

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 14 August 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240012356

APPLICANT REQUESTS: reinstatement of her transportation entitlement for shipment of household goods (HHG).

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENT(S) CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:  
DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record), 17 July 2024

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b); however, the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) conducted a substantive review of this case and determined it is in the interest of justice to excuse the applicant's failure to timely file.
2. The applicant states she requested to reinstate her final HHG benefit after retiring on 25 January 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to limited in-person interaction, she was unaware of any annual extension requirements and believed she had five years to use the benefit. Upon contacting the Schofield Barracks transportation office, she was told her HHG benefit expired 25 months prior and that she must file an appeal.
3. Following prior enlisted service in the United States Army Reserve, she enlisted in the Regular Army on 19 September 2007.
4. The DA Form 199 (Informal Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) Proceedings) shows a PEB convened at Joint Base San Antonio, TX, on 8 October 2021 to determine her medical fitness for continued service in the Army. The PEB determined she was physically unfit and recommended a disability rating of 60 percent and her placement on the Permanent Disability Retirement List.
5. U.S. Army Garrison – Hawaii, Orders 301-0006, 28 October 2021, retired her effective 25 January 2022. Special instructions, found on page 2 of these orders, authorized the applicant shipment of HHG and privately own vehicle. These orders further that she was authorized up to one year from the effective date of retirement to complete travel, ship HHG, and privately owned vehicle.

6. Her DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) shows she was discharged in the rank/grade of sergeant first class/E-7 on 25 January 2022 under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, by reason of permanent disability. She completed 14 years, 4 months, and 7 days of net active.

7. The Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, Chief, Transportation Policy Division, provided an advisory opinion on 30 May 2025. This official stated:

a. A service member (SM) and dependent must begin travel to a home of selection within three years of the SM's termination from active duty unless additional time is authorized or approved through the Secretarial Process. A SM is eligible for the 3-year time limitation if the active-duty termination effective date is on or after 24 June 2022. The 3-year time limitation does not apply retroactively to a travel authorized for a SM or dependent with an effective active-duty termination date before 24 June 2022. The applicant's entitlement is prior to the on or after 24 June 2022 entitlement authorization.

b. This office does not perceive there is justification that would warrant reinstatement of the applicant's Travel and Transportation Entitlement. Statements provided by the applicant are deemed insufficient, including the lack of supporting evidence, such as a hardship or a medical condition that may have caused the delay of HHG shipment. The applicant statement on the DD Form 149, 17 July 2024, shows a retirement date of 25 January 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions were a factor in the inaction of the applicant in requesting an extension. However, the applicant orders 301-006 dated 28 October 2021 has effective date of retirement of 25 January 2022.

8. The applicant was provided a copy of the advisory opinion. She did not provide a response.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the majority of the Board found that relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. One potential outcome discussed was to deny relief based upon the facts outlined in the G4 advisory opinion that was change rebutted by the applicant. However, after reviewing the applicant's petition, available military records and the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, Chief, Transportation Policy Division, the Board, the Board did not concur with the G4 advisory opinion. The majority of the Board noted that the rules changed soon after she was retired,

that COVID 19 was a factor in applying for an exception to policy for an extension and they noted that she is authorizes a household goods move based upon her years of years. Therefore, the Board granted relief based upon an injustice present impacting timely submission of the applicant's extension request..

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

■	■	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	■	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant partial relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by showing she made timely submissions to extend her transportation benefits through January 2027.

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CHAIRPERSON  
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I certify that herein is recorded the true and complete record of the proceedings of the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in this case.

REFERENCES:

1. Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b), provides that applications for correction of military records must be filed within 3 years after discovery of the alleged error or injustice. This provision of law also allows the ABCMR to excuse an applicant's failure to timely file within the 3-year statute of limitations if the ABCMR determines it would be in the interest of justice to do so.

2. The Joint Travel Regulation paragraph 051003 (Service Member on Active Duty who Retires, is Placed on the TDRL, is Discharged with Severance or Separation Pay, or is Involuntarily Released with Readjustment or Separation Pay and Associated Dependent Travel ) states a SM and his or her dependent are authorized permanent change of station travel and transportation allowances when the SM is on active duty and is issued orders for retirement for a physical disability or placed on the Temporary Disabled Retired List, regardless of the length of service.

a. A SM and dependent must begin travel to an HOS within three years of the SM's termination from active duty unless additional time is authorized or approved through the Secretarial Process. A SM is eligible for the 3-year time limitation if the active-duty termination effective date is on or after June 24, 2022. The 3-year time limitation does not apply retroactively to a travel authorized for a Service member or dependent with an effective active-duty termination date before June 24, 2022.

b. The Joint Travel Regulation further provides that travel and transportation allowance extensions for members separating from the service may be authorized and approved for a specific additional time period using the Secretarial Process. It requires a written time limit extension that includes an explanation of the circumstances justifying the extension. It may be authorized and approved only when circumstances prevent use within the prescribed time; and must be for the shortest time appropriate under the circumstances. It may not be granted merely to accommodate personal preferences or convenience.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//