

JAPAN LEVY BRIEFING

Congratulations on your selection for assignment to Japan. The following information is provided to fulfill the levy briefing requirement of AR 600-8-11. This information is provided in an attempt to give information that may be useful in your upcoming PCS.

Soldiers who are going to Japan are not authorized shipment of a Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) regardless of accompanied or unaccompanied status, but will be authorized storage of one POV for the duration of the overseas tour. One officer got an exception to policy from Japan two years ago to ship his POV and ended paying in excess of \$6000.00 to bring his vehicle up to Japanese Emission Standards. They would not release his vehicle until it was updated to meet their standards.

All travel to Japan is to be accomplished by use of Patriot Express. Patriot Express is a government contracted flight from SEATAC to either Kadena AB (if going to Torri Station) or to Yakota AB (if going to Camp Zama). These flights are usually only twice per week, so you need to schedule your flight as soon as possible. To accomplish this, please see the Official Travel Office (Room 600, Waller Hall, 253-967-5718). We are required to get you to Japan on or before your report date. So if your report date is the 10th of the month, and the closest flight to the 10th is on the 5th, you will fly on the 5th. Every CONUS installation is competing for these flights for Japan, so seats get filled fast. So again, make your reservations early. No other source of travel is authorized.

If you plan on taking your Family with you to Japan, you must apply for Family Travel by filling out [DA Forms 4787](#), [5888](#), and [7246](#). These forms get turned into us at Reassignments. We in turn take them to Madigan for a medical screening. If your medical records are not up-to-date, Madigan will contact you to schedule an appointment to see your Family Members. Once these forms are returned to us from Madigan, we send them to the Overseas Command (Japan) for a Family Travel Decision. Your Family cannot travel to the Overseas Command until we receive this decision from the Overseas Command. The normal processing time for Family Travel requests is 60-90 days, depending on the medical conditions of your Family. If there are EFMP Family Members identified by Madigan, Japan will forward your application to the servicing Medical Facility in your area of projected assignment in Japan to ensure that proper health care needed for your Family Members is available. If it is not, Family Travel will be denied. **If you have EFMP Family Members, you cannot depart until the Overseas Command makes a decision on your Family Travel. This may involve an involuntary deferment until a decision is received.** If services are available, Japan will then coordinate with the community you are to be assigned to for a housing determination. If they can get your Family into housing within 30 days after arrival, you will be granted concurrent travel, which means your Family Travels with you to Japan. If you are granted concurrent travel and your Family does not travel with you, your BAH will be discontinued until they do. If housing is not projected to be available for 31+ days, you will be granted deferred travel, which means your Family cannot travel with you until housing becomes available. If you plan on your Family travelling later to Japan, you should request deferred travel instead of concurrent travel so that your BAH is not affected. If you chose or are granted deferred travel, you must coordinate with the housing office in the community you are assigned to for your Family to be authorized to travel. Once your Family Travel is approved, Japan will coordinate with us so we can prepare an amendment for your Family to travel and your household goods can be shipped. For single Soldiers and Soldiers who take their Family Members with them to Japan, your tour will be 36 months. If you are married and choose to not take your Family with you, you can choose an "All Others" tour. If you choose to leave your Family behind and serve an "All Others" (24 month) tour, you are authorized to relocate your Family anywhere within the 48

Continental States. If your Family is moved at government expense, you cannot later ask to bring your Family to Japan.

In addition, your Family also will require government no-fee passports to travel to Japan. The Passports take approximately 5-8 weeks to process depending on seasonal rotations. You will need original birth certificates, your marriage certificate, and ID cards at a minimum to apply for these passports. They are submitted through the Reassignment section, so please schedule an appointment as soon as possible after you are notified you are on assignment.

All Soldiers on assignment to Japan or Korea are required to receive the Japanese Encephalitis vaccine. This is a two shot series which must be completed in a 30 day time period. This is a live vaccine which can only be administered at the SRC.

Household good weight limitations affect some accompanied assignments to Japan. If going to Torii Station, you are normally authorized your full weight allowance. If going to Camp Zama, Soldiers are limited to 2,500 or 25% of the authorized weight allowance, whichever is greater. The remainder of the authorized weight allowance is authorized to be stored at government expense for the duration of your tour.

You are required to have proof ([DA Form 4036](#)) verifying that you have had a HIV test showing a negative result within 6 months of your report date to Japan. This will be checked at out-processing when you go to complete your final out-processing. Failure to have this evidence will delay your departure from Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Your PCS orders will contain information on obtaining Clearance Papers to clear the installation, information on the Finance Briefing, and how to schedule for household goods pick-up.

IAW AR 614-30, para 3-5a (5) - Command sponsorship will not be granted to a dependent who is a registered sex offender. Command sponsorship is to be revoked for a dependent who becomes a registered sex offender while accompanying his or her sponsor during an overseas assignment and the dependent will be processed for early return of dependents. Soldiers will declare in writing, during reassignment processing with the orders issuance authority, whether or not they have Family members with qualifying convictions. You can get an example of the memorandum required from the Passport/Family Travel office to fulfill this requirement.