

Housing Allowance Revised For Jr. Dual-Military Couples

The Navy announced good news this week for junior Sailors married to other junior Sailors: if you are both on sea duty, you can now each receive basic allowance for housing (BAH).

"This benefit clarifies the BAH entitlement policy and is designed to reduce the financial burden on our junior Sailors," said Cmdr. Katharine Reed, head of the pay and allowances section of Navy's Military Compensation Policy Coordination Branch in Washington. "It also better achieves parity between our junior and senior enlisted afloat dual military families."

Before this change was instituted, dual military couples were only entitled to one joint housing allowance.

To receive the benefit, eligible Sailors must meet all of the following criteria:

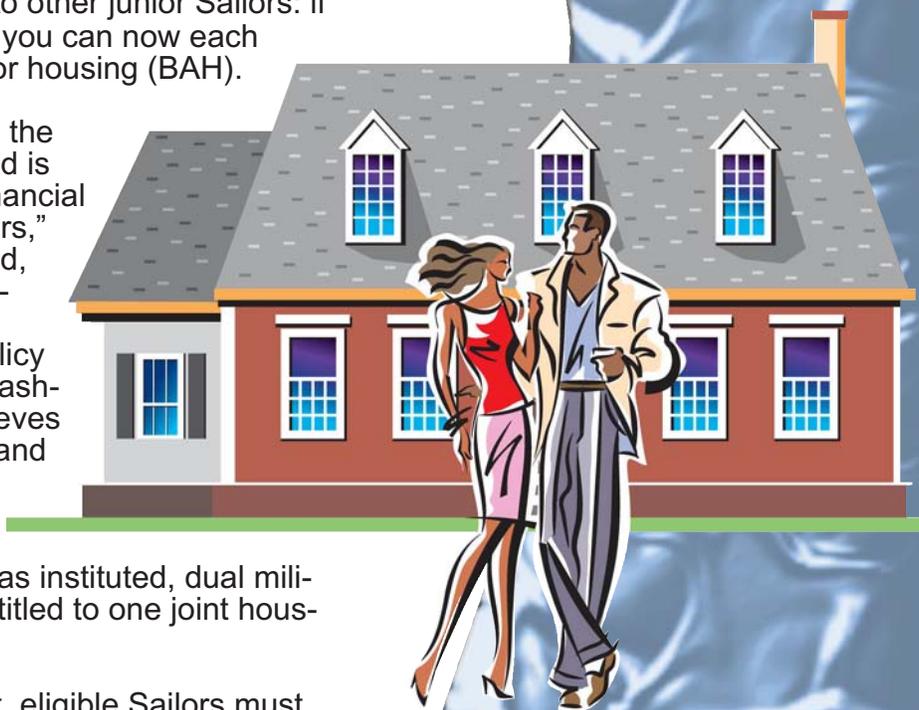
- Both are E-5 and below
- Both assigned to sea duty
- Have no other dependents
- Share the same household
- Have declined government quarters

The entitlement authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act is effective Oct. 1, 2003. The Navy has programmed for the estimated \$9.3 million fiscal year 2004 cost.

This policy change will benefit approximately 1,200 Navy couples.

More information on this policy change is available in NAVADMIN 059/04, which can be found on the Web at www.bupers.navy.mil.

For more news from around the fleet, visit the Navy NewsStand at www.news.navy.mil.



 Naval Media Center,
Bldg. 168, 2713 Mitscher
Rd., SW, Anacostia
Annex, DC 20373-5819

email: pubs@mediacen.navy.mil
DSN: (288) or (202) 433-0575


WWW.NEWS.NAVY.MIL