

TO THE POINT



Protecting Our People Protects Our Mission: The Difference Starts With You. Step Up and Step In to Stop Sexual Assault.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

This April marks the 13th annual Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM), which spotlights the work of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program. The Department of Defense (DoD) is continuing the prevention drumbeat with the 2017 SAAPM campaign theme: "Protecting Our People Protects Our Mission: The Difference Starts With You. Step Up and Step In to Stop Sexual Assault." This theme places emphasis on the critical role that everyone plays in preventing sexual assault. SAAPM is an opportunity to highlight our commitment to the SAPR Program and offers a collaboration of innovative ways to establish prevention practices. SAAPM has become a great way of sending the awareness and prevention message as one voice across the Army.

Join us on 12 April from 11:00-5:00 for the annual Walk-Mile in observance of Sexual Assault & Prevention Month. Walk starts and ends at the Thayer Statue area on the Plain.

To learn more about the SHARP program please call the USAG SARC at 845-938-5657.



YOUR ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE STAFF

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Louise Ennesser	Information and Referral
Kathryn Seymour	Relocation Readiness
Vacant	Employment Readiness
Amy Weyhrauch	Financial Readiness/ Army Emergency Relief
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Josephine Toohey	Exceptional Family Member Program
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ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER

622 Swift Road, West Point, NY 10996

845.938.4621/2519

DSN: 688.4621/2519

FAX: 845.938.3019

<http://www.westpointmwr.com/acs/index.html>

Follow us on:



@westpointacs

facebook

West Point Army Community Service

Walk a mile

in observance of Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month (SAAPM)

Take a little time out of your day to support a worthy cause!
"Sexual Assault. Sexual Harassment. Not in Our Army."



April 12, 11am to 5pm

Walk starts and ends at the Thayer Statue area on The Plain.
Look for the Army Community Services tents | Rain Date: April 13.
Open to all members of the West Point community.

Event hosted by:

SHARP (ACS), Corps of Cadets and Keller Army Community Hospital.

(845) 938-5657 | westpoint.armymwr.com



hiropractic



The Exceptional Family Member Program



National Autism Awareness Month



The prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder has risen over the last decade to one in every 68 births in the United States. Diagnosing the disorder can be difficult because doctors review a child's behavior and development to make a diagnosis as opposed to medically testing.

Autism Spectrum Disorder can sometimes be detected as early as 18 months or younger. By the age of 3, a diagnosis by an experienced professional can be considered reliable. Since there is no known cause of Autism Spectrum Disorder, an early diagnosis and access to appropriate services can lead to significant improvements in a child's development. While there are many different types of treatment available, both medical and nonmedical, no single treatment is effective for each child. Therefore, the basis of a care plan should come from the evaluation of a child's strengths and weaknesses.*

An autism diagnosis can come as a surprise, but there are professional resources and families willing to share their experiences that can help you make sense of it all:

Visit the Exceptional Family Member Program office at your local Military and Family Support Center for information about possible local resources available to you and your family.

Prepare for your family financially. The cost of treatment can have a significant impact from medical care to special education. Learn about medical utilization and costs, possible assistance available through TRICARE's Extended Care Health Option and the resources available through TRICARE's Comprehensive Autism Demonstration which covers Applied Behavior Analysis commonly known by its abbreviation, "ABA."

Include everyone. Autism affects the entire family and learning to discuss autism with your child's siblings may make them more open and comfortable with the topic. Find materials to help improve your family's quality of life. Supporting others in their time of need can serve as a great source of comfort. You can volunteer with others to support an autism event or create your own. Show your support and appreciation for National Autism Awareness Month in April by wearing your Autism Awareness Puzzle Ribbon or posting it to social media. No matter the route you take to supporting the autism community, your help can improve the lives of all families impacted by autism.

**Source: CDC.gov*

For additional information and support please contact the Exceptional Family Member Program Manager at 845-938-5655

Child Abuse Prevention Month - April 2017

As part of Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Family Advocacy Program challenges each member of the West Point Community to continue to play an active role in keeping our children safe and healthy. If you suspect or know of a child experiencing abuse or neglect, please call the West Point Military Police Desk at 845-938-3333 AND the New York State Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-342-3720. For general information about child abuse and neglect, please contact the Family Advocacy Program at 845-938-3369.

