



Planning for Success on your next PCS Move – Here are Some Helpful Tips



Finding your next job and getting to your next duty station successfully starts long before the packing begins.

Sailors nearing the start of their orders negotiation window should check their records and ensure all qualifications and Navy Enlisted Classifications are listed and up to date.

This simple records check will significantly impact what you are qualified to apply for and might make the difference in getting the orders you want and need for your career.

Sailors with questions about the process or what is available to them should reach out to their detailer, who is one of their main advocates during the orders process.

Once a Sailor is approved for orders and knows where they are headed, that is the time when they can build a personalized timeline, get packing tips, to-do lists and checklists with the Plan My Move online tool.

A good idea is to not finalize any personal plans until orders are in hand. It is recommended, if able, to schedule move

dates and begin packing once orders are in hand.

Take a full inventory of your belongings. A smartphone, tablet or computer is an easy way to keep records of everything in your home. Free home inventory software is available at Ready.gov. You could also check with your insurance company to see if they have recommendations for an inventory app.

Start early in planning what you will carry with you and what will be packed by the movers. Knowing what to pack and what to take with you is vital. Once you arrive at your new duty station, you may have to wait for your belongings to be delivered. This is especially true for those relocating overseas, where furniture and vehicles could take several months to arrive.

Examples of essential items that you'll need to keep with you at all times during your move include a copy of your orders, military IDs, driver's licenses, social security cards and passports for every member of the family.

If anything is damaged or lost during the move, you'll need your insurance company information and your inventory on hand to file insurance claims. Don't pack your inventory and send it with the movers – it might not make your destination. Bring it with you.

Consider whether you will need other documents such as marriage, divorce, birth and naturalization certificates, as well as medical and medication information for each family member. Consider bringing electronic copies of items as a backup on your computer or smart devices.

Research the area you are going to before you leave and have your temporary lodging details worked out ahead of time.

If you haven't been assigned one, ask your new command for a sponsor. Line up a sponsor and leverage them for details and points of contact to ensure you have someone to ask as urgent questions arise.

As you get ready to leave your current house for the last time, don't forget to forward your mail and make sure your pets are prepared for the move.

Take a deep breath as you head off on your new adventure. Just remember to be as flexible as possible because things don't always go according to plan. Part of taking charge of your move is expecting the unexpected.

Moving is a challenging experience for children. Tell them about the move as soon as possible. Reassure them that the essential things in life – such as how much you love them – won't change. Military Kids Connect, an online community designed to help military children ages 6–17 deal with the psychological challenges of military life, including frequent moves.

If you use these moving tips, you will be ready for your next move!

Need information for your PCS? Here's a list to get you started

MyPCS Mobile: Navy App Locker
<https://www.applocker.navy.mil>

Available as an app or on the web, this service provides Sailors who are planning a PCS move with checklists and other resources such as applying for government housing and childcare at their next duty station.

Move.mil:
<https://move.mil>

Move.mil is the education platform that lays the process of scheduling and executing your move. Go to Plan Your Move to find all the background information where you can enter the details about your current and future duty stations.

Military OneSource:
<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/moving-housing/moving/>

Military OneSource can help make your move easier with helpful tips, resources and hands-on information. Assistance is available for every stage of your PCS move.

Using Your GTCC during your PCS is Authorized



"The feedback we received through the three pilot phases and the last full year of real world use has given us confidence that the Government Travel Credit Card for PCS use is a great option for Sailors to use during a PCS move," said Cmdr. Ronel Reyes, business design owner for assignment, leave and travel.

"The ease of use of the card and the immediate support available to Sailors conducting a PCS through MNCC's GTCC PCS Support Cell really gives our Sailors a great resource to improve their moving experience."

NAVADMIN 176/20 released last June announced the final rollout of GTCC use for PCS travel and expands the program so that active-duty Sailors moving within or outside the Continental United States can use the GTCC for PCS-related travel expenses instead of a traditional travel

advance for PCS moves.

To provide enhanced customer support, NPC has established a GTCC PCS Support Cell within the MyNavy Career Center (MNCC) Contact Center to assist Sailors who have questions or are experiencing difficulties using their GTCC during PCS. This cell builds on the previous MNCC success with the Command Pay and Personnel Administrator (CPPA) Pro-to-Pro cell that stood up last year to provide direct support to CPPAs.

This cell is easily reached through the MNCC Contact Center and is staffed with subject matter experts including CPPAs and GTCC Agency Program Coordinators (APC) to quickly solve problems Sailors might experience while using their GTCC for PCS purposes after detaching from their previous command. Additionally, Sailors in emergency situations can

contact Citibank directly (number on the back of the card) for help requesting a temporary credit limit increase for up to five days under their "No Strand" policy.

Adding to the MNCC's vast arsenal of tools to help Sailors, these GTCC PCS Support Cell agents can provide services such as placing a Sailor into a mission-critical status during a PCS move in the event there is an issue.

