



**9. Guidelines for the Foreign Transfer Allowance:**

- ⇒ See special definition for "United States" for this Chapter (DSSR 241.1c)
- ⇒ Consists of four parts: (a) Miscellaneous expense portion
  - (b) Wardrobe expense portion
  - (c) Predeparture subsistence expense portion
  - (d) Lease penalty expense portion

\_\_\_\_\_ **Miscellaneous expense portion:**

- ⇒ Two ways to claim: (1) Flat rate or (2) Itemization
- ⇒ Flat rate: No receipts required; \$500 without family; \$1,000 with family
- ⇒ Itemization: Receipts required; limits are based on salary (DSSR 242.1); allowable expenses listed in DSSR 241.2a
- ⇒ May be paid between U.S. and foreign location or between two foreign locations

\_\_\_\_\_ **Wardrobe allowance:**

- ⇒ Paid only when transferring across two transfer zones (1 to 3 or 3 to 1)
- ⇒ May be paid between two foreign locations or between certain non-foreign areas outside conterminous U.S. and foreign locations
- ⇒ Never paid from conterminous US (48 contiguous states + the District of Columbia) which is zone 2
- ⇒ Zones for foreign areas found in DSSR 920, column 4
- ⇒ Zones for non-foreign areas found in DSSR 242.2b
- ⇒ Paid as a Flat rate - no receipts required
- ⇒ Amount depends on family size (see DSSR 242.2b for current rates)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Predeparture subsistence expense portion:**

- ⇒ Paid **only** when transferring from post in United States (DSSR 241.1c) to post in foreign area
- ⇒ Based on per diem for post of assignment in U.S. regardless of where days are spent
- ⇒ Paid up to ten days before final departure to foreign post
- ⇒ Ten days may be spent anywhere in U.S., however, final departure **must** be from U.S. post of assignment
- ⇒ Totally Actual Subsistence Method: receipts required for lodging; plus certified meal/laundry/dry cleaning statement (no receipts required)
- ⇒ Partial Flat Rate Method: receipts required for only lodging

\_\_\_\_\_ **Lease penalty expense portion:**

- ⇒ May be paid from either a post in the U.S. to a foreign area or between posts in foreign areas
- ⇒ Authorizing official must certify in writing to five statements in DSSR 242.4 (statement also on page 1 of FTA worksheet)
- ⇒ Amount allowed limited to terms of lease or three months' rent, whichever is less