One of the primary goals of the West Point Family Advocacy Program is to prevent the children of our community from experiencing child abuse and neglect. There are a host of ACS offerings geared towards creating strong, healthy bonds between our families and children.

Did you know that ACS offers you the opportunity to explore parenting through one-on-one classes tailored to the specific needs of your family? Did you know that the Family Advocacy Program also offers one-on-one classes for anger and stress management? To find out more or to schedule a class, please call Family Advocacy at 845-938-3369.

Did you know that ACS offers you the opportunity to connect and develop relationships with other parents within the community while providing your children (ages birth through 4 years old) with a safe unstructured play environment? Join us at Wee Ones Open Play Group each and every Monday from 9:30am until 11:00am at the Youth Center, Building 500. The Family Advocacy Program also offers Wee Read on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 9:00am-10:00am at the ACS Resiliency Center, 2nd floor of Building 626 at Buffalo Soldier Field. Wee Read provides parents the opportunity to introduce their children (ages birth through 4 years old) to reading and language development. We invite you to listen and participate in a book (or two) and fun-filled activities that promote speech development and learning.

**For more information or questions, please contact Family Advocacy
(845) 938-3369**

**Family Advocacy is located in Building 626, 2nd floor in the ACS Resiliency Center.
Office hours 0800-1630, Mondays through Fridays (closed all Federal Holidays).**



Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program
Invites the West Point Community to

Wee Ones Open Play Group

April 3, 10, 17 & 24 / May 1, 8, 15 & 22 / June 5, 12, 19 & 26
9:30-11am.

Youth Center Gymnasium, Building 500

Wee Ones Open Play Group is designed for you to play, learn, and make new friends. Plus, Wee Ones will help your little one develop their social, cognitive, and motor skills.

Wee Read

April 6 & 20 / May 4 & 18 / June 1 & 15
9-10am.

ACS Resiliency Center, Building 626, 2nd Floor

Wee Read provides parents the opportunity to introduce their children to reading and language development. Each session, we invite you to listen to a story and participate in fun-filled activities that promote speech development and learning.



Wee Ones Open Play Group and Wee Read invites children birth through four years of age and their parents. There is no charge for participation. Space is limited for Wee Read and registration is required.

845.938.3369
westpoint.armymwr.com



ANNUAL RECOGNITION FOR VOLUNTEERS SERVING THE WEST POINT COMMUNITY

In support of National Volunteer Week in April, the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, West Point will host the Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony scheduled on Tuesday, April 18th from 1:00 -2:30pm at the United States Military Academy Prep School (USMAPS). All registered installation volunteers are invited to attend this official ceremony to celebrate the annual service of our West Point volunteers. Army Community Service (ACS) reported over 1,500 active volunteers were reported during 2016 which equated to 100,501 hours of service and over \$2.3 million dollars.

Army Volunteers work throughout our Community. They become more active members of the Community and as a result they are able to not only enhance their own skills, reinforce positive work habits and achieve personal fulfillment, but also they act as the eyes and ears of our Community supporting vital programs and services that augment the work of our Military and civilian staff. Volunteers are vital for the Army mission and provide support Soldiers, Families, Retirees and Civilians.

Volunteering in our Community opens up doors to employment. It can help improve your own technical and interpersonal skills. For someone who has been out of the work force for sometime, volunteering can be just the driving force needed to build a resume on the path to return to the workforce. It can also of course place the volunteer in the very place where the job opportunities may arise and build confidence to enable the volunteer to go out into the job market and make applications for full time positions either on or away from West Point. Volunteering can offer a sense of belonging or just simply giving back for a worthy cause.

Almost all of us have benefited from the work of our Volunteers, and this is the perfect opportunity to repay their efforts and give back to our Community.

Contact the West Point Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator (AVCC) for more information on how you can volunteer and upcoming volunteer opportunities at (845) 938-3655



West Point's Annual **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony**

"Army Volunteers: Service for Life"



Tuesday, April 18, 2017
1-2pm followed by reception

Doors open at 12:30pm

**United States Military Academy Prep School
(USMAPS) Auditorium, West Point, NY**

For more information or to RSVP call (845) 938-3655
or email: Jennifer.partridge@usma.edu

westpoint.armymwr.com



Are unpaid debts a military career-killer?

