III Armored Corps & Fort Hood Client Legal Services



Family Support Obligations Under AR 608-99



Contact Us

Building 13, 52nd Street Fort Hood, TX 76544

Front Desk Phone Numbers

(254) 287-7901 (254) 287-2509

Walk-In Hours

Mon — Thurs: 1300-1600
Powers of Attorney & Notaries

All other assistance by appointment only

Schedule an appointment in 2 easy steps:



Step 1

Download intake form and open in Adobe or other PDF app to access fillable fields



Step 2

Email form with a front and back copy of your military ID using the QR code or directly: usarmy.hood.iii-corps.mbx.sja-legal-asst@army.mil

This Info Paper is provided for general education purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. For legal advice, please consult an attorney by scheduling an appointment with our office.

What is Army Regulation 608-99?

Army Regulation (AR) 608-99 governs a Soldier's financial support obligation toward their dependents. Soldiers must adequately support their dependents and should manage their personal affairs in a manner that does not discredit themselves or the U.S. Army. Soldiers who fail to provide adequate financial support to their dependents may be subject to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and adverse administrative action.

When does this obligation begin?

Usually, Soldiers and their dependents manage their financial affairs without command involvement. However, if a Soldier and his/her dependent are unable to come to an agreement on support obligations, then the Soldier will comply with the requirements prescribed in AR 608-99.

What does adequate financial support mean?

Adequate financial support is specified in a court order or agreement. Soldiers must comply with financial support provisions in all state court orders, Child Support Enforcement Agency orders, and written financial support agreements. Soldiers may also have to comply with financial support provisions in foreign court orders.

If an order or agreement doesn't specify, how much does the Soldier have to pay?

In the absence of an order or agreement, AR 608-99 establishes requirements for financial support until an agreement is signed or a court order is issued. The amount of financial support required by AR 608-99 is affected by several factors unique to every service member's situation The amount is based on the Non-Locality Basic Allowance for Housing rate. Some of the factors are:

- (1) How many Family members are a part of the Family unit?
- (2) Does the Family unit reside in government housing?
- (3) Is the Soldier deployed?
- (4) Do Family members reside at different locations?
- (5) Is the Soldier married to a person on active duty in one of the military services?
- (6) Does the Soldier have custody of a child or children?
- (7) Are there multiple Family units?

Can the Soldier and their dependent agree to an amount?

Yes. The Soldier and their dependent can agree to an amount. The agreement should be in writing. Our office can advise you about what to include in a written support agreement.

How should Soldiers make the payment to their dependents?

Payments can be made by cash, check, money order, or cashier's check. <u>The recommended</u> <u>method to make the payment is through myPay allotment</u>. If the Soldier makes payments by any method other than military allotment they should request a receipt.

Can a Soldier be released from providing financial support?

After meeting certain regulatory requirements, a battalion-level commander may release a Soldier under their command from AR 608-99's requirements after consulting their unit judge advocate.

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What is EIFS?

Enhanced Interim Financial Support was added to AR 608-99 effective 24 May 2020. The EIFS payment must be made within the first 30 days of separation and is in addition to the IFS obligation. For CONUS located dependents, EIFS is a one-time payment. For OCONUS located dependents, EIFS payments continue until there is a court order or the Soldier is otherwise released from the obligation.

What if the Soldier lives in post housing?

Soldiers are required to pay EIFS and IFS regardless of whether the Soldier receives BAH.

How should Soldiers make the payment to their dependents?

Payments for EIFS and IFS can be made by cash, check, money order, or cashier's check. The best method to make the payment is through myPay allotment. If the Soldier makes payments by any method other than military allotment they should request a receipt.

What if there is a military or civilian protective order in effect?

If a military or civilian protective order is in effect the Soldier should coordinate with his/her chain of command to get the information necessary to make payments.

Can the Soldier be released from EIFS or IFS?

Yes, a Soldier can be released from the EIFS or IFS requirement. There are many reasons a Soldier can ask to be released from the EIFS and IFS requirement. Soldiers should contact the Client Services office to find out if they are eligible for release and to prepare the appropriate request. The Special Court-Martial Convening Authority (SCMCA) or battalion commander is the approval authority for a request for release, depending on the circumstance. Whether to release a Soldier from EIFS and/or IFS is subject to their discretion.

What if there is a court order in effect?

In some cases, a court order that addresses financial support can replace all or part of the EIFS or IFS financial support requirement. The Client Services Office can help determine what, if any, financial support is required after there is a court order.