



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE

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ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC
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DIRECTOR OF NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Exemption of Authorized Leave for Department of Defense Service Members from
Coronavirus Disease 2019 Personnel Movement and Travel Restrictions

References: (a) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Transition to Conditions-based Phased
Approach to COVID-19 Personnel Movement and Travel Restrictions,"
May 22, 2020 (hereby modified)
(b) Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
Memorandum, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 4) –
Department of Defense Guidance for Personnel Traveling During the Novel
Coronavirus Outbreak," March 11, 2020

Effective immediately, leave travel for DoD Service members is exempt from the
coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) travel restrictions in reference (a). Authorized leave
outside the local area will be approved at a level no lower than the unit commander or
equivalent.

Additional Guidance

- Commanders and supervisors will conduct a risk assessment of the health status and
travel itinerary for Service members requesting leave. Service members should not
travel if they display a fever or other symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or if they



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have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 14 days. DoD personnel will comply with any DoD, Federal, State, and local restrictions while in a leave status.

- Commanders and supervisors will follow the procedures in reference (b) for all Service members traveling on leave. Commanders and supervisors will establish a means of communication with all Service members throughout the period of leave and the post-travel process, as well as prescribing actions for their particular circumstances.
- All other guidance contained in reference (a) remains in effect until further notice.

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