



Date: September 5, 2020

Subject: Guidance for Payment of IBPA Resources Effected by COVID-19

To: WO-FAM, Regional Incident Business Specialist, IBPA Contracting Officers and Incident Management Teams.

This guidance has been developed to provide clarity related to IBPA (Contracted Resources) effected by COVID-19.

- **Question:** Will quarantined contracted resources remain under hire?
- **Answer:** No, operators of contracted resources not fit for duty will be placed into non-pay status pursuant to D.21.8.3 - Exceptions.

- **Question:** Is this time in quarantine at the incident compensable or non-compensable?
- **Answer:** Time in quarantine at the incident is non-compensable pursuant to D.21.8.3 - Exceptions.

- **Question:** Does the Government pay lodging and per diem for contracted resources placed into quarantine while assigned to an incident.
- **Answer:** Yes, if the Government is unable to provide a camping facility or requests the contracted resources stay in a hotel/motel. Remain Overnight Allowance is applicable pursuant to D.21.6 – RON. Furthermore, if there is a buying team in place, the buying team would make arrangement/payment, following S# process outlined in the [Forest Service COVID Testing and Alternative Housing Guidelines for Incident Response](#). If there is no buying team, the contractor would pay for the room(s) receiving a reimbursement (addition) on their OF-286.

- **Question:** Are meals provided to a contracted resource in quarantine compensable or non-compensable?
- **Answer:** The government is required to furnish meals to resources assigned to an incident. If the Government provides meals to the quarantined resource, per diem is not authorized, pursuant to D.21.6 – RON.

Submit additional questions in writing to Nathan and Kim, so guidance document can be updated and shared.

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