

Privately Owned Vehicles (POV)

Frequently Asked Questions

Entitlements for shipping/storing POV's can and do change frequently! Please call TMO if you have a particular question!

1. I am PCS'ing/Retiring/Separating stateside. Will the government ship my POV?

Short answer: "No"...but...there are occasions when the government will ship a POV stateside. You must fall under one of these in order to ship a POV stateside. If you do not fall under these, then unfortunately, the government is not going to pay for the vehicle to be shipped.

1. Death of the Service Member (Automatic, nothing has to be placed on the order)
2. The Service Member (not dependent) has been determined by a competent medical authority that the Service Member cannot drive. This authorization must be placed on the orders. The responsible Personnel Office will work with you on the requirements needed to place this statement in the orders.
3. The Service Member does not have enough time to drive. Same as #2, if it is listed in the orders, TMO will set the pickup. Work with your Personnel Office.
4. Civilian PCS Moves: If the authorization is in the orders, we will process. This is not an automatic entitlement, this must be worked through Civilian Personnel and was part of your negotiation process.

2. What is the Authorized POV Port? If I don't want to use the Authorized Port, can I use an alternate port?

The Authorized POV Port for individuals in the Phoenix Metro Region officially is San Diego. Because there is only a 22 mile difference to the Los Angeles Port, you are also authorized to use Los Angeles with no penalty. In addition, the Authorized Port can also be a port "in the direction of". This means that if you are going to Germany, you can use Baltimore, since it is "in the direction of". Same scenario, if you are going to Korea, but want to use Baltimore, see next:

Yes, you can use an Alternate Port, however, the cost comparison will be from San Diego.

Note: Per the POV Contract, you will pay the contractor direct for the difference in costs from the Authorized Port vs the Desired Port.

3. I am shipping a POV to my next duty location from San Diego. I want to ship it early so it is waiting for me. How long am I authorized storage of my POV? Will TMO fly me back from San Diego to Phoenix?

You are authorized 60 days of storage. The storage starts from the date it has arrived at the new location, and you were notified that the POV has arrived.

TMO cannot make any reservations for you to fly back to the duty station. You will drive the POV to San Diego, and how you return to Phoenix is your decision. You can fly, rent a car, have someone follow you, take a bus, it is your decision. Once you return, go directly to Finance (for Non-Air Force, your paying office) and Finance will give you a flat fee. Contact your Finance office for the amount. No receipt needed, it is a flat fee.

4. How many POV's can I ship? If I have additional POV's, can I pay out of pocket to ship? Will the government pay for storage of my additional POV's?

Each Service Member/Civilian Employee are entitled to ship 1 (one) POV to their next location. *Read that again, please!* One POV for each Service Member/Employee. No other POV will be shipped at government expense.

Civilian PCS: The authority to ship a POV must be in the orders. It is not automatic, this needs to be negotiated between you and Civilian Personnel.

Of course, you are free to do whatever you want with any additional POV's, but remember that all Customs and Importation Fees are your responsibility for non-government paid shipments.

Unfortunately, no, the government only recognized one POV per Service Member or Civilian Employee, so any additional POV's are all at your expense, to include storage.

5. Per TMO, I am authorized storage of my POV. I want to store my POV at mom's house. If I pay her \$100 a month for storage, can I claim for reimbursement?

You do not have to use the government's authorized contractor, you can "self-store", keep the receipts, and claim storage. (You will need a letter from TMO authorizing storage).

However.....the storage must be at a commercial storage facility. In the scenario, "no" you cannot claim mom's garage as a storage location.

6. Who determines if I can ship my POV? If I am not authorized to ship my POV, will the government pay for storage? If I don't want to ship my POV, will the government pay for storage?

Wow! A loaded question!

Let's break this down:

Who determines if I can ship my POV?

The US Government and the country you are going to have made agreements as to who can/cannot ship POV's to the country, and if there are any restrictions as to type/age of vehicle/rank of member, etc. of who is authorized to ship a POV. TMO has a full listing of which countries allow POV shipment and any restrictions. Call TMO to see if you are authorized to ship a POV.

If I am not authorized to ship my POV, will the government pay for storage?

If it is determined that you cannot ship a POV to a particular location, then "Yes" the government will pay for storage of the POV.

EXCEPTION: Civilians are not authorized storage! If the country does not authorize shipment, then the Civilian Employee must make their own arrangements for storage. No government funds are authorized for storing the POV.

NOTE: *If you are not authorized to ship the POV, and Storage is authorized, TMO is required to give you a letter stating this fact. The orders are not enough! If orders authorize storage/shipment that contradicts the country requirements, TMO will provide you the correct documents to take to your Personnel Office so that the orders can be amended!*

If I don't want to ship my POV, will the government pay for storage?

With only the exception noted below, if you are authorized to ship a POV, but elect to not take one, then "No", the government will not pay for storage.

Exception: Mainland Japan – If the POV is **newer than 1976**, you have the option of shipping the POV (all mandatory modifications are at your expense) **OR** storing the POV. You must receive pre-approval prior to shipping the POV to Mainland Japan, TMO will provide you with the requirements to ship the POV. If you elect storage, TMO will provide you with the letter approving storage.