BY HOLLY PETRAEUS

Military personnel who have trouble handling their personal finances can very quickly find their duty status, potential promotions and even military careers in jeopardy. And, over time, the lingering burden of debt can add stress to their personal relationships and damage their credit profile. But does that debt have to be a career-killer?

Servicemembers, veterans and military families have submitted more than 11,000 debt collection complaints to the CFPB since we began accepting them in July 2013 – our fastest-growing category of complaints. Among other things, we've received reports that some debt collectors are threatening servicemembers by claiming that they will report the unpaid debt to their commanding officer, have the servicemember busted in rank or even have their security clearance revoked if they don't pay up.

The threat of losing a clearance is a hot-button item for servicemembers – and some debt collectors have been known to use that threat as leverage to get a servicemember to pay. Do they really have the power to get your clearance revoked?

Practically speaking, debt collectors aren't able to contact your security manager about your debts nor do they have the authority to influence the manager's decisions about your security clearance. However, your failing to pay your debts on time can result in negative information being reported to the credit reporting bureaus. And that negative information on your credit report may cause your security clearance to be pulled when it's up for review.

If you find that your finances have put your security clearance in jeopardy, you should do your best to show that your financial problems resulted from circumstances beyond your control (not a pattern of irresponsible behavior) and that you acted as responsibly as you could under the circumstances. This may include showing that you're currently living within your means, that you're making a good-faith effort to resolve your unpaid debts, and that you're disputing debts that aren't yours.

When a financial problem arises, you should speak with your installation's Personal Financial Manager (PFM) and/or JAG office to get free, expert advice and assistance. Be sure to keep documentation of all your commitments, efforts to resolve delinquencies, and any disputes about debts – it could be helpful to you later.

If you do receive notice that your security clearance eligibility is being denied or revoked, DoD regulations give you the right to a hearing before an Administrative Judge of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals (DOHA). This hearing is your opportunity for a face-to-face meeting with an official, independent of your chain of command, to explain your situation and the steps you've taken to address the issues identified in a written Statement of Reasons (SOR).

According to DoD, DOHA hearings are designed to be user-friendly. If you don't have an attorney, you can represent yourself or bring a non-attorney representative to assist you. DOHA

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hearings allow you to present any statements or documents that are relevant to your situation. In other words, the DOHA hearing is your chance to present your side of the story. It's there to make sure that your voice is heard and that you are being treated fairly.

Be alert to the deadlines in the SOR process, seek expert assistance, ask for the opportunity to appear personally before a DOHA Administrative Judge, and bring whatever documentation and character witnesses you can.

A written transcript of your testimony and the testimony of any witnesses whom you bring to the hearing will be provided to you free of charge. That transcript, along with copies of any documents you submit (such as canceled checks, receipts, bank statements, tax returns, settlement agreements, character recommendations, etc.), and the Administrative Judge's recommendations will become a significant part of the record that is forwarded to the officials deciding your security clearance eligibility.

Check out the [DOHA website](#) for more information on hearings and process.

Managing your debts, expenses, income and other personal finance matters is more than just a tactic to guard your security clearance. It's also a day-to-day exercise that can help lead you and your family to financial security. If you need help planning, hit a bump or need assistance with a problem you can't fix along the way, there are a number of resources available to you.

Like your installation's PFM, the Department of Defense's [Military OneSource](#) offers free financial counseling that can help you better manage your money. If you need a fast and accurate answer to a money question, you can check out [Ask CFPB](#) – we have more than 1,000 answers that you can search. Finally, if you have a problem with debt collection or another consumer financial product or service, you can submit [a complaint](#) to us online or by calling (855) 411-2372. We are here to help.

Please contact the Financial Readiness Program Manager at 845-938-5839 for additional support.

