

**§ 302-5.13**

For	Your househunting trip must be completed by
	(b) The day before the maximum time for beginning allowable travel expires (see § 302-2.100 of this chapter).

**§ 302-5.13 What methods may my agency use to reimburse me for househunting trip expenses?**

Your agency will reimburse your househunting trip expenses as indicated in the following table:

For	You are reimbursed
You and/or your spouse's transportation expenses.	Your actual transportation costs.
You and/or your spouse's subsistence expenses..	<p>One of the following:</p> <p>(a) A per diem allowance for you and/or your spouse as prescribed under §§ 301-11.100 through 301-11.102 of this chapter 301; or</p> <p>(b) If you accept your agency's offer of the fixed amount option, and:</p> <p>(1) Both you and your spouse perform a househunting trip either together or separately, a single amount determined by multiplying the applicable locality rate (listed in appendix A to chapter 301 of this subtitle) by 6.25 or</p> <p>(2) Only one of you performs a househunting trip, an amount determined by multiplying the applicable locality rate (listed in appendix A to chapter 301 of this subtitle) by 5.</p>

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57969, Sept. 13, 2002]

**§ 302-5.14 What transportation expenses will my agency pay?**

Your agency will authorize you to travel by the transportation mode(s) (e.g., airline, train, or privately owned automobile) it determines to be advantageous to the Government. Your agency will pay for your transportation expenses by the authorized mode(s). If you travel by any other mode(s), your agency will pay your transportation expenses not to exceed the cost of transportation by the authorized mode(s).

**§ 302-5.15 Must I document my househunting trip expenses to receive reimbursement?**

To receive reimbursement for househunting trip transportation expenses you must itemize your transpor-

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tation expenses and provide receipts as required by §§ 301-11.25, 301-11.306 and 301-52.4(b) of chapter 301. For fixed amount househunting trip subsistence reimbursement, you do not need to document your subsistence expenses. For per diem househunting trip subsistence expense reimbursement, you must itemize your lodging expenses and you must provide receipts as required by §§ 301-7.9(b), 301-11.25, 301-11.306 and 301-52.4(b) of chapter 301.

[FTR Amdt. 98, 66 FR 58196, Nov. 20, 2001, as amended by FTR Amdt. 108, 67 FR 57969, Sept. 13, 2002]

**§ 302-5.16 May I receive an advance of funds for househunting trip expenses?**

Your agency may authorize an advance of funds, in accordance with § 302-2.20 of this chapter, for your househunting trip expenses. Your agency may not advance you funds in excess of the sum of your anticipated transportation costs and either the maximum per diem allowable under part 302-4 of this chapter for the location and duration of your househunting trip or your fixed amount househunting trip subsistence expenses payment, whichever applies.

**§ 302-5.17 Am I in a duty status when I perform a househunting trip?**

Yes, you are in a duty status when you perform a househunting trip.

**§ 302-5.18 May I retain any balance left over from my househunting reimbursement if my fixed amount is more than adequate to cover my househunting trip?**

Yes, if your fixed househunting amount is more than adequate to cover your househunting expenses any balance belongs to you.

**Subpart B—Agency Responsibilities**

NOTE TO SUBPART B: Use of pronouns “we”, “you”, and their variants throughout this subpart refers to the agency.

**§ 302-5.100 How should we administer the househunting trip expenses allowance?**

You should administer the househunting trip expenses allowance

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to minimize or avoid its use when other satisfactory and more economical arrangements are available.

### **§ 302-5.101 What governing policies must we establish for the househunting trip expenses allowance?**

You must establish policies and procedures governing:

(a) When you will authorize a househunting trip for an employee;

(b) Who will determine if a househunting trip is appropriate in each situation;

(c) If and when you will authorize the fixed amount option for househunting trip subsistence expenses reimbursement;

(d) Who will determine the appropriate duration of a househunting trip for an employee who selects a per diem allowance under part 302-4 of this chapter to reimburse househunting trip subsistence expenses; and

(e) Who will determine the mode(s) of transportation to be used.

### **§ 302-5.102 Under what circumstances may we authorize a househunting trip?**

You may authorize a househunting trip on an individual-case basis when the employee has accepted the transfer and his/her circumstances indicate that a househunting trip actually is needed. You may not authorize a househunting trip when the purpose of the trip is to assist the employee in deciding whether he or she will accept the transfer.

### **§ 302-5.103 What factors must we consider in determining whether to offer an employee the fixed amount househunting trip subsistence expense reimbursement option?**

You must consider the following factors:

(a) *Ease of administration.* Payment of a per diem allowance under part 302-4 of this chapter requires you to review claims for the validity, accuracy, and reasonableness of each expense amount, except for meals and incidental expenses. Fixed amount househunting trip subsistence expenses reimbursement is easier to administer because you do not have to review expense amounts.

(b) *Cost considerations.* You must weigh the cost of each reimbursement option on a case-by-case basis.

(c) *Treatment of employees.* The employee is allowed to choose between a per diem allowance under part 302-4 of this chapter and fixed amount househunting trip subsistence expenses reimbursement when you offer the fixed amount reimbursement method. You therefore should weigh employee morale and productivity considerations against actual cost considerations in determining which method to offer.

## **PART 302-6—ALLOWANCE FOR TEMPORARY QUARTERS SUBSISTENCE EXPENSES**

### **Subpart A—General Rules**

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302-6.10 May my immediate family and I occupy temporary quarters at different locations?

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302-6.17 Am I eligible for a TQSE allowance if I transfer to a foreign area?

302-6.18 May I be reimbursed for local transportation expenses incurred while I am occupying temporary quarters?