Upon normal check out, APCs at the losing command should verify card credit limits have been adjusted to cover the estimated travel entitlements and accounts are in a mission-critical status before the Sailor departs. GTCC holders who elect not to use the card before travel may still activate it during the PCS process. The GTCC PCS Support Cell can be contacted by calling the 24/7 MNCC Call Center regarding issues related to the GTCC at 1-833-330-MNCC (1-833-330-6622) or by email at askmncc@navy.mil. Sailors will then be directed to a GTCC PCS Support Cell agent.

The option to use the GTCC for PCS travel is for all active-duty Sailors. Expenses covered include Temporary Lodging Expenses or Temporary Lodging Allowance at the old or new permanent duty station, fuel for a privately owned vehicle when authorized as the mode of transportation, rental cars and fuel (if authorized), lodging and meals en route, dislocation allowance expenses normally used to establish a household and ATM withdrawals.

The use of the GTCC cannot be combined with a travel advance, used for personally procured moves (formerly known as do-it-yourself or DITY moves), or used for commercial airfare for PCS travel.

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What Can I use the GTCC for?

Dependent Travel

- Sailors traveling **concurrently** with their dependents can choose to use the GTCC for all PCS expenses for the family.
- Sailors with dependents traveling **separately** (non-concurrently) cannot use the GTCC for both sets of travel.
 - In this case, the GTCC may only be used by the Sailor for their personal travel expenses.
 - Dependents travelling separately cannot use the GTCC for any part of their travel expenses.

**** A travel advance must be requested for non-concurrent dependent travel via the existing process ****

Authorized Expenses

- Temporary Lodging Expense at the old or new permanent duty station (PDS).
- Fuel for a Privately Owned Vehicle (POV), when POV is the authorized mode of transportation.
- Rental car and fuel when a rental car is authorized on orders.
- Lodging and meals en route.
- Dislocation Allowance (DLA) related expenses normally used to establish a household such as deposits and cleaning.
- Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) withdrawals.
**** ATM fees are not a separately reimbursable expense ****

Unauthorized Expenses

- Medical Expenses
- Personal Expenses that are not part of your authorized moving expenses.
- Commercial airfare for PCS Travel. *(This will be booked through Navy Passenger Transportation Office)*
- Personally Procured Moves (PPM), formerly known as a Do-It-Yourself (DITY) move.
- Personal travel arrangements incurred during leave in conjunction with orders.
- Other expenses not authorized by the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR).

Cards will be put in a MISSION CRITICAL status.

The number of days, date range authorized and the spending limits vary!

For more details and specifics concerning your personal PCS situation contact your Command Pay and Personnel Administrator (CPPA) as soon as possible after receiving your orders.

**** The GTCC cannot be combined with an electronic funds transfer/direct deposit (EFT/DD) travel advance (e.g. advanced DLA and per diem) ****

Rewording of Navy Uniform Regs – Here’s Why

The Navy has released the first of a series of uniform policy changes expected to enhance clarity, interpretation and application of service uniform policies on the deckplates.

The changes are the result of feedback, comments and recommendations received from officers, chief petty officers and junior enlisted Sailors during a series of working and focus groups conducted during fiscal years 2020 and early 2021.

Upon direction from the then Secretary of Defense to review grooming standards for racial bias, the Navy Uniform Matters Office reviewed Navy Uniform Regulations (NAVPERS 15665I).

In addition to their review, focus and working group discussions were held with the east and west coast assigned Sailors. Although the NAVPERS 15665I review and focus group discussions determined no racial bias exists in the policy, there is a perception of bias existing in the fleet because some wording used in the document fostered inconsistent interpretation of the rules.

NAVADMIN 072/21, released on April 1, is intended to eliminate that perception’s root cause by deleting eight subjective terms and phrases used in many of the regulation’s seven chapters. Three new phrases will be added while another will be revised. Some examples of deleted terms include ‘faddish’, ‘good taste’ and ‘outrageous’, while terms such as ‘complementary appearance’ and ‘uniform distraction’ were added and clearly defined.

Sailors can find the full list of what is changing in the message.

“The review of NAVPERS 15665I and discussions with Sailors concluded the Navy’s grooming policies are not racially biased, but various terms, phrases and

definitions were found to be subjective and lead to misinterpretation,” Vice Adm. John B. Nowell, Jr., chief of naval personnel wrote in the message.

The Navy Uniform Matters Office’s (UMO) deep dive into grooming standards started with the review of the regulations for bias.

After finding no bias in the document, UMO turned to focus groups, working groups and Sailor interviews to get a different perspective. It is here they found a perceived bias through how the Navy’s grooming policies were interpreted and enforced in the fleet.

Sailors involved in these reviews were both male and females in paygrades E-3 through O-6 and came from ashore and afloat commands and the various communities and ethnicities reflecting the Navy’s demographic makeup.

This input led to the current rewrite of the regulation’s seven chapters to reflect the updated verbiage.

Updates to uniform regulations don’t only happen when changes in Navy uniforms or the policies related to wearing them are updated. Instead, the document is “constantly reviewed for applicability, accuracy, clarity and comprehension,” the message said.

