Fair Market Rent Baseline Rate for Lump Sum Relocation

USDA employees who relocate using the lump sum methodology are eligible to receive an allowance if they incur a lease-break fee due to relocation. The allowable payment equals 80 percent of two times the average monthly rent for a comparable unit in the employee's city of residence. Employees must submit documentation confirming that a lease-break cost was actually incurred to receive this payment.

To determine an employee's lease-break reimbursement, identify the number of bedrooms in the employee's current unit and use the corresponding Fair Market Rent (FMR) for the employee's current residence. The lease-break amount is calculated as 80 percent × (2 × FMR) for the comparable unit size.

Please use the link here to look up the FMR. Select the State, and then the county, and then the zip code of the employee's current residence. If data is not available for the zip code, then use the county level data.

For additional information on the fair market rent rate, please contact the OCFO Fiscal Policy Division at SM.OCFO.FPDOCFO@USDA.GOV.