

purchase (e.g., maintenance, repairs, cleaning);

(n) Delivery charges or costs associated with newly-acquired items (such as appliances, security systems, locksmith service, or new vehicle) at the new official station for reasons of personal taste or preference and not required because of the relocation;

(o) Costs unrelated to the quarantine, transportation, and handling of pets. Additional costs for lodging for a second room or boarding fees, micro-chipping, veterinary expenses (e.g., inoculations, examinations, medical care and certification fees), routine care and grooming of pets, and purchases of crates and tags for the pets. Expenses for other animals (horses, fish, birds, reptiles, rodents, etc.) are not authorized because of their size, exotic nature, restrictions on shipping, host country restrictions, and special handling difficulties; or

(p) Costs related to obtaining a visa, passport, immigration green card, birth certificate or other acceptable evidence of birth when required for official travel to foreign locations; charges for immunization, inoculations, other disease-preventative medical prophylaxis, including disease testing, that are required for official travel if not obtained through the agency. The expenses in this paragraph may be reimbursable as part of the employee's relocation en route travel miscellaneous expenses as specified in § 301–12.1 of this chapter.

§ 302–16.10 What standard of care must I use in incurring miscellaneous expenses?

You must exercise the same care in incurring expenses that a prudent person would exercise if relocating at personal expense.

Subpart B—Agency Responsibilities

Note to subpart B: Use of pronouns “we,” “you,” and their variants throughout this subpart refers to the agency.

§ 302–16.100 What governing policies must we establish for MEA?

For MEAs, you must establish policies and procedures governing:

(a) Who will determine whether payment for an amount in excess of the lump sum MEA is appropriate; and

(b) How you will pay a MEA in accordance with §§ 302–16.2 and 302–16.3.

§ 302–16.101 How should we administer the authorization and payment of miscellaneous expenses?

You should limit payment of miscellaneous expenses to only those expenses that are necessary.

§ 302–16.102 Are there any restrictions to the types of costs we may cover?

Yes, a MEA cannot be used to reimburse:

(a) Costs or expenses incurred which exceed maximums provided by statute or in this subtitle;

(b) Costs or expenses incurred but which are disallowed elsewhere in this subtitle;

(c) Costs reimbursed under other provisions of law or regulations;

(d) Costs or expenses incurred for reasons of personal taste or preference and not required because of the move;

(e) Losses covered by insurance;

(f) Fines or other penalties imposed upon the employee or members of their immediate family;

(g) Judgments, court costs, and similar expenses growing out of civil actions; or

(h) Any other expenses brought about by circumstances, factors, or actions in which the move to a new official station was not the proximate cause.

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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

48 CFR Parts 701, 702, 704, 705, 706, 715, 719, 725, 731, 742, 750, and 752

RIN 0412–AA88

U.S. Agency for International Development Acquisition Regulation; Administrative Updates

AGENCY: U.S. Agency for International Development.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) seeks public comment on a proposed rule that would revise the Agency for International Development Acquisition Regulation (AIDAR) to maintain consistency with Federal and Agency regulations, remove obsolete material and internal Agency procedures, and make editorial amendments to better clarify the regulation.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than February 22, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments, identified by the title of the action and Regulatory Information Number (RIN) through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov> by following the instructions for submitting comments. Please include your name, company name (if any), and “0412–AA88” on any attachments. If your comment cannot be submitted using <https://www.regulations.gov>, call or

email the point of contact in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lyudmila Bond, Telephone: 202–916–2622 or Email: policymailbox@usaid.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023

The Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023 (12 U.S.C. 553(b)(4)) requires that a notice of proposed rulemaking include the internet address of a summary of not more than 100 words in length of the proposed rule, in plain language, that shall be posted on the internet website under section 206(d) of the E-Government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note). In summary: “USAID seeks public comment on a proposed rule that would revise the AIDAR to maintain consistency with Federal and Agency regulations, remove obsolete material and internal Agency procedures, and make editorial amendments to better clarify the regulation. For detailed information on these revisions, please see a final rule with the same RIN and title.”

The proposal, including the summary provided herein, can be found at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

B. Additional Information

USAID is publishing in the “Rules and Regulations” section of this **Federal Register** a final rule with the same title that identifies administrative and editorial revisions to the AIDAR. USAID is publishing these changes in the direct final rule because the Agency views it as a conforming and administrative amendment and does not anticipate any adverse comments. A detailed discussion of revisions proposed to the AIDAR is set forth in the preamble of the direct final rule.

If no significant adverse comment is received in response to the direct final rule, no further action will be taken related to this proposed rule.

If significant adverse comment(s) are received on the direct final rule, USAID will publish a timely withdrawal in the **Federal Register** informing the public changes to what AIDAR part(s) or subpart(s), as announced in the direct final rule, will not take effect. Any portions of the final rule for which no significant adverse comment is received will become final after the designated period. All public comments received on the direct final rule will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. USAID will not institute

a second comment period. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

C. Instructions

All comments must be in writing and submitted through one of the methods specified in the Addresses section above. All submissions must include the title of the action and RIN for this rulemaking. Please include your name, title, organization, postal address, telephone number, and email address in

the text of the message. Please note, however, that because security screening precautions have slowed the delivery and dependability of surface mail to USAID/Washington, USAID recommends sending all comments to the Federal eRulemaking Portal.

All comments received will be posted without change to the Federal eRulemaking Portal including any personal information provided.

As noted above, in the “Rules and Regulations” section of this **Federal**

Register, USAID is publishing a direct final rule with the same title that announces revisions to the Agency for International Development Acquisition Regulation (AIDAR). For detailed information on these revisions, please see the direct final rule.

Deborah Broderick,

Acting Chief Acquisition Officer.

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