

MILPERSMAN 7220-260

OVERSEAS HOUSING ALLOWANCE (OHA) POLICY

Responsible Office	OPNAV (N13)	Phone:	DSN	224-5635
			COM	(703) 614-5635
			FAX	225-3311

References	(a) Joint Federal Travel Regulations (JFTR)
-------------------	---

1. **Description.** The overseas housing allowance (OHA) system provides a housing allowance to uniformed members assigned to overseas locations. OHA is described in detail per reference (a), Chapter 10. This allowance is intended to defray a significant amount of housing costs. Overseas housing allowance is based on the difference between basic allowance for housing (BAH), or family separation housing allowance (FSH) and total housing costs not to exceed a maximum amount set for a Service member's pay grade, see reference (a), Appendix K. Effective 1 October 2005 command sponsorship of dependents present outside of the continental United States at their permanent duty station is not required in order to be paid a housing allowance (OHA or BAH) at the with dependent rate.

2. **Type BAQ to Use in OHA Computation.** Service members who have dependents and:

- a. Are serving unaccompanied tours; and
- b. Are drawing BAQ at the with dependents rate; and
- c. Have no dependents residing in the vicinity of the overseas permanent duty station, will have FSH at the **without dependents** rate used for any housing allowance computation, see reference (a), Chapter 10.

3. **Criteria for Residing in Vicinity of Duty Station.** For the purpose of OHA, dependents are residing in the vicinity of the duty station if they meet the criteria set forth in reference (a), Chapter 10.

4. **Overseas Housing Allowance/BAQ Advance Payment Policy.**

Instructions for advance payment of OHA/BAH are in reference (a), Chapter 10. No cost associated with purchase of a residence will be considered when determining whether an advance payment of OHA/BAH should be made, or the amount of the advance.

5. **Overseas Housing Allowance Continuation Policy.** When dependents depart an overseas station after the Service member sponsor has departed:

a. OHA may continue for the period specified by Navy Personnel Command, Distribution Management and Procedures Branch (PERS-451H) when approving delayed dependent departure.

b. Continuation may be granted only if delayed departure resulted from circumstances in reference (a), Chapter 10. See MILPERSMAN 7220-240, Overseas Station Allowances Policy.