

Ordered Departure (Mandatory) FAQ Sheet

Q: Is an Ordered Departure the same as a Noncombatant Evacuation Operation (NEO)?

A. No, they are different and serve distinct purposes.

An Ordered Departure is a direction by the Department of State to relocate specified personnel (e.g. command-sponsored dependents, certain civilian personnel) from a foreign country.

A Noncombatant Evacuation Operation (NEO) is a broader action ordered by the Department of State for all U.S. citizens to leave a foreign country, typically with Department of War assistance.

Q. What if my Spouse or Dependent is not a U.S. Citizen?

A. A non-U.S. citizen cannot be ordered to leave a foreign country. Whether your Spouse or Dependent will be permitted to enter the U.S. will be dependent upon their individual status.

Q. What if my Spouse or Dependent is not Command Sponsored?

A. In the event your dependent is in Bahrain but not command sponsored, they will be entitled to transportation to a safe haven only.

Q. In the Event the Base is the Target where do we go?

A. In the event of an Ordered Departure, you will be provided with the appropriate muster location.

Q. What will happen to my pets?

A. In the event of an Ordered Departure, your pets may not be departing with you. For pets registered with the NSA Bahrain Base Veterinary Clinic, they are prepared to assist with up to 2 pets per family. If you have pets registered with the NSA Bahrain Base Veterinary Clinic, please contact them for additional information and requirements.

Q. What will happen to my residence, property and vehicle?

A. This depends on whether the sponsor is also departing.

If the Sponsor Stays in Bahrain: The sponsor will continue to live in your residence. Should the situation change and convert to a Permanent Change of Station (PCS), the sponsor will make the necessary arrangements with the Housing Office to secure a new residence based on their updated entitlements.

If Everyone Departs: Your property and vehicle will be secured for up to 180 days. If the order is not rescinded after 180 days, it will convert to a PCS. The Personal Property and Housing offices will then arrange to pack and ship your household goods and vehicle to your designated location.

It is highly recommended that you take small valuables (jewelry, important documents, etc.) with you in your luggage, and document (via photo/video) your household goods and vehicle prior to departing.

Q. What is a NEO packet, and am I required to complete one?

A. Your sponsor is required to complete a NEO packet and provide a copy to their command's NEO point of contact prior to signing a lease. **A NEO packet is required for all command-sponsored personnel upon arrival to Bahrain.** In the event of a NEO, this information will be used by the Command to plan and execute a departure of your dependents.

Q. Will DODEA allow my kids to still attend school virtually?

A. At this time we don't know which actions DoDEA will take in the event of an Ordered Departure. The facts of the situation will change what is available, and information will be passed as soon as it is known.

Q. If I am unable to access the installation during an Ordered Departure, how will I receive assistance with medical, DODEA, HRO, NMCRS, etc?

A. In the event of an Ordered Departure, the primary goal is to ensure your dependents are evacuated quickly and safely. Once they reach their safe haven or CONUS, you will be provided additional information to assist you with obtaining medical and school records, as well as answering questions regarding process and benefits.