

Direction to Return to Bahrain FAQ Sheet**GENERAL TRAVEL****Q. Will I stop receiving my safe haven per diem entitlements/lodging allowances?**

A. Yes. Generally, allowances will end on July 31st, 2025. If you submit your paperwork by July 31st as directed, and a flight is not booked for you until a later date, you will continue to receive allowances until the booked travel. (Ex: if you submit paperwork on or before July 31, and ask for a return flight on or before 1 August, but are not booked until 3 August, you will receive allowances through 3 August.)

Q. How do I return to Bahrain?

A. For Military Dependents, Military Sponsor must submit your passenger reservation request (PRR) and DD-884 (Application for Transportation of Dependents) **no later than July 31st, 2025** with an earliest departure date (EDD) of **no later than August 1st, 2025** to the NAVCENT N1 Distro ([m-ba-cusnc-n1-addistro@us.navy.mil](mailto:ba-cusnc-n1-addistro@us.navy.mil)).

A. For GS/ Civilian Sponsors, Dependent flight could be booked either through Command DTS or through the NAVCENT N1 Distro (NAVCENT N1 will require the Command Line of Accounting from the Command to assist NAVPTO submission for flights). Please check with your Command Admin if your dependents flight will be booked via Command DTS or through NAVCENT N1.

Q. What if I cannot return to Bahrain by August 1st, 2025, and I need to set a later EDD?

A. You may set your EDD as late as September 15th, 2025, and your booked flight will be paid for, but your allowances will end on July 31st, 2025.

Q. What if I set my EDD for August 1st, but the military schedules me for a flight beyond that date?

A. If you submitted your paperwork as directed, but are booked on a flight after August 1st, 2025, your allowances will continue until your arrival in Bahrain, as long as you do not reschedule your booked flight.

Q. What if an emergency arises and I have to reschedule my flight with SATO?

A. In that case, your allowances will stop on the date of your original booked flight, or when you return to Bahrain, whichever is sooner.

Q. Can a family procure their own commercial tickets to return to Bahrain without going through NAVPTO?

A. Families are NOT encouraged to procure their own commercial tickets. Travel must be approved in advance and coordinated by military travel agencies. Ticketing will be coordinated through Navy Passenger Transportation Office (NAVPTO) Bahrain.

Reimbursement for personally procured tickets is NOT guaranteed.

Q. When do we file reimbursement for per diem?

A. Travel claim should be submitted by your sponsor every 30 days or upon completion of travel through their respective Command Pay and Personnel Administrators (CPPAs). Provide your sponsor with your lodging receipts and required documents (For example: a copy of your orders, itinerary, receipts from all transportation expenses, credit card statement showing a foreign currency conversion, etc.).

Q. If pregnant, can I travel?

A. Yes, if approved by appropriate medical personnel. Coordinate with your sponsor and primary care manager.

Q. What is the reference for all this?

A. The Joint Travel Regulations Chapter 6, which can be found here: <https://media.defense.gov/2022/Jan/04/2002917147/-1/-1/0/JTR.PDF> (click Chapter 6 link at top of document)

TRAVELLING WITH PETS

Q. Can I return to Bahrain with my Pet?

A. NAVCENT is working on a military option for dependents with pets. If a military option is not provided, dependents (via their sponsor) can organize pet shipment through a private company and file for reimbursement. Shippers will need to adhere to the rules for importing and exporting the pet to and from Bahrain. Failure to do so may result in denial of your pet's entry to Bahrain. If a military option is provided, dependents (via their sponsor) can still organize private shipment of their pet; however, they will not be reimbursed.

Q: What is a “military option” if I am returning with my pet.

A: The military option being assessed is a military airlift (MILAIR) flight from Norfolk to Bahrain to transport returning pets and their owners. If this option comes to fruition, dependents with pets who wish to utilize this option will be directed to travel to the MILAIR departure location (likely Norfolk VA) with their pet for follow on travel to Bahrain.

Q. What if I got a new pet while on Authorized Departure?

A. New pets will not be accommodated through government options. You will not be reimbursed for shipment costs of any pets acquired during your safe haven stay.

