

Traveler in Hotel When Flat-Rate Per Diem Transitions to Lodging Plus Per Diem (JTR, par. 020311)

Note: Rates and dates used in this example may not be current and are for illustrative purposes only.

Scenario 1: The traveler is on a TDY for 122 days from Alexandria, Virginia to Kansas City, KS. The TDY is from June 1 through September 30. The locality per diem rate for Kansas City is \$121 for lodging, \$59 for meals and \$5 for incidental expenses, for a total daily locality rate of \$185. The TDY is between 31 and 180 days at one location, so the flat rate per diem method is used. The flat-rate per diem is computed at 75 percent of the locality per diem rate (\$185), for a daily flat rate per diem amount of \$138.75. The traveler rents an efficiency hotel room for lodging at a cost of \$70 per day. No lodging receipts are required for *flat-rate per diem*.

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2019 eliminates the flat-rate per diem. The President signed the law on August 13, eliminating the flat-rate per diem method effective August 13. Beginning August 13, the traveler's per diem transitions to the lodging plus computation method. The lodging plus method reimburses the actual cost of lodging up to the locality lodging rate plus an amount equal to the locality meal and incidental expenses (M&IE) rate. Receipts are required for all lodging under the *lodging plus* computation method.

The computation for the month of August is as follows:

Date	Per Diem Rate	Lodging Cost	M&IE	Per Diem Calculation	Total Per Diem
Flat-Rate Per Diem					
August 1-12	Flat-Rate Per Diem \$185 x .75 = \$138.75	\$121 x .75 = \$90.75 per day	\$64 x .75 = \$48 per day	(\$90.75 + \$48 = \$138.75) x 12 days	\$1,665
Transition Day from Flat-Rate Per Diem to Lodging Plus Per Diem					
August 13	Lodging Plus Per Diem of \$185	\$70 per day (actual cost of lodging incurred)	\$64 per day	(\$70 + \$64 = \$134) x 1 day	\$134
Lodging Plus Per Diem					
August 14-31	Lodging Plus Per Diem of \$185 maximum per day	\$70 per day (actual cost of lodging incurred)	\$64 per day	(\$70 + \$64 = \$134) x 18 days	\$2,412
Total Per Diem					
August 1-31					\$4,211