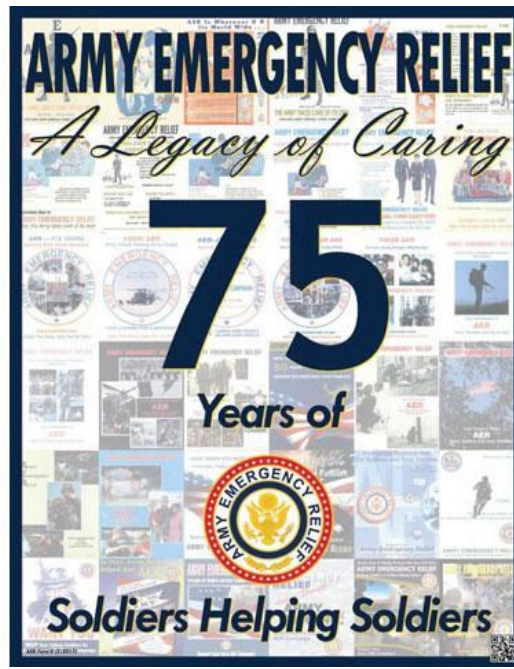
April is National Financial Literacy Month!

Starting in 2004, both Houses of Congress pass resolutions each year declaring April as National Financial Literacy Month. National Financial Literacy Month, sometimes referred to as National Financial Capability Month, is a month-long campaign to raise public awareness about the importance of financial literacy and the need for financial education.

Did You Know?

Of the more than 300,000 employees supported by the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C), 31% of FERS employees and 53% of CSRS employees are contributing LESS than 5% of their salary to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP).

Are you one of these employees that is not getting the full benefit of TSP? You can increase your TSP contributions at any time through the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS), which is accessed from the ABC-C website at <https://www.abc.army.mil>.



For 75 years Army Emergency Relief has been dependably helped the Army “Take Care of its Own” providing more than \$1.7 billion in assistance to over 3.7 million Soldiers and their Families. AER was established on Feb 5, 1942, to collect and hold funds to relieve distress of members of the U.S. Army and their dependents. This guiding principle remains true today and is reflected in their motto of “Soldiers Helping Soldiers.”

AER provides Active Duty and Retired Soldiers and their Families financial assistance through interest free loans and grants. To help ease the unexpected financial emergencies or burdens faced by Army Families, AER developed over 30 categories of assistance, along establishing scholarship programs for dependent children and spouses. West Point Cadets are also provided AER assistance on a limited basis, for the purpose of emergency travel, in regards to visiting a gravely ill immediate family member or a funeral of an immediate family member.

In 2016, AER provided \$54 million dollars in assistance to more than 1,100 Wounded Soldiers and over 36,000 Soldiers and their Families - including almost 7,000 Retired Soldiers and their Families. The AER's Scholarship program was able to award an excess of 4,000 scholarships, worth \$3.9 million dollars.

This level of assistance can only continue through the generous support given by Soldiers and Retirees. For every dollar contributed, 87 cents directly goes to help those that use AER. You can help continue the legacy of Soldiers Helping Soldier's by donating to the 2017 AER campaign from March 1 through May 15th.

Donations can be made on line at www.aerhw.org website, calling your local AER office 845.938.5839 or by stop-ping in at your local AER office bldg. 622 Swift Road, West Point, NY.

Please consider supporting Army Emergency Relief – together we can continue helping the Army

“Take Care of its Own.”

The Exceptional Family Member Program



MilParent Power for Families with Special Needs

Mastering this thing called “parenting” is a monumental task. If you're raising a child with special needs, it can sometimes seem like the mountain is just a bit higher – the task even greater. Remember, the military community is also a parenting community.

Chances are, many people in your unit, at your job and in your chain of command, are parents. And you might be surprised to learn how many of them are members of families with special needs themselves.

Here are a few tips to help you power up your parenting and make the most of the military-parent community:

Ask for help when you need it. If you need a bit of help keeping an eye on your child, help making sure your home is a safe place for them, or even if you just need an hour to yourself – reach out. If you can, link up with friends, family, neighbors, church groups, playgroups and others who can offer support. You can also connect with your installation's Exceptional Family Member Program office, or contact Military OneSource to find formal support groups and resources .

Offer help when you can. If you see a colleague or friend who looks like they need a helping hand, offer yours. A few hours of babysitting, a dinner invitation, or just a genuine compliment can make all the difference in the world to a stressed-out mom or dad.

