

APPENDIX N

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AIRLIFT (OSA) PRIORITIES

A. GENERAL

Each Department of Defense Component must use the following priority and urgency codes when requesting OSA aircraft missions:

B. PRIORITY CODES

1. Priority 1. Emergency. Airlift in direct support of operational forces engaged in combat, contingency, or peacekeeping operations directed by the Secretary of Defense or for emergency lifesaving purposes.
2. Priority 2. Required. “Required use” airlift or airlift requests with compelling operational considerations making commercial transportation unacceptable. Considerations for making commercial transportation unacceptable may include time or delivery constraints, team travel restrictions, or security requirements. The mission cannot be satisfied by any other mode of travel.
3. Priority 3. Cost Effective/Space Available. Official business airlift that is validated to be more cost-effective than commercial air travel when supported by military aircraft or official business travel when consolidated with another request(s) on previously scheduled missions.

C. URGENCY CODES

These codes, which must be used within the framework of the priority codes, relate to the amount of time allowable between identification of the requirement and execution of the flight.

1. Urgency 1 – Combat. Airlift of personnel or materiel in direct support of forces alerted for or engaged in general war or national contingency operations.
2. Urgency 2 – Lifesaving or Operational. Airlift of personnel or materiel in direct support of lifesaving operation or operational forces deployed or preparing for mobilization.
3. Urgency 3 – Humanitarian. Airlift of personnel or materiel in direct support of authorized and urgent humanitarian operations.
4. Urgency 4 – Critical. Airlift of personnel or materiel that, while not fulfilling a higher urgency, would critically impact the outcome of unit requirements if not immediately supported exactly as requested.
5. Urgency 5 – Priority. Airlift of personnel or materiel that, while not fulfilling a higher urgency, would have a serious impact on the outcome of unit requirements if not fulfilled. Changes or consolidation with other requests would not adversely affect unit requirements.
6. Urgency 6 – Routine. Airlift of personnel or materiel scheduled as part of an organization’s daily and/or weekly routine or travel that is qualified on a cost-effective basis but does not meet the requirements of a higher urgency code. Changes or consolidation with other requests would not affect unit requirements.

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