

Reconsideration and Appeals

Current as of 7/19/12

Basis for CSD's Decision:

Certain requested expenses may have been denied. The basis and regulatory/legal authority for such denials will be explained within the Client Services Division's Memorandum to DFAS provided to the Agency Approval Authority.

Often such denials are based on lack of regulatory/legal authority to reimburse an expense or lack of substantiation. Pursuant to JTR, Volume II, Chapter 5, Part P; 41 CFR Part 302; 5 USC 5724a; decisions of the Comptroller General, the General Services Administration Board of Contract Appeals, and the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals, the requesting employee bears the burden of proving/establishing that a requested expense is reimbursable.

All expenses for which reimbursement is requested must be authorized by specific authority under regulation or law. If a specific authority does not provide for reimbursement, then a requested expense must be denied. Further, even if an expense is otherwise reimbursable, it may only be reimbursed if it is actually paid by the employee and may only be reimbursed up to but not exceeding specific amounts stated in regulation and law (such as a 1% loan origination fee) or, in the absence of a specific limitation, to the amount customarily paid in the residence locality in which a purchase or sale was made.

Employees Desiring to File for Reconsideration:

If an employee disagrees with the decision contained in the memorandum to DFAS, they may request that it be reconsidered. A request for reconsideration must be submitted to and endorsed by the Approval Authority using the enclosed *APG Reconsideration Request Form* (Appendix A) within 15 calendar days of the Approval Authority's receipt of the CSD's Memorandum to DFAS (an extension of this requirement may be granted based on hardship and with the endorsement of the Approval Authority). Requests must be accompanied by an *APG Itemized Reconsideration Worksheet-DD Form 1705 Form* (Appendix B) and specify why the employee believes a denied expense should be reimbursed, cite the supporting regulatory/legal authority, and be accompanied by the appropriate documentation. Reconsideration requests failing to meet this requirement may be denied on this basis alone.

Processing:

Request will reenter the processing queue and will be processed only after initial reimbursement requests and other reconsideration requests already in the processing queue have been adjudicated. Approval Authorities will be notified by memorandum regarding the CSD's decision with an accompanying memorandum to DFAS.

Appeals:

Employee's who disagree with the decision contained in the memorandum to DFAS and choose not to request reconsideration, or who have filed a request for reconsideration and are not satisfied with the response, may file an appeal with the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals (CBCA) unless they are a member of a bargaining unit. If you are a member of a bargaining unit you must use the grievance procedures proscribed by your bargaining unit. For more information on the required content of an appeal to the CBCA and the appeal process see <http://www.cbca.gsa.gov>.

APG Reconsideration Request Form

Purpose: To Request Reconsideration Review of Civilian Employee Real Estate Expenses Associated with PCS move to or from the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland Area (all three parts must be completed)

PART I

Employee Certification

I understand that my signature below indicates that the information submitted in support of this request for reconsideration is both true and accurate and that this review will be returned directly to the Approval Authority listed below for further processing in accordance with my activity's processing policies for real estate reimbursement claims. I understand that I bear the burden of proving/establishing that the requested expense(s) are reimbursable and that all expenses for which reimbursement is requested must be authorized by specific authority under regulation or law and customarily paid in the residence locality in which a purchase or sale was made.

I agree to provide updated contact information to the Client Services Division should it change from the information contained below. I understand that I may be contacted by the Client Services Division after submission of my request for additional information and my failure to provide the requesting information in a timely manner may result in delay or complete denial of my reconsideration. I understand that submission of a false or fraudulent reimbursement request is a crime punishable under applicable Federal law and may form the basis of administrative disciplinary action up to and including removal from Federal Service. I believe that I am entitled to be reimbursed for the expenses requested and have provided legal/regulatory authority and adequate substantiation to support my reconsideration request.

Employee Signature

Date

Print Name

Organization

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Approval Authority Checklist

PART II

The approval authority will ensure LEGIBLE scanned copies of the following documents are included in the review packet in the following order prior to forwarding the packet to the Client Services Division for Review by placing his or her initials in each of the following blocks (these documents will not be returned):

APG Reconsideration Request Form (signed by claimant and approval authority)

APG Itemized Reconsideration Worksheet-DD Form 1705 Claims Form

Supporting Documentation (as needed)

PART III

Pursuant to JTR, Volume II, Chapter 5, Part P, Paragraph C5759C, *Review and Approval of Reasonable Charges*, an official designated by the commanding officer of an activity must review the expenses requested and the supporting documentation to determine if the expense(s) requested are reasonable in amount and customarily paid by the seller or buyer in the locality where the property is located.

As the approval authority (JTR, Volume II, Chapter 5, Part P, Paragraph C5759D) of the employee listed above, I request that the CSD perform the Paragraph C5759C review for the above listed employee. I will submit this request by scanning all documents necessary for the review (PDF document) and emailing them to the Client Services Division at usarmy.APG.usag.mbx.legal-assistance@mail.mil with the Subject Heading: *Real Estate Reimbursement Request-(Employee First and Last Name, CSD FILE #)*. I understand that your review will be returned to me via email and it will be my responsibility as the approval authority to ensure the request is forwarded to DFAS if a supplemental payment is authorized in compliance with the *Pamphlet for Civilian Permanent Duty Travel (PDT) DFAS-CO 1404.1-PH (January 2010 ed.)*.

Approval Authority Certification

I have familiarized myself with the most recent version of the *Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland Real Estate Reimbursement Review Guide*, reviewed the documents submitted by the employee in support of this review, and completed the attached checklist required for submission. I hereby certify all requirements for submission to the CSD have been met to include the employee's signature above.

Approval Authority Signature

Date

Print Name

Organization

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

APPENDIX B

APG Itemized Reconsideration Worksheet-DD Form 1705 Form

Italicized example contained in row one of worksheet

Denied Expense	Line # HUD-1	\$ Amount Claimed	Basis for reconsideration	Regulatory/Legal Authority	List of Substantiating Documents
<i>Loan Processing Fee</i>	<i>803</i>	<i>500.00</i>	<i>Initially denied because I failed to provide information to CSD regarding why this fee was charged. Letter from lender attached shows this fee was for the administrative costs of processing the loan and did not contain prepaid interest, points, or a mortgage discount. I did not pay a 1% loan origination fee.</i>	<i>JTR C5756-A4a(2) GSBCA 16815-Relo (31 August 2006)</i>	<i>Letter from lender.</i>

Attach reference sheets as needed