Spend one-on-one time with your child when you can. One-on-one playtime is one of the best ways to demonstrate to your child that you love them, unconditionally. This kind of affirmation can build a child's self-esteem, reduce stress and solidify your family's resilience.

As a parent and a member of the military, you know the importance of being a good guardian – of your country, your military community and your family. Knowing when to ask for support, and making a few small changes in your daily routine can help keep all our children safe and help keep families resilient

Parenting for Service Members & Veterans is an anonymous, online self-help course designed to help the military community improve their parenting skills. It provides military parents with tools and practical advice to help them reconnect with their families after a separation, strengthen relationships with their children and build upon their existing parenting skills. (<https://www.veterantraining.va.gov/parenting/index.asp>)

SOURCE: Military One Source

Please contact the Exceptional Family Member Program Manager for additional support at 845-938-5655



Exceptional Family Member Program
Presents the American Red Cross

Paws for Kids

westpoint.armymwr.com
845.938.5655/0232

APRIL 11, 25
MAY 2, 9, 16
JUNE 6, 20

ALL SESSIONS
ACS, BLDG 622
3:30-5PM



US FAMILY
HEALTH PLAN



Fort Montgomery Family
hiropractic



Making the Most of your TIME OFF

SPRING is in the air and military families are starting to think about what to do and where to go but if you're new to your duty station location, you might find yourself at a loss for ideas. Finding cool trips and deals around your new duty station is a lot easier than you think.

Where to go or what to do for ideas:

MWR / Installation Leisure Travel and Ticket Office – Your MWR Leisure Travel office is stocked with local pamphlets and ticket options for attractions nearby. Also remember you can receive discounted tickets.

National Parks – Did you know that active duty military families can visit any of our 58 National Parks for free? Just ask for a pass from a park ranger and you're covered for a year. There are so many different parks, with several near military installation. To find one near you check out:

<https://www.nps.gov/findpark/>

Where to go for “military” deals:

Armed Forces Vacation Club (AFVC) - Armed Forces Vacation Club (AFVC) offers all eligible members of the U.S. military vacations at an affordable price. Explore all of our rental options in destinations around the world, including our popular \$349 weeklong Space-A stays. Free membership is one small way we thank you for your service. Check out their website at

<https://www.afvclub.com/>

MWR Exchange Vacations/GOV Vacation Rewards - MWR Exchange Vacations is a travel program specifically designed for active duty and retired military to save on travel. The program provides access to nearly all airlines and hotels, 170,000 resort weeks, all cruise sailings. First time members receive credit when enrolling for free. <https://www.govvacationrewards.com/>

Local Ideas:

Army Community Service (ACS) – Stop by ACS, Bldg. 622 and pick up your FREE ACS West Point Family and MWR Bucket List for Soldiers and Families – it's a great way to start exploring our local sites and the greater Hudson Valley.

Contact Relocation Readiness at 845.938.3487 for more information or “like” us on Facebook at West Point ACS.



ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE
ACS
Real-Life Solutions for Successful Army Living

USAG WEST POINT ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE
PCS WORKSHOP CLASSES



Smooth Moves
April 12, 10-11am

Expect how to prepare and expedite the entire process of moving.



School Transition
May 17, 10-11am

Easily move your student from one school to the next is the secret to making a smooth and easy transition.



Moving with Kids
June 14, 10-11am

Understand the common concerns & fears as children prepare to move from one community to another.



westpoint.armymwr.com
[@WestPointArmyCommunityService](https://www.facebook.com/WestPointArmyCommunityService)

Reserve your space today
845.938.3487





ARMY OBSERVANCES FACT CARD

GOLD STAR SPOUSES' DAY

DATE: April 5, 2017

THEME: On Gold Star Spouses' Day, remember surviving military spouses and honor the legacy of their husbands and wives who died in service to our nation.

