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# Department of Army Relocation Services for Employees (DARSE)

The DARSE program is an alternative to reimbursing you for real estate sale expenses when you move to a new location. In this program, a relocation service company—under contract to the Army—buys your primary residence.

- The offer to buy your home is based on the current market value determined by independent appraisers that you select.
- The contractor orders two appraisals.
  - If the appraised values are within 5 percent of each other, they are averaged and the contractor makes an offer.
  - If the appraised values are not within 5 percent of each other, the contractor orders a third appraisal. The two closest values are then averaged.
- Other inspections required by the contractor, appraisers, and state/local laws are also performed including such things as septic tank, well, and radon.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

You are eligible if you fall into one of these four categories:

- Senior executive service.
- Mandatory mobility agreement.
- Management directed move—RIF, base closure, transfer of function.

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*Note: You must have official notification before you are eligible.*

- The local commander determines that relocation services may be offered and that funds are available.

You must meet all the following requirements.

- You must be a current government employee.
- The relocation must be primarily in the interest of the government and not for your personal benefit.
- You must have signed a service agreement.
- You received a PCS (permanent change of station) travel order before you incurred moving expenses.

*Note: The program lasts for two years from your report date. A one-year extension may be granted.*

## **REGISTRATION**

Your human resources office has a relocation services request form and will help you fill it out. It then goes to the finance and accounting office that will complete the paper work and obligate the funds. You will need the completed paperwork, the request form, and your travel order.

## **DISCUSSION**

DARSE is sometimes confused with the Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP). Some of the key differences between the two programs are—



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- HAP is a government program for civilians and the military. Only Army civilians are eligible for DARSE.

- Benefits from HAP are triggered only by a significant decline in the local housing market directly caused by a Department of Defense action such as closure or realignment of an installation. We don't expect this to happen as a result of the Corps reorganization. Anyone who meets the requirements on page 14 (for example, anyone forced to move because of reorganization or RIF) is eligible for DARSE.

The DARSE program also offers **destination services** at no cost to you or the Department of the Army. You don't need official authorization to use destination services that include—

- Home finding for buyers.
- Home finding for renters.
- Mortgage counseling.

For help, call PHH Homeequity. Their toll free number is—

**1-800-243-1033**

The National Relocation Program Office has published an *Employee Relocation Handbook*, which is available from your human resources office.

For further information, you may call the National Relocation Program Office—

**(410) 962-3166**  
**DSN 283-3311, extension 3166**