

The *in-loco-parentis* program

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The *in-loco-parentis* program is a huge benefit for U.S. personnel stationed in Germany (*in-loco-parentis* is a legal term meaning "in lieu of the parent"). It alleviates some of the hardship when both parents must deploy overseas (or when one parent must deploy in the case of single parents) in support of peace-keeping efforts in the Balkans or current security operations.

These special authorizations allow the people who care for the children of such parents the use of tax and duty-free privileges that they would normally not have. This applies, for example, when relatives come from the United States to care for children of deployed parents. These privileges include permission to shop in commissaries and exchanges, use of USAREUR-plated vehicles and limited banking facilities.

The German Federal Ministry of Finance specifically authorized the USAREUR Provost Marshal as the CG USAREUR Executive Agent for Customs to grant these customs and tax exemptions to non-SOFA status personnel for the period necessary to care for the children.

PROCEDURES

Requests for *in-loco-parentis* authorizations must be forwarded to:

HQ USAREUR & 7A OPM
ATTN: Host Nation Customs Policy Branch
Unit 29931
APO AE 09086

When doing so, the following information and supporting documentation must be provided:

Information on the soldier or civilian

Full name and rank/grade
SSN
Unit/organization address

APO number
Unit's/organization's telephone number
DEROS date
Quarters' address and telephone number
Deployment location and duration
Deployment orders or deployment verification, in writing, signed by unit commander/rear detachment commander/organization head
Marital status
Number and age(s) of child(ren)

Information on person acting *in-loco-parentis*

Full name
Passport or identification card number and copy of the document referenced
Nationality
Actual date of arrival in Germany and purpose of stay
Place of residence and address
Type of driver's license, to include driver's license number

NOTES

It is recommended that U.S. citizens coming to Germany to perform child care obtain an international driver's license in the United States because an international driver's license obtained in Germany is not valid in Germany. If the person acting *in-loco-parentis* is not a U.S. citizen, a copy of the visa for Germany or residence permit (*Aufenthaltsgenehmigung*) issued by German authorities must be submitted.

More information is available at DSN 381-7354/8141 or Civilian 0621-7307354 or 7308141; Fax DSN 381-7324 or Civilian 0621-7307324.