LEAD PROGRAM: Army Survivor Outreach Services

FACTS:

- The nation observes Gold Star Spouses' Day on April 5 of each year.
- U.S. Congress recognized the first Gold Star Wives' Day on December 18, 2010.
- In 1945, the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc., a non-profit organization, was established.
- In 1947, U.S. Congress approved the use of the Gold Star Lapel Button. This symbol consists of a gold star on a purple background, bordered in gold and surrounded by gold laurel leaves. It is for eligible survivors of service members who lose their lives during any armed hostilities in which the United States is engaged, dating back to World War I. This includes service members who lost their lives while deployed in support of military operations against the enemy of the United States, an international terrorist attack or a United Nations peacekeeping mission.
- Retroactive to 1973, the Lapel Button for Next of Kin of Deceased Personnel was introduced. This symbol consists of a gold star within a circle that commemorates his or her honorable service. The gold star is also surrounded by sprigs of oak that represent the branches of the Armed Forces. It is designated for eligible survivors of service members who lose their lives while serving honorably under circumstances not defined above. This includes service members who lost their lives while assigned to a Reserve or National Guard unit in a drill status.
- In 2008, Army Survivor Outreach Services was established. SOS is a "One Army" program, jointly administered by Army Community Service, the Army National Guard and Army Reserve, that works hand-in-hand with Casualty and Mortuary Affairs and Casualty Assistance centers across that Army to provide long-term, multi-component support services.
- Since 2011, U.S. Congress deemed April 5 as Gold Star Wives' Day.
- As of 2016, the observance is referred to as Gold Star Spouses' Day.



MESSAGES:

- The nation, the Department of Defense and the U.S. Army recognize Gold Star Spouses' Day as an opportunity to remember and honor fallen Soldiers and their surviving spouses.
- The Department of Defense and the U.S. Army are indebted to Gold Star spouses, influential members of our military communities, for their sacrifices and remains committed to supporting them through programs including Army Survivor Outreach Services — for as long as they desire.
- The U.S. Army wants Gold Star spouses to know that they are important to the Army Family and will never be forgotten. Gold Star spouses remain connected to our Army communities through Army Survivor Outreach Services.
- Gold Star spouses receive Gold Star or Next of Kin lapel buttons — symbols of honor and great emotion — from the Department of Defense in remembrance of their husbands and wives who gave their lives in service to our nation.

RESOURCES:

- Symbols of Honor Worn by Surviving Military Families (www.symbolsofhonor.org)
- Army Survivor Outreach Services (www.sos.army.mil)
- Army.mil: Gold Star Survivors (www.army.mil/goldstar)
- Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (www.armymwr.com)
- Survivor Outreach Services Phone Number: 855-707- 2769

**For additional information and support please contact the
Survivor Outreach Coordinator at 845-938-4621**

GAT 2.0 is for Spouses and DA Civilians, too!

Army Spouses and DA Civilians are encouraged to take the Global Assessment Tool (GAT 2.0), a **confidential online self-assessment tool** that tells you your current level of resilience and how you can improve. After completing the GAT 2.0, you'll receive a personal assessment in each of the five dimensions of strength: social, emotional, spiritual, family and physical, as well as your RealAge®, which, based on the survey answers, gives your biological age compared to your calendar age. The results also show how you are doing with regards to the three elements of the Performance Triad – Sleep, Activity, and Nutrition.

The GAT 2.0 is for you and you alone, and protections are in place to ensure that no one, to include your peers, friends or family members can access this information. As the GAT 2.0 is an annual requirement for Soldiers, Spouses and DA Civilians will have a greater understanding of the resilience training, tools and resources available to them as a family unit by taking the GAT 2.0 and using the wide range of tools and resources available within [ArmyFit™](#), the online platform where the GAT 2.0 is now housed and where follow-on self-development resources are available and tailored to your needs. To get started, visit <https://armyfit.army.mil>, and register for an account by clicking "ArmyFit Login" and then "Sign Up" under "Don't have an account". You'll need your confidential information to authenticate with DEERS. You can also log in using a Common Access Card (CAC).

For additional information or to schedule a class please call ACS at 845-938-2519



GREAT NEWS FOR MILITARY SPOUSES!

One Hundred Fourteenth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday,
the fourth day of January, two thousand and sixteen*

An Act

SEC. 1131. ELIMINATION OF TWO-YEAR ELIGIBILITY LIMITATION FOR NONCOMPETITIVE APPOINTMENT OF SPOUSES OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES. “(3) NO TIME LIMITATION ON APPOINTMENT. – A relocating spouse of a member of the Armed Forces remains eligible for noncompetitive appointment under this section for the duration of the spouse’s relocation to the permanent duty station of the member.”

