

Important Misawa Housing Information

Fact Sheet

We have over 2,033 family housing (FH) units on Misawa AB. There is currently no waiting period for on-base housing. During high PCS season, your stay in the Temporary Lodging Facility (TLF) could be up to 30 days depending on the type of housing required, member's rank, and bedroom entitlement.

We understand your first concern is where you will live. **All newly assigned military members are required to live on-base.** A major decision for many families is whether to bring your pets with you or leave them in the states. Your pets are welcome! Most of the family housing is Pet friendly (77%). Please understand there are parameters as a result of availability because an aggressive renovation and modernization program to upgrade FH units and related infrastructure is on-going. During this time, the number of pet-friendly units may be limited at times. It is imperative families coordinate well in advance with sponsors or consider delaying the arrival of pets to Misawa until they have secured pet-friendly housing or temporary alternative accommodations.

Upon your arrival at Misawa, you will be offered up to two housing units, if available, that meet your authorized category of house. This will be determined IAW AFI 32-6001. If you turn down your first offer, you will be offered a 2nd FH unit; however, your Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) will be stopped on the date that house would have been available. At that time your Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) will be the only entitlement you will receive. You will not be entitled to receive Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) if you were receiving it from your previous assignment. The Joint Federal Travel Regulation does not authorize BAH once TLA is stopped.

It is Housing's intent to facilitate a smooth PCS process and get you into a home and settled as soon as possible. If you choose to wait for a personal housing preference (to include, but not limited to, pet friendly, style, size, location, or age) you may incur out-of-pocket expenses to retain lodging. It is also recommended you contact lodging prior to your permanent change-of-station (PCS) move to Misawa to ensure you can financially afford any potential out-of-pocket expense and to inquire if lodging can accommodate if you anticipate a delay in housing to await a particular housing preference. If you cannot afford the added expense, and non-pet housing is the only unit available, you may be required to accept it and make alternate arrangements for your pets for the duration of your tour.

Although military families are required to reside on-base, civilians are authorized to reside off-base unless they are identified as key and essential. Living in Japan is exciting and can be a very rewarding and memorable experience. However, it is important to remember you may experience differences from the continental U.S. (CONUS) areas. The housing is traditionally smaller and use smaller appliances. Planning what items to be is a very important process. The housing has limited storage capacity.

Lodging facilities do not allow pets in their rooms. Guests with pets will be required to seek a pet boarding facility. Pet boarding fees are high in Japan and can be overwhelming for families if on-base housing that allows pets is not immediately available. Each family must make an informed decision and should contact their sponsor to provide them with additional information on quarantine fees for pets at the airport, pet boarding cost, out-of-pocket lodging costs etc.

These rules are also applicable to a military member married to another military member and both are assigned to Misawa AB, members arriving to Misawa from a remote tour, and members changing to an accompanied tour. Welcome and keep the question flying our way!

Email questions to housing@misawa.af.mil or call DSN (315) 226-3200.

(Current as of March 2011)