

Home Leave & RAT

Home Leave:



Home Leave is a type of leave authorized and earned via service in a foreign OCONUS location for use in the United States.

Employees recruited from the United States will accrue five days home leave per year and can be used upon completion of 24 months overseas service (one time career requirement).

Home leave can be taken in connection with any travel to USA, providing the employee is returning to the overseas area (not with a PCS to USA as no return to overseas).

Unused accrued home leave remains on record and can be only used if the employee returns to a foreign OCONUS location subsequent to the first tour.

Like other forms of leave, home leave use is subject to supervisor approval and the time card code is LK.

(5 CFR, Chapter 1, Part 630 Subpart F & DODI 1400.25 Vol 1260)

**For more
information:**

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Renewal Agreement Travel:

Upon completion of an initial tour of duty (36 months) and authorized extension for a full renewal tour (24 months) employees become eligible for RAT (Government funded travel for the household + employee travel day per diem).

The window to exercise RAT may open as early as six months prior to completion of your original tour and must be utilized with a return to post no later than 12 months prior to completion of the renewal tour i.e window is open from 30th to 48th month. Failure to use RAT within the permitted time frame results in loss of entitlement.

Subsequent 24 month extensions open further RAT windows (open two months prior, up to 12 months out, i.e. 58th month to 72nd)

Upon completion of RAT, employees must serve a minimum of 12 months overseas service and failure to do so may result in recovery of the RAT costs. There is a temporary COVID-related exception through 31 Dec 2021 allowing for use of RAT when the employee will have less than 12 months remaining on their tour upon completion of RAT.

Employee and dependents may perform RAT to either their US actual place of residence at time of assignment to the overseas area or a singular alternate destination (constructive reimbursement not to exceed government cost to actual place of residence).

Dependents may travel to a different location and at different times from the employee, however the employee MUST travel for RAT to be authorized.

Entitlement to Post Allowance is suspended during the RAT period regardless of duration of absence from UK.

(Joint Travel Regulation Chapter 5, part H)