COMMAND SPONSORSHIP OF DEPENDENTS AT OVERSEAS DUTY STATIONS - CRITERIA AND STATUS

1. Policy. Navy Service members, regardless of rank or length of service, may elect the accompanied or unaccompanied tour in overseas areas with an accompanied tour prescribed. If the accompanied tour is elected, the Service member may have dependents command-sponsored.

2. Criteria. Per reference (a), in order for dependents to be command-sponsored by the appropriate military commander, the Service member must meet the following criteria, as applicable:

   a. Accompanied-by-Dependents Tour: Be assigned to a location where an accompanied-by-dependents tour is authorized, and the member agrees to serve the prescribed accompanied tour.

   b. Dependents Permanent Duty Station (PDS) Vicinity Presence: Be granted authorization by the appropriate military commander for dependents to be present in the vicinity of the overseas PDS.

   c. Contractual Obligated Service (OBLISERV): Have sufficient contractual OBLISERV to complete the accompanied-by-dependents tour.

      (1) Exception: Exception to serve less than the accompanied-by-dependents tour length on an intra-theater consecutive overseas tour must be requested from Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) via Chief of Naval Personnel (CHNAVPERS). For exceptions that result in an overseas tour of 12 months or less, the Office of the Principal Deputy, Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel & Readiness) must approve the request.
(2) A shorter tour length granted as an exception shall require an enlisted Service member to serve until expiration of active obligated service.

(3) See MILPERSMAN 1300-180 regarding change in status and prohibitions relating to command sponsorship.

d. **Projected Rotation Date (PRD) Extension:** Request PRD extension, if needed, to complete the appropriate accompanied-by-dependents tour.

e. **Overseas Suitability Screening:** Have all dependents meet overseas suitability screening requirements so that they may be command-sponsored and transported to the overseas PDS at Government expense.

f. **Military Couple Situation:** In Service member-married-to-Service member situations, children born of that marriage may travel under either, but not both, parent’s permanent change of station (PCS) orders. Either Service member may apply for command sponsorship for the children providing the criteria above has been met.

g. One Service member parent could be entitled to dependent travel and transportation allowances, overseas station allowances, and dislocation allowance (DLA) at the with-dependent rate, while the other Service member parent receives a second housing allowance at the without-dependents rate.

h. The entitlement to dependent travel and transportation allowances, DLA, and cost-of-living allowance (COLA) is independent of which member claims the dependents for housing allowance purposes, per reference (b). See MILPERSMAN 7220-220, 7220-240, 1300-090, and 1300-100.

3. **Granting/Rescinding Command Sponsorship Status**

   a. Determination of command sponsorship will be made a matter of record.

   b. Command sponsorship shall be effective from the date of determination and shall not be retroactively granted, i.e., dated prior to the Service member’s request, for any reason.
c. Command sponsorship carries with it travel and transportation entitlements and shall not be rescinded while the dependents are at the overseas PDS except with the authorization of SECNAV via Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) (N13). Such authorization to rescind command sponsorship will not affect transportation entitlements but will affect station allowance payment and use of dependent support facilities at the overseas PDS.