

Personnel Employee Bulletin

February 4, 2009

Excused Absence for Employees Returning from Active Military Duty

On November 14, 2003, President George W. Bush directed the heads of executive departments and agencies to grant Federal employees who are returning from active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) 5 days of excused absence from their civilian duties.

On August 6, 2008, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued CPM-2008-12, "Update on Excused Absence for Employees Returning from Active Military Duty," that permitted a broader interpretation of the President's memorandum to authorize agencies to grant an additional 5 days of excused absence each time a Federal employee returned from active military duty related to GWOT.

In response to questions received on CPM-2008-12, OPM consulted with the Department of Defense (DOD), and has revised OPM's "Questions and Answers on Excused Absence for Employees Returning from Active Military Duty" to update and better reflect the authorized practices for the activation of Federal employees.

Bottom line - OPM has amended the rules to clarify that a minimum of 42 days must be spent on active duty before the 5 days can be granted, and employees may be granted 5 days only once in a 12-month period.

To access all the information pertaining to this issue, go to <http://www.chcoc.gov/Transmittals/TransmittalDetails.aspx?TransmittalID=1837>.

For additional information, please contact your servicing DLA Human Resources Center, <http://www.hr.dla.mil/cntctus.htm>. The Personnel Employee Bulletin will be published on the first Wednesday of each month.