Q. How else can I return with my Pet to Bahrain?

A. If a government option is not provided, or if a government option is provided but you chose not to take it, then you have the option to utilize commercial airlines, or a private pet shipment moving service.

Q. Can I choose to move my pet via private means (e.g. a pet relocation service, or chartering a private plane with other pet owners, etc.)?

A. Yes, and you may be reimbursed ~~up to \$4,000 total~~ for pet return expenses if a military option is not provided; however, your allowances will not extend past July 31st, 2025.

Q. What are the commercial airline or rotator options for pet(s) travel to Bahrain?

A. Due to temperature restrictions and animal safety, commercial airlines will not accept pets in the cargo or in-cabin in August. Commercial airlines often resume animal transport around the October-November timeframe. This will vary across different commercial airlines. The rotator has different requirements, but also maintains a limit of 10 pets (regardless of type or location on the plane) per flight.

Q. What documents are required for a pet traveling on a commercial flight to Bahrain?

A. For a pet to travel on a commercial flight to Bahrain, the following documents are required:

An International Health Certificate endorsed by the U.S. Federal Department of Agriculture, Vaccination Records, Exportation Certificate, and FAVN/Rabies Titer Test.

Q. Is there a waiver of required documentation for pets returning to Bahrain in August?

A. Currently, there is no waiver in place for pets returning in August, and all above documentation is required to import your pet back to Bahrain. If a military option is provided in August, and a waiver is obtained, missing vaccinations and FAVN titer test will still be required after pets return to Bahrain . **Recommend all pet owners ensure their pet is as up to date as much as possible on vaccination requirements and obtaining a FAVN blood draw.**

Q. Where do I provide the above required paperwork for importing a pet to Bahrain?

A. Keep original documents and copies on hand as they can be requested by both the flight crew upon departure and customs upon arrival in Bahrain. If asked by the crew upon departure, provide them with copies, as original documents may be required upon your arrival in Bahrain.

Specific to dependents of CIVILIAN PERSONNEL:

Q. Will dependents of civilians stop receiving safe haven per diem entitlements/lodging allowances?

A. Yes. Allowances for dependents of civilian employees end on the earliest of the following dates: (a) date the evacuee commences travel under an assignment order to another duty station outside of the evacuation area; (b) effective date of transfer when the employee is already at the post to which transferred; (c) date of separation; (d) date specified by the head of the agency; (e) date specified by the Secretary of State; (f) 180 days after the evacuation order is issued; or (g) date the evacuee commences return travel. See DSSR 600, Par. 635. If justified, an appropriate grace period of up to 10 days may be granted for the continued entitlement to allowances. Generally, evacuees who request a travel date after the 10-day grace period will be entitled to a return flight purchased by the government, but will not be entitled to receive allowances during the grace period.

Q. How do dependents of civilians return to Bahrain?

A. Civilian sponsors must submit passenger reservation request (PRR) and DD-884 (Application for Transportation of Dependents). For dependents of civilian employees, sponsors are encouraged to submit the PRR no later than July 27, 2025 with an earliest departure date (EDD) of no later than July 31, 2025.

Q. I am a dependent of a civilian - What if I cannot return to Bahrain within the grace period and I need to set a later EDD?

A. Generally, dependents of civilian personnel who request a travel date after the 10-day grace period will be entitled to a return flight purchased by the government, but will not be entitled to receive allowances during the grace period.

Q. I am a dependent of a civilian - What if I set my EDD within the grace period, but the military schedules me for a flight beyond that date?

A. Evacuees who seek to travel within the grace period but are booked on a flight after the grace period ends may have a reasonable justification for an approving official to consider providing allowances throughout the 10-day grace period.

Q. What is the reference for this that applies to dependents of a civilians?

A. The Joint Travel Regulations Chapter 6, which can be found here: <https://media.defense.gov/2022/Jan/04/2002917147/-1/-1/0/JTR.PDF> (click Chapter 6 link at top of document), and the Department of State Standardized Regulations Chapter 600, which can be found here: <https://allowances.state.gov/content.asp> (Click on the current version and scroll to Chapter 600).
