



# *Army Family Care Plan Policy*

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# Agenda

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- Who is required?
- Application and Required Documentation
- Army Parenthood Separation Trends



# Who is required?

- Pregnant Soldier:
  - Without spouse or not residing with spouse
  - Married to another service member in active or reserve status
- Soldier who has joint or full legal custody of one or more family members under the age of 19
  - Without spouse or not residing with spouse
  - Married to another service member in active or reserve status
- Soldier who is divorced and not remarried, and has liberal or extended visitation rights by court decree that allows the family member to be solely in the Soldier's care in excess of 30 days
- Soldier whose spouse is incapable of self-care or is otherwise physically, mentally, or emotionally disabled so as to require special care of assistance
- Soldier categorized as half of a dual-military couple on active or reserve status who has joint or full custody of more of more family members under age 19 or who has adult family members incapable of self care regardless of age

\* Governed by Department of Defense Instruction 1342.19 (Family Care Plans) and Army Regulation 600-20 (Army Command Policy)



# Application and Required Documentation

## Application during the following:

- Duty/Temporary Duty
- Field Duty/Training Exercises
- Permanent Change of Station
- Unaccompanied Tours/Deployments
- Mobilization/Unit Training Assembly/Annual Training (Reserve Component)
- Emergencies/Other Military Duty
- Leave/Non-duty Time

## Timeframe for Completion:

Active Component: 30 days

Reserve Component: 60 days

Recertified: annually

*Commander may grant an additional 30 days*

## Required Documentation

- DA Form 5305 Family Care Plan (*Unit Commander is the sole approving authority, cannot be delegated*)
- DA Form 5304 Family Care Plan Counseling Checklist
- DA Form 5841 Power of Attorney (both long and short term providers)
- DA Form 5840 Certificate of Acceptance as guardian or escort
- DD Form 1172-2 Application for Identification Card/Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System for each family member
- DD Form 2558 Authorization to Start, Stop, or Change an Allotment, for active or retired personnel, unsigned until deployment, or other proof of financial support arrangements
- Letter of Instruction to the guardian or escort, outlining all special instructions concerning the care of family members
- If appropriate, DA Form 7666 Parental Consent



# Army Parenthood Separation Trends

Chapter	Name	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16
Chapter 5 (Convenience of Gov't)	Parenthood	339	257	197	174	171
Chapter 6 (Dependency or Hardship)	Parenthood	6	6	3	4	8

## **Key facts:**

- Soldier is considered non-deployable until the family care plan is validated and approved
- Commander may initiate involuntary separation proceedings against Soldiers who fail to provide and maintain adequate family care plans
- Chapter 5 (Convenience of the Government) is most common
- Type of Discharge: Honorable or General under Honorable Conditions