

§ 301-70.502

rate for the location where the interruption occurs, for a reasonable period, normally not to exceed 14 calendar days (including fractional days) for any one period of absence. You may approve a longer period if justified.

[FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57967, Sept. 13, 2002]

§ 301-70.502 Are there any limitations to the payment of these expenses?

Yes, there are limitations to the payment of these expenses. Per diem is not payable, or if paid, must be collected from the employee when—

(a) The employee is confined to a hospital or medical facility that is within the proximity of the official duty station or that is the same one the employee would have been admitted to if the illness or injury had occurred while at the official duty station; and/or

(b) The Government provides or reimburses the employee for hospitalization under any Federal statute (including hospitalization in a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical center or military hospital) other than 5 U.S.C. 8901-8913 (Federal Employees Health Benefits program).

[FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57967, Sept. 13, 2002]

§ 301-70.503 What additional emergency expenses should we allow?

When an employee discontinues a TDY assignment before its completion due to an incapacitating illness or injury, you may pay—

(a) Transportation and per diem expenses for travel to an alternate location to receive medical treatment;

(b) Transportation and per diem expenses to return to the official station; and

(c) Transportation costs of a medically necessary attendant.

[FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57967, Sept. 13, 2002]

§ 301-70.504 When the employee is able to travel, should we continue the use of the existing travel authorization?

Not if the interrupted trip was authorized under a trip by trip authorization. If, when the employee's health has been restored, the agency decides that it is in the Government's interest to return the employee to the TDY location, such return is considered to be

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a new travel assignment at Government expense. An interrupted trip authorized under an open or limited open authorization may be continued without further authorization.

[FTR Amdt. 70, 63 FR 15971, Apr. 1, 1998. Redesignated by FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57967, Sept. 13, 2002]

§ 301-70.505 May any travel costs be reimbursed if the employee travels to an alternate location for medical treatment?

Yes. When an employee, interrupts a TDY assignment because of an incapacitating illness or injury and takes leave of absence for travel to an alternate location to obtain medical services and returns to the TDY assignment, you may reimburse certain excess travel costs provided in this section. Specifically, you may reimburse the excess (if any) of actual costs of travel from the point of interruption to the alternate location and return to the TDY assignment, over the constructive costs of round-trip travel between the official station and the alternate location. The nearest hospital or medical facility capable of treating the employee's illness or injury will not, however, be considered an alternate location.

NOTE TO § 301-70.504: An alternate location is a destination other than the employee's official station or the point of interruption.

[FTR Amdt. 70, 63 FR 15971, Apr. 1, 1998. Redesignated by FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57967, Sept. 13, 2002]

§ 301-70.506 How do we define actual cost and constructive cost when an employee interrupts a travel assignment because of an incapacitating illness or injury?

(a) Actual cost of travel will be the transportation expenses incurred and en route per diem for the travel as actually performed from the point of interruption to the alternate location and from the alternate location to the TDY assignment. No per diem is allowed for time spent at the alternate location if confined to a medical facility.

(b) Constructive cost is the sum of transportation expenses the employee would reasonably have incurred for round-trip travel between the official