples from collocation overseas.

f. **Couples Not Presently Collocated.** Military couples who are not presently collocated, who are recently married, or who were not previously identified as a "military couple" can request reassignment consideration to achieve collocation, provided that the following criteria are met:

(1) Member requesting to be transferred has completed at least 1 year on board current duty station at the time of the transfer, and (if required) a contact relief is available. Every effort will be made to achieve collocation within 1 year of the request; however, requirements regarding time on station, PST tours, obligated service, retainability, recently acquired skills, and training will all be considerations of the request.

(2) Neither member is currently under orders to go into a training status. If one or both members are going into a training status, and collocation cannot be achieved, the requests will be kept on file to facilitate spouse collocation at the completion of the training assignment.

(3) There are no host nation laws or SOFA restrictions outside the continental United States (OCONUS).

(4) A valid billet requisition for which the member is qualified is available.

(a) Sea/shore rotations will be maintained whenever possible.

(b) When both members are eligible for sea duty, the spouse with the least amount of sea duty will normally be assigned sea duty; however, military couples comprised of new accession or first-term members may be involuntarily assigned to simultaneous sea duty.

(c) Military couples with dependents are required to maintain a current and workable family care plan.

g. **OCONUS.** When one member is already on an OCONUS Department of Defense tour, that member's projected rotation

date (PRD) will be extended to match the PRD of the authorized joining spouse.

h. Changes in Marital Status Before Execution of Issued Orders for Navy Member(s). Issued orders will remain in effect when a marriage or divorce occurs. Modification may be considered if it will not result in a gapped billet, adversely affect the gaining command's readiness, or preclude the use of recently acquired skills or training. If the member's orders are not modified, member will be required to execute orders. Collocation action will be considered after 1 year on board new duty station, if collocation is still desired.

i. Collocation After Training. Members requesting training must be advised that they may not be eligible for spouse collocation consideration in conjunction with this training assignment. Members completing training will be assigned to an appropriate tour for these newly acquired skills, which may preclude or limit spouse collocation consideration for the duration of this post-training assignment.

3. Restrictions. Military couples will not be permanently assigned to the same ship or the same shipboard deployable command (e.g., tender with multiple unit identification codes or carrier and its associated carrier air wing).

a. Same Reporting Senior. Members will not be assigned to the same command ashore with the same reporting senior without the gaining commanding officer's concurrence.

(1) Unusual circumstances may result in a couple being temporarily assigned to the same afloat activity.

(2) This paragraph does not require transfer of the members to rectify such a temporary situation.

b. Same Ship/Shipboard Embarking Command. In the case of a member on shipboard duty who marries another member assigned to the same ship or the same shipboard embarking command, the member who has completed the larger percentage of the prescribed sea duty tour (PST) will normally be reassigned as soon as possible; however, adverse impact on the ship's readiness may necessitate the transfer of the spouse.

c. **Involuntary Assignment.** Military couples will not normally be involuntarily assigned to a simultaneous sea duty tour (type duty code "2"/TAC C or type duty code "4"/TAC D). Military couples will also not normally be involuntarily assigned to simultaneous permanent shift work duty assignments. Military couples may be involuntarily assigned with one member assigned to a sea duty tour while the spouse member is assigned to permanent shift work.

(1) When both members of a military couple are first-termers or initial accessions, both members may require assignment to simultaneous sea duty or simultaneous permanent shift work consistent with needs of the Navy and the member's training.

(2) Members who marry while on sea duty will be required to complete their sea tour, unless assigned to the same ship or the same shipboard embarked command.

d. **One on Sea Duty/One on Shore Duty.** Whenever possible, PRDs will reflect a rotation in which one member will be on sea duty while the spouse is on shore duty, and their PRDs will be matched to facilitate future collocation requests. It is imperative that military couples with dependents maintain a current and workable family care plan, that can be utilized when needed.

e. **Simultaneous Sea Duty.** Members requesting spouse collocation that results in simultaneous sea duty must complete NAVPERS 1070/613 Administrative Remarks through their command with the statement indicated below, and forward a copy to their detailer with their spouse collocation request. The original NAVPERS 1070/613 must be forwarded to the servicing personnel office for entry into Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS) as a permanent NAVPERS 1070/613 (page 13) and submission to the member's official military personnel folder; using this article as the authority.

Date: "I have read and understand the military couple assignment policy contained in MILPERSMAN 1300-1000. I understand that simultaneous sea duty (type duty code "2"/TAC C or type duty code "4"/TAC D) with my spouse requires me to complete the normal tour length of my assignment. If applicable, my spouse and I have developed a dependent care plan which will be utilized when necessary."

Member's Signature

Witnessed by: _____

C. J. SAILOR
LCDR, USN, Personnel Officer

4. **Options If Assignment Within Immediate Area of Spouse Is Not Available.** In the event reassignment of applicant to area of spouse's present assignment is not feasible and spouse's reassignment is not desired or also not feasible, ACNPC (PERS-4) will normally disapprove applicant's request. The following options may be offered:

- a. resubmission in 6 months for reconsideration.
- b. assignment to the nearest available requirement within area of spouse's present assignment.

Note: Acceptance of option b will require applicant to serve a minimum 24-month tour at the activity; therefore, the applicant will not be eligible for reassignment during that period in the event a requirement nearer to spouse's duty station becomes available.

5. **Assignment of Military Couple to Isolated Duty Stations.** The assignment of married dual-military couples to isolated duty stations where an unaccompanied tour is directed may be authorized on a voluntary basis (except Diego Garcia) when in compliance with this article.

- a. Such assignment is with the understanding that both members will be treated as individual Service members and quarters for joint residence may not be available.
- b. Isolated duty areas are dependent-restricted, and dependents are not authorized.

c. Requests for collocation will not be considered, unless the members are married at the time of request. Exceptions may be granted for those rare cases in which members engaged to be married are assigned to a command where marriage is not allowed (e.g., Diego Garcia), and the couple desires collocation on their follow-on tour.

6. **Immediate Family Reassignment to Different Activities.**

Requests for reassignment from active duty members of an immediate family who no longer desire to serve together at the same activity, must receive favorable consideration, provided there are no overriding military needs for the retention in the same unit.

a. Reassignment requests for reassignments to be separated from a member of the same family must reference this article.

(1) Officer requests must be submitted on NAVPERS 1301/85.

(2) Enlisted requests must be submitted on NAVPERS 1306/7.

b. Unless specifically requested, members of an immediate family serving together must not be reassigned until they become eligible for normal rotation, or until their reassignment is required to meet needs of the Service.

7. **Single Parents.** Single parents are assigned using the same procedures as other Service members.

a. Navy Personnel Command recognizes the unique situations that occur when single parents are assigned to some types of duty and duty locations; however, a preferential assignment policy regarding single parents would be discriminatory toward other members.

b. When it is determined that assignment to sea duty would involve hardship not normally encountered by other members of the naval service, a request for discharge/release to inactive duty may be submitted.

(1) **Officer.** For hardship discharges, refer to reference (a).

(2) **Enlisted.** For hardship discharges, refer to MILPERSMAN 1910-110. For parenthood discharges, refer to MILPERSMAN 1910-124.