

MILPERSMAN 1770-230

Transportation of Next of Kin to the Bedside of Seriously Ill or Injured Members

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Reference	NAVSO P-6034, Joint Federal Travel Regulations (JFTR), Volume 1, Paragraph U5212 and U5246 OPNAVINST 4650.15		
Policy	Funded round-trip transportation is authorized for not more than two family members to visit a seriously ill or injured active duty member, hospitalized in or outside the United States. Such transportation is authorized when the attending physician/surgeon and the commander/head of the military medical facility exercising military control over the member determine in writing that the presence of family members is medically necessary for the health and welfare of the member concerned.		

**Eligible
Travelers**

Eligible travelers are:

- Spouse
- Children (including step, adopted, and illegitimate)
- Siblings of the member
- Parents of the member (includes fathers and mothers through adoption and persons who have stood in loco parentis to the member for a period of at least 1 year immediately before the member entered the Uniformed Service).

The spouse shall be afforded first opportunity for such transportation and the option to determine the other eligible traveler. The child(ren) will be given the next option. When there is no surviving spouse or child(ren), the member's biological parents will be given the next transportation option. If only one parent can travel at government expense, the Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-621) will decide which parent will be provided transportation.

**Transportation
Arrangements**

When the Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-621) is advised that presence of next of kin is medically warranted, the eligible traveler(s) will be contacted via telephone, issued travel orders and advised that arrangements have been made for their transportation. Government/government-procured transportation will be used to the maximum extent practical especially in connection with international/transoceanic travel (which should be arranged through a Navy Passenger Transportation Office (NAVPTO)) See OPNAVINST 4650.15.

PERS-621 will contact the host command or naval activity nearest the facility where the member is hospitalized for assignment of a courtesy Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO) to meet the traveler's flight(s), transport them to the member's bedside, arrange lodging/hotel accommodations and provide assistance while they are visiting the member.

Upon completion of family member travel, courtesy CACOs will be assigned to assist family members in completing travel claims. Contact the Casualty Assistance Branch (PERS-621) for additional guidance or assistance.

**Reimbursable
Expenses**

Reimbursement for privately owned vehicle travel is authorized upon completion of travel for the driver of the vehicle only.

Reimbursement for the cost of personally procured commercial transportation may not exceed the cost of government procured transportation.

Reimbursement of expenses outlined in JFTR, paragraph U5212 is authorized in connection with this travel.

**Non-
Reimbursable
Expenses**

Per diem is not payable in connection with such travel.
