



Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

Continuation on Location (COL)

References: MCO 1754.4B, MARADMIN 348/09, MARADMIN 029/14

Continuation of Location (COL) is designed to support the Marine's Career and Obligation, while at the same time, support the needs of the exceptional family member (EFM). Some families face challenges in maintaining continuity of care for their exceptional family member (EFM). It may be necessary for a Marine to leave their family at their current duty station due to their EFM's severe medical condition and/or significant educational need. COL does not authorize the Sponsor to remain in the same location. COL applies to the family and does not require a Marine to remain in a geographic location.

Marine sponsors should apply via administrative action (AA) form via his/her Chain of Command **as soon as Orders are received, but prior to PCS execution**, allowing more time to make an informed decision on the family location.

Marines who have already executed PCS Orders will not normally be considered eligible for COL. If you PCS and the request is subsequently disapproved, the Marine and his/her family may be in a financial position of having to maintain two households.

Checklist for Requesting a Continuation on Location (COL):

- ✓ AA (Administrative Action) form requesting COL. Outline the reason(s) why your family needs to remain in location. You can reference the diagnosis in the medical and/or educational documentation.
- ✓ Provide copies of supporting evidence from health and/or educational providers to support your request.
- ✓ Submit your packet to your CoC for Command endorsement. Endorsement is also required from MMEA/MMOA (whichever applies).

EFMP HQ's role is to consider the EFM's medical and educational requirements along with the availability of, and proximity to, medical and educational resources at the Marine sponsor's present and gaining duty station.

All packages recommended for COL require DC M&RA review and approval, as well as, a panel review. Panel members shall include EFMP, MMOA, MMEA, MP (FSA), Medical Screeners, and if necessary legal.

Manpower Liaison will notify MMIA of approval/disapproval.

- ✓ If approved, Marine Sponsor must submit AA form through MMIA for entitlements.

Basic allowance for housing (BAH) is calculated at the location of the last fully funded PCS orders, not the new location of the sponsor or an alternative location selected by the sponsor or family members. The Marine Corps uses COL only in the best interest of the family. It is not a request for a BAH waiver, but an endorsement for families when required for the family member's continuum of care.

Please contact the EFMP office if you have further questions.

**EFMP Office is located in Building 636, Child Development Center
DSN: 253-5601 Off Base/cell 0827-79-5601
E-mail: ombiwaefmp@usmc-mccs.org Web: mccsiwakuni.com**