

Military Moving Expenses



About Military Moving Expenses

- Additional resources listed in L< “References” tab
- Review all tips and cautions in the lesson
- Read all examples and sample interviews
- We will review answers to each exercise

Objectives – Military Moving Expenses

Determine:

- If a move qualifies as a permanent change of station (PCS)
- Which moving expenses are deductible
- When allowances and reimbursements must be included in income
- Time Required: 30 minutes

Topics



- Permanent Change of Station
- Deductible Moving Expenses
- Reimbursements
- Reporting Moving Expenses

Key Terms

Definitions are always available in the L< online Glossary.

- Cash Method
- PCS
- PPM
- Travel Expenses

Permanent Change of Station

- Only military moving expenses incurred as a result of a permanent change of station (PCS) may be deductible
- What is a PCS?
 - A move from home to the area of the first post of duty
 - A move from one permanent post of duty to another
 - A move from the last post of duty to home or to a nearer point in the U.S.
- If the Armed Forces moves a service member and spouse/dependents to or from separate locations, the expenses are combined and treated as a single move

Part II Adjustments to Income		
10	Educator expenses	10
11	Certain business expenses of reservists, performing artists, and fee-basis government officials. Attach Form 2106	11
12	Health savings account deduction. Attach Form 8889	12
13	Moving expenses for members of the Armed Forces. Attach Form 3903	13
14	Deductible part of self-employment tax. Attach Schedule SE	14
15	Self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and qualified plans	15
16	Self-employed health insurance deduction	16
17	Penalty on early withdrawal of savings	17
18a	Alimony paid	18a
b	Recipient's SSN	
c	Date of original divorce or separation agreement (see instructions)	
19	IRA deduction	19
20	Student loan interest deduction	20
21	Reserved for future use	21
22	Add lines 10 through 21. These are your adjustments to income . Enter here and on Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 8a	22

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see your tax return instructions. Cat. No. 71479F Schedule 1 (Form 1040 or 1040-SR) 2019

Deductible Moving Expenses

- Qualifying military moving expenses include the cost of:
 - Moving household goods and personal effects
 - Reasonable travel and lodging expenses from the old home to the new home
- Qualifying deductible expenses are those that exceed government allowances and reimbursements
- Non-deductible moving expenses include costs of stopovers and side trips that are not the shortest, most direct route from the former home to the new home

Reimbursements

- The Armed Forces often provides an incentive payment equal to 95% of the government's estimated cost for a Personally Procured Move (PPM)
- When the move is completed, the service member provides receipts to show authorized expenses
- Payments or reimbursements greater than qualified expenses is net profit, which is taxable and reported on a Form W-2
- PPM payments are entered as income on Form 1040, line 1
- What are examples of items included in gross pay and what are excluded items from gross pay ([Pub 4012, Tab D, Income, Armed Forces Gross Income](#))

Reporting Moving Expenses

- If service members have expenses that exceed the amount they were reimbursed, they should complete [Form 3903](#) , Moving Expenses
- Taxpayers can deduct their moving expenses in the year the expenses were paid or the year they were reimbursed
- For more information, see the Instructions for Form 3903

Form 3903 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service (99)	Moving Expenses ▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form3903 for instructions and the latest information. ▶ Attach to Form 1040, 1040-SR, or 1040-NR.	OMB No. 1545-0074 2021 Attachment Sequence No. 170
Name(s) shown on return		Your social security number
<p>Before you begin: You can deduct moving expenses only if you are a Member of the Armed Forces on active duty and, due to a military order, you, your spouse, or your dependents move because of a permanent change of station.</p> <p>Check here to certify that you meet these requirements. See the instructions ▶ <input type="checkbox"/></p>		
1	Transportation and storage of household goods and personal effects (see instructions)	1
2	Travel (including lodging) from your old home to your new home (see instructions). Do not include the cost of meals	2
3	Add lines 1 and 2	3
4	Enter the total amount the government paid you for the expenses listed on lines 1 and 2 that is not included in box 1 of your Form W-2 (wages). This amount should be shown in box 12 of your Form W-2 with code P	4

Summary

This lesson covered:

- Types of military moves that qualify for tax benefits
- What kinds of moving expenses are deductible
- How to use Form 3903 to compute moving expense deductions
- Moving expenses are deducted as an adjustment to income on Form 1040