



Travel for Non-Covered Reproductive Health Care Services

Overview

On October 20, 2022, the Secretary of Defense released a memorandum, “Ensuring Access to Reproductive Health Care,” directing the Department to take a series of actions to ensure Service members and their families can access reproductive health care.

Secretary Austin has made it clear that the health and well-being of our Service members and their families is a top priority. Under this addition to the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR), Service members and eligible dependents may be authorized travel and transportation allowances to access non-covered reproductive health care.

This regulation...

- Ensures Service members and eligible dependents are eligible for travel and transportation allowances to access non-covered reproductive health care services when timely access to non-covered reproductive health care services is not available within the local area of the member’s permanent duty station, temporary duty location, or the last location the dependent was transported on authorized government orders.

Regulation Summary

- A Service member, or an eligible dependent, may be authorized travel and transportation allowances to access non-covered reproductive health care services when timely access to non-covered reproductive health care services is not available within the local area.
- The Service member or an eligible dependent must certify in writing the location of the closest available, capable medical facility for the non-covered reproductive health care services.
- Non-covered reproductive health care includes non-covered abortion and Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART), which includes, but is not limited to, egg retrieval, IUI, and IVF.
- Non-covered reproductive health care is at the patient’s expense.
- Commanders will protect the privacy of protected health information they receive, and information shall be restricted to personnel with a specific need to know.

REGULATION NOTES

If approved, the Service member is authorized the standard travel and transportation allowances.

The JTR provides additional information regarding eligible dependents.

If a Service member or an eligible dependent is incapable of traveling alone, standard travel and transportation allowances may be authorized for necessary escorts.