Household Goods Storage In Transit Baseline Rate for Lump Sum Relocation

All USDA relocations that are using the lump sum methodology and qualify to receive a Household Goods (HHG) Storage In Transit (SIT) allowance will use a baseline rate of $4,603.23. To qualify for the HHG SIT allowance, an employee must be eligible for Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense (TQSE). Employees relocating using the lump sum methodology shall receive TQSE and HHG SIT if the rental vacancy rate at the new duty location state is less than five percent, as stated in the lump sum policy memorandum. Both entitlements are based on pre-move estimates, assuming a 60-day period for both HHG SIT and TQSE. It will be calculated using:

- The **USDA 3-year average HHG SIT cost** (this is the baseline).
- A **bedroom-based tier percentage**.

Bedroom Count	Tier	Tier % Applied to Baseline
Studio/1 Bedroom	Tier 1	20%
2 Bedrooms	Tier 2	40%
3 Bedrooms	Tier 3	60%
4 or more Bedrooms	Tier 4	80%

The HHG SIT baseline rate is effective June 8, 2026 and will remain in effect until a new baseline rate is published by the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO). The baseline rate is the 3-year average that USDA reimbursed employees for HHG SIT as part of relocations that occurred in 2023, 2024, and 2025. This rate shall only be used for USDA relocations that are to and from a location within the Continental United States (CONUS-CONUS) and are using the Lump Sum methodology.

Household Goods Storage In Transit 2023-2025		
Based on 60 Days of Storage		
Year	# of Vouchers	Total Cost ($)
2023	19	$ 64,958.47
2024	23	$ 114,152.80
2025	16	$ 87,875.95
Totals	58	$ 266,987.22
3 Year Baseline=$4,603.23		

The actual allowance rate for the relocating employee is based on the number of bedrooms at the old duty station residence. For additional information on the HHG baseline rate, please contact the OCFO Fiscal Policy Division at SM.OCFO.FPDOCFO@USDA.GOV.