



Civilian PCS Processing



What employees need to know

Third Party payments are payments made to vendors for taxable moving expenses and counted as income to the traveler

- HHG Shipment
- Temporary Storage of HHG
- Shipment of Mobile Homes
- CONUS non-temp storage

In September, DFAS began processing Third Party payments made to vendors during 2018 and 2019.

Key Information

- Communication Outreach
 - Sept: myPay SmartDoc email notification advising that DFAS will begin processing Third Party payments and remit taxes owed to IRS on traveler's behalf
 - Sept - Dec: Advice of Payment (AOP)
 - Traveler will receive electronic myPay notification once DFAS processes claim
 - This is information only and not an official debt notice
 - Oct - Dec: myPay SmartDoc email notification advising traveler their claim was processed and advanced notice that the traveler debt letter will be mailed
 - January 2020: Relocation Income Tax Allowance (RITA) SmartDoc email notifications
 - January 2020: RITA eligibility expansion SmartDoc email notification per change in legislation in FY20 NDAA
 - Jan - Feb 2020: Official debt letters mailed
- Third Party payment tax year runs 1 November – 31 October; per IRS Publication 15-B: Payments made to a vendor in November & December will be reported as income to the traveler in the following tax year.

Timeline of Events

2018 PCS Invoices*

- W-2C's mailed in Nov 2019 for payments made to vendors January – October 2018*
- Debt letter for tax withholding sent Jan 2020
- Traveler debt to DFAS is for taxes paid to IRS on traveler's behalf: Social Security (6.2%) and Medicare (1.45%) taxes
- Federal income taxes the traveler owes will be settled with the IRS on amended return
- If eligible, supplemental RITA can be filed for tax reimbursement after 2018 amended tax return has been submitted to IRS

2019 PCS Invoices*

- W-2s issued Jan 2020
- Nov/Dec 2018 Third Party payments included*
- Debt letter for tax withholding sent Feb 2020
- Traveler debt to DFAS is for taxes paid to IRS on traveler's behalf: Social Security (6.2%), Medicare (1.45%) & Federal income tax (22%)
- If eligible, RITA claim can be filed for tax reimbursement after 2019 tax return has been submitted to IRS

IRS Interest and Penalties (2018 W-2c's ONLY)

IRS provided guidance for DoD employees who received a 2018 W-2C. The guidance includes procedures for seeking relief from tax penalties. Direct communication was sent to the 2018 traveler with this information. Information and factual narrative included on www.dfas.mil/taxlawchange.

*Payments made to vendors from Nov 1st – Dec 31st will be treated as paid in the next tax year and reflected on that year's W-2. (IRS Publication 15-B, p. 30, 2019)

Questions / Resources

Civ PCS Info Pages:
<https://www.dfas.mil/taxlawchange>

Send an email to:
 DFAS-CIVREL-Questiononly@mail.mil

Call the Civilian Relocation Care Center at:
 1-888-332-7366 Option 1, then Option 1

Civilian Relocation Questions:
<https://www.dfas.mil/AskDFAS.html>