Navy uniform policy and changes usually come from fleet feedback, command-sponsored requests and direction from Navy leadership.

As this is just the first in a series, Nowell wrote that Sailors should standby as more “uniform policy changes are forthcoming and will focus on simplifying grooming and appearance policies to alleviate misinterpretation and facilitate equal and ready compliance and enforcement.”



Simplify your PCS Move with MyPCS Mobile

A Permanent Change of Station (PCS) move can be daunting. The list of tasks that need to get done seems never-ending.

But MyNavy HR has a tool for that – MyPCS Mobile. Most of the information Sailors need to know as they move to their next assignment can now be easily accessed from their fingertips. Actions such as viewing orders, finding housing and daycare, even submitting requests for travel advance allowances are all available

through MyPCS Mobile. For the nearly 66,000 Sailors moving a year, many of whom are bringing families with them, MyPCS Mobile can help ease the strain and stressors of a big move for service members.

Gone are the days of needing CAC access to handle PCS matters. Upon opening the MyPCS Mobile app, Sailors are forwarded into the new NP2 environment where they can choose the OKTA authentication login option which will prompt them to sign

into their OKTA account and verify their identity granting them CAC-free access.

Once in MyPCS Mobile, a checklist of essential PCSing tasks will be available for personnel to work their way through leading up to their move and once they arrive at their new assignment. Within the checklist are the following capabilities: Shipping Household Goods, Family Move, Entitlements & Budgeting, and Sailor Admin.

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Simplify your PCS Move with MyPCS Mobile - Cont'd

MyPCS Mobile also lets Sailors email a copy of this checklist to a family member or anyone assisting them in their PCS process and features a progress bar and reminders to keep the Sailor on track.

Last May, MyPCS Mobile received a major update with the inclusion of the Travel Entitlement Calculator. This feature allows Sailors to better gauge their left and right financial limits by calculating their Total Travel Days Authorized, Estimated DLA Amount, Flat Per Diem Total, PCS Mileage Total and Total Entitlement Estimate. Rather than waiting until after the process is in motion, the Entitlement Calculator gives Sailors the convenience of planning ahead for those extra expenses.

Other features available in MyPCS Mobile include the ability to create, edit and sign travel vouchers for service members and dependents as well as viewing full and lean orders. Reserve Sailors can also use MyPCS Mobile to see their mobilization/demobilization orders, ADOS orders and Officer recalls.

MyPCS Mobile is available through both the Navy App Locker and MyNavy Portal. Sailors can send comments about MyPCS to MNCC at

askmncc@navy.mil. Those who have issues logging in or creating their initial OKTA CAC free account can call MNCC at (833)330-6622 for assistance.

Worried about PCS'ing
MyNavy has an app for that!

MyPCS

Moving is notoriously one of the most stressful times.

Access PCS-related info and resources using your personal mobile device – no Common Access Card (CAC) required!

The MyPCS Mobile is a “trending app for Sailors” in the Navy App Locker. Download today to find helpful PCS resources! Visit: applocker.navy.mil.

RTC Moves Recruit Initial 14-day ROM out of Fort McCoy



After an 8-month joint-service endeavor between Recruit Training Command (RTC) and Fort McCoy, a U.S. Army training center in western Wisconsin, RTC began moving the command's recruit restriction of movement (ROM) site from Ft. McCoy to RTC's facilities on April 19.

The command's ROM site had been located at Ft. McCoy since August 2020.

“We are grateful to the Fort McCoy Army leadership for their outstanding support that enabled us to achieve our mission,” said Capt. Erik Thors, commanding officer, RTC. “We could not have achieved the same level of success we did without Fort McCoy and multiple Navy commands who provided personnel support.”

RTC began housing incoming recruits on-site on April 19 to execute their initial 14-day ROM before beginning boot camp at RTC.

Executing ROM at RTC provides leadership more flexibility regarding staff schedules. It also allows supporting Sailors to return to their parent commands after months of hard work away from their families to support the RTC mission.

“The transition of ROM operations from Fort McCoy to RTC is an important first step to normalizing training operations during the pandemic,” said Rear. Adm. Jamie Sands III, commander, Naval Service Training Command.

“We could not have successfully trained new recruits during these past eight months without the help and support of Fort McCoy, the Army, the Wisconsin National Guard and the hard work and flexibility of RTC's staff.”

RTC continues to work with medical experts to ensure it can train recruits while preventing the transmission of COVID-19.

Boot camp is where all enlistees begin their journey into the U.S. Navy. Training includes physical fitness, seamanship, firearms, firefighting and shipboard damage control along with lessons in Navy heritage and core values, teamwork and discipline. More than 40,000 recruits train annually at the Navy's only boot camp.

LOOKING FOR AN EASIER WAY TO PCS?

CONTACT:

 <p>The Center Fleet & Family Support</p>	 <p>NAVY HHG</p>	 <p>Navy Housing</p>	 <p>NAVY CYP Child and Youth Programs</p>	 <p>Military OneSource</p>
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