



SOUTHERN RAILWAY

No.P(R)64/P/FMA

Headquarters Office
Personnel Branch
Chennai - 600 003
Dated: 19/10/2020

PBC No: 171 / 2020

All PHODs / DRMs / CWMs / CEWE / CAO / CPNI/ Dy.CPOs / Sr.DPOs / DPOs / SPOs / WPOs / APOs of HO / Divisions / Workshops / other Units, etc.,

(Aa per mailing ltst 'A')

Sub: Payment of Fixed Medical Allowance to Railway Pensioners / Retirees.

Ref: Railway Board's letter No.PC-V/2019/CC/43/SR/FMA dated 15/09/2020

The matter of pending litigations/representations regarding exercising option for the second time, had been taken up with Railway Board

Further to Board's letter dated 26/03/2015 (PBC No.45/2015), vide reference cited Board have clarified that in terms of RBE No.107/2002 and RBE No.241/2004, "the option to avail the OPD facility or FMA was/is available to those pensioners/family pensioners only who were/are residing beyond 2.5 kms at the time of their retirement. Further, another change in option (only once in life time) to either claim Medical Allowance or to avail the OPD facility at Railway Hospital/Health Units has been allowed to pensioners on the basis of change in residential address. Evidently, the term change in option would relate to those pensioners/family pensioners who have already exercised their previous option and as a logical corollary would be residing beyond 2.5 Kms. of Railway Hospital / Health Units.

As such the Pensioner / Family Pensioner who are beyond 2.5 kms of RH/HU and exercised option already (one time) earlier are eligible to exercise one more option (only once) to avail either OPD or FMA on the grounds of change of residence beyond 2.5 Kms.

Accordingly to have uniformity in cases for claim of FMA, the following procedure may be adopted for grant of FMA on fresh option as per above Board's guidelines:-

1 After receipt of representation on claiming of FMA allowance, it may be ensured that as per Railway Board Letter dt: 15.07.2002, the Pensioner/retirees had already exercised one time option for availing medical facility of OPD at RH/HU or to claim FMA and in cases where they had not earlier opted for FMA, the present option (Only once) is exercised now only on the ground of change of residence beyond 2.5 kilometres of Railway Hospital/Health Unit .

2. Check whether the claimant has submitted along with representation the proof for Change of present Residence with substantive documents, viz., Aadhar Card, Ration Card, Voter Identity Card, Pan Card, Gas Connection endorsement, Bank Pass Book etc., and if not received the same may be called for from the claimant .

3 The competent authority should ensure the genuineness of claims for FMA before issuing sanction memorandum duly ensuring necessary declarations/undertaking incorporating conditions laid down in RBENo.83/2011 & 117 / 2011 and on satisfaction of all other criteria prescribed as per all extant rules. The copy of the memorandum should be endorsed to the associated accounts for issuance of amended PPO authorising the claimant to draw FMA from the date of sanction of the Competent Authority. Necessary endorsement also to be made in RELHS medical card / Umid etc.

4 The RH and HU may be advised of the sanction of FMA, duly endorsing a copy of the sanction memorandum and be requested to make an entry in their records for deleting the name of the pensioner/family pensioner from availing the OPD facilities.


(B.Indumathy)

Senior Personnel Officer / EMS
For Principal Chief Personnel Officer

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