On December 23, 2016, President Obama signed this 2017 Fiscal Order for Budgets and Actions for the Department of Defense, including a GREAT new improvement for military spouses who want to apply for and land a high quality, relocatable career with the Federal Government!

Now, with the new legislation, a military spouse can apply for positions through Priority Placement Program – Spouses (PPP-S) for Department Of Defense (DOD) positions in the US throughout their PCS order time, instead of just the first two years.

The Program S of the PPP applies only to positions being filled under competitive procedures under merit promotion. So, it applies to only a limited number of positions, including a geographic region within the commuting distance of their spouses’ installation. Other non-DOD positions require that the spouse apply directly to the vacancy announcement and claim their preference through the USAJOBS profile and application process.

TWO YEARS WAS TOO SHORT FOR THE PCS ORDERS! By the time a military family moves to a new installation, and prepares their house and children in schools, one year is gone. By then, the military spouse had only ONE year to meet with the local Human Resource Office (HRO) person and get registered into the PPP-S Registration. And then apply for federal positions; wait for MATCHES; and get HIRED. It was almost impossible to land a federal job in the two-year period. NOW, THIS IS REALLY BIG NEWS. The military spouse is NOT limited to two years at each installation. They can get onto the PPP-S resume registry any time during the Service Members orders for that duty station, even if it is five years after they arrived at this installation!

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WHAT IS THE PRIORITY PLACEMENT PROGRAM – SPOUSE? In order to be placed into the PPP-S program, a spouse must REGISTER with the local HRO. The military spouse meets with the Human Resources Office to have their resume analyzed, scored and added into the PPP Database. The registered spouse is contacted if a match with a DOD position in the local commuting area occurs. The spouse must apply through USAJOBS, to include customizing a resume and uploading the appropriate documents. PPP-S works in collaboration with USAJOBS.

VETERAN'S PREFERENCE WILL NOT APPLY TO THE PPP-S MERIT ANNOUNCEMENTS. Since the PPP-S jobs are Merit / Federal Employee announcements, veterans preference will not apply. The only category of job applicants that will come above the “matched” spouses will be the RIFFED DOD Civilians

MATCH YOUR RESUME TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT. In order to MATCH your resume to a USAJobs Merit position, the resume and application must be BEST QUALIFIED. To be Best Qualified, the questionnaire has to be almost perfect, and the resume has to match the questionnaire. Plus, of course, meet the eligibility requirements for the position.

THE FEDERAL RESUME NEEDS TO BE IN A NARRATIVE STYLE and NOT SHORT! Average length is 5 pages! Get help with your federal resume from your installation's Army Community Service office The employment counselors can help you with a correct federal resume, so that you can receive the highest possible rating for your resume by the HRO.

SUMMARY: Good news for military spouses who want a career that is transportable, offers career opportunities, training, promotions, retirement, leave, benefits and a way to build your own career. Resource: www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2943/text

For additional information please contact the Civilian Personnel Office at 845-938-6220.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

May 15–18, 2017

Virtual Military Spouse Symposium



Join us for the first Virtual Military Spouse Symposium, hosted by the Department of Defense Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program.

The four-day virtual symposium will feature more than 20 sessions in the following tracks:

- ✓ Career Counseling
- ✓ Tools of the Trade
- ✓ Wellness
- ✓ Corporate
- ✓ Expertise from the Field

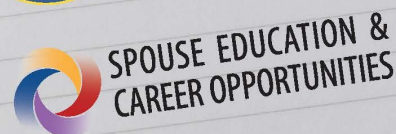
Learn about job search tools and techniques, resources, networking, wellness and resilience, employment opportunities and more — all created with a military spouse focus. Invest in yourself, attend one session or attend them all — from your choice of location!

Come **Learn, Advance** and **Succeed!**

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

click here to choose your sessions and register now!

If you have questions or need more information, *contact us.*





Make a Difference

**Submit your suggestion to improve
our community and the Army Family!**



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