

Relocation Allowances

§ 302-7.17

Method of shipment	How weight of shipment is determined
(d) Constructive weight	If adequate scales are not available at origin, en route or at destination, a constructive weight based on 7 pounds per cubic foot of properly loaded van space may be used. Such weight may be used for a part-load when its weight could not be obtained, without first unloading it or other part-loads being carried in the same vehicle or when the HHG are not weighed because the carrier's charges for local or metropolitan area moves are properly computed on the basis other than weight or volume of the shipment (as when payment is based on an hourly rate and distance involved). In such instances a statement from the carrier showing the properly loaded van space required for the shipment should be obtained with respect to proof of entitlement to a commuted rate payment when net weight cannot be shown.

§ 302-7.13 What methods of transporting and paying for the movement of HHG, PBP&E and temporary storage are authorized?

There are two authorized methods of transporting and paying for the movement of HHG, PBP&E and temporary storage. Your agency will determine which of the following methods will be authorized.

(a) *Commuted rate system.* Under the commuted rate system you assume total responsibility for arranging and paying for, at least the following services: packing/unpacking, crating/uncrating, pickup/deliver, weighing, line-haul, drayage, and temporary storage of your HHG and PBP&E with a commercial HHG carrier or by renting self drive equipment for a do-it-yourself move. When any PBP&E is transported as an administrative expense of your agency, all arrangements (e.g., packing/unpacking, pickup/delivery, weighing, temporary storage, etc.) will be handled and paid for by your agency.

(b) *Actual expense method.* Under the actual expense method, your agency assumes the responsibility for arranging and paying for all aspects (e.g., packing/unpacking, pickup/delivery, weighing, line-haul, drayage, temporary storage, etc.), of transporting your HHG and PBP&E with a commercial HHG carrier.

§ 302-7.14 Are there any disadvantages to using the commuted rate method for transporting HHG, PBP&E and temporary storage?

Yes. The disadvantages to using the commuted rate method for transporting HHG, PBP&E and temporary storage are that the:

(a) Government cannot take advantage of any special rates that may be offered only to Government shipments;

(b) Commuted rate method does not apply to intrastate moves; and

(c) Commuted rate method may not fully reimburse your out-of-pocket expenses.

§ 302-7.15 Must I use the method selected by my agency for transporting my HHG, PBP&E and temporary storage?

No, you do not have to use the method selected (§ 302-7.301) by your agency, and you may pursue other methods, however, your reimbursement is limited to the actual cost incurred, not to exceed what the Government would have incurred under the commuted rate system within CONUS and the actual expense method OCONUS.

§ 302-7.16 Is the maximum weight allowance for HHG and temporary storage limited when quarters are furnished or partly furnished by the Government OCONUS or upon return to CONUS?

When quarters are furnished or partly furnished by the Government OCONUS, your agency may limit the weight of HHG and temporary storage that can be transported to that location. Only the authorized weight allowance that was shipped to the OCONUS location may be returned to CONUS upon completion of the tour of duty, unless the agency makes an exception under conditions specified in agency internal regulations.

§ 302-7.17 May PBP&E be transported at Government expense upon returning to CONUS for separation from Government service, after completion of an OCONUS assignment?

Any PBP&E that was transported as an administrative expense of the Government to the OCONUS assignment

will be returned as an administrative expense of the Government to the place of actual residence or any other location, not to exceed the cost to the authorized destination.

§ 302-7.18 Who is liable for any loss or damage to HHG incident to an authorized relocation?

When transporting HHG under the commuted rate or actual expense method and a commercial HHG carrier is used, the carrier accepts limited liability for any loss or damage in accordance with HHG carrier tariffs. For transporting HHG by self drive equipment for a do-it-yourself-move and for any loss or damage not covered by the HHG carrier, see part 302-11 of this chapter.

§ 302-7.19 Should I include items that are irreplaceable or of extremely high monetary or sentimental value in my HHG shipment?

Generally no; items that are irreplaceable or of extremely high monetary or sentimental value should not be included in your HHG shipment. Additional insurance may be purchased, at your expense, to cover any loss or damage, however, such items are not necessarily provided special security. Accordingly, it is advisable that you or an immediate family member(s) transport such items personally.

§ 302-7.20 If my HHG shipment includes an item (e.g. boat, trailer, ultralight vehicle) for which a weight additive is assessed by the HHG carrier, am I responsible for payment?

If your HHG shipment includes an item (e.g. boat or trailer of reasonable size) for which a weight additive is assessed by the HHG carrier (as prescribed in applicable tariffs), and your shipment exceeds the maximum weight prescribed in § 302-7.2, you are responsible for all excess charges and any special packing, crating, and handling of the weight additive item. See § 302-7.200 on how charges are paid and who makes the shipping arrangements.

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Subpart B—Commuted Rate

§ 302-7.100 How are the charges of transporting HHG, and temporary storage calculated?

The charges for transporting HHG, and temporary storage are computed by multiplying the number of pounds shipped divided by 100 (within the 18,000 maximum limitation) by the applicable rate per one-hundred pounds for the distance transported. This includes, but is not limited to packing/unpacking, crating/uncrating, drayage, weighing, pickup/delivery, line-haul, accessorial charges, and temporary storage charges, including but not limited to handling in/out, etc. However, your reimbursement may not fully cover your total out-of-pocket expenses. In determining the distance shipped you may use the Household Goods Carriers Mileage Guide (issued by the Household Goods Carriers' Bureau, 1611 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3482), tariffs filed with GSA travel management centers, or any other mileage guide authorized by your agency. If the exact mileage is not shown, the next higher mileage distance applies. If there is a minimum weight charge above the actual weight under applicable tariffs, reimbursement will be based on the minimum weight charge instead of the actual weight.

§ 302-7.101 Where can the commuted rate schedules for the transportation of HHG, and temporary storage be found?

The charges for the line-haul transportation, packing, crating, unpacking, drayage incident to transportation, and other accessorial charges for HHG, and temporary storage can be found in the Household Goods Carrier Bureau tariff (issued by the Household Goods Carriers' Bureau, 1611 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3482) or by contacting the GSA travel management center or the appropriate office designated in your agency.

§ 302-7.102 How is the mileage distance determined under the commuted rate method?

To determine the distance from the authorized origin to the authorized