

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Army originated the concept of the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) to ensure that it considers the needs of Family members in the assignment coordination process. Approximately 08% of Army Families have members with special needs, including spouses, children, or dependent parents who require special medical or educational services.

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) - What is it?

Enrollment allows assignment managers at military personnel agencies to consider the documented medical needs of exceptional Family members in the CONUS assignment process (educational needs are taken into consideration only in an OCONUS assignment). When possible, Soldiers are assigned to an area where the medical and special education needs of their exceptional Family member can be met. This will depend upon a valid personnel requirement for the Soldier's grade, specialty and eligibility for the tour. All Soldiers are still eligible for worldwide and unaccompanied assignments.

The Army designed the EFMP to be a comprehensive, coordinated, multi-agency program that provides community support, housing, medical, educational, and personnel services to military Families with an EFM.

Benefits of EFMP Enrollment

Enrollment is needed to ensure available services are at the gaining installation prior the military personnel office (Human Resources Command-HRC) assigns the Soldier to their next duty assignment. Soldiers with Exceptional Family Members are required to register for EFMP and keep enrollment information current.

Do You Have an Exceptional Family Member (EFM)?

An EFM is a Family member, regardless of age (child or adult), with any physical, emotional, developmental, or intellectual disorder that requires special treatment, therapy, education, training or counseling. The Family member must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) to be enrolled in the EFMP. A Soldier who has a Family member who falls into any of these categories must be enrolled in the program.

How Does a Soldier Enroll in the EFMP?

To enroll for a medical condition, the individual's medical provider must complete DD Form 2792, Family Member Medical Summary. If the Soldier has a young child between the ages of birth to three years old who is receiving early intervention services as outlined on an Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) or a child/young adult who is receiving special education services from school as outlined on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan, the early intervention service provider or school must complete DD Form 2792-1, Special Education/Early Intervention Summary, attaching a copy of the appropriate plan (i.e. IFSP, IEP or 504). All local school systems in the continental U.S. and its territories are required by public laws to provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), to include the provision of special education.

It's possible that a family member can have both a medical and educational enrollment, thus both documents would need to be completed.

It is the responsibility of the Soldier to ensure that enrollments are updated a minimum of every three years or as changes occur. Because a Soldier can be nominated for an assignment at any time, it is crucial to ensure that enrollment information is up to date at all times.

Who must enroll in the program?

The following Soldiers with EFMs are required to enroll in the EFMP: 1) Active Army 2) U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Soldiers in the USAR Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Program. Mobilized and deployed Soldiers are not eligible for enrollment in the EFMP. 3) Army National Guard (ARNG) AGR personnel serving under authority of Title 10, United States Code and Title 32, United States Code. Soldiers who are members of the Army Married Couples Program will both enroll in the EFMP when they have a Family member that qualifies. This process will ensure that the assignment manager of each sponsor considers the Family's special needs.

How Does a Soldier Disenroll From EFMP?

Once a Family member is enrolled in the EFMP, he/she remains in the program until: 1) the condition that warranted enrollment has been resolved; 2) when the Soldier leaves the Army; or 3) when the Family member is no longer enrolled in DEERS. Documentation is required to disenroll from the EFMP regardless of the circumstances and this documentation must be requested through either the medical provider for a medical enrollment or the school/early intervention provider for an educational enrollment.

ACS EFMP Community Support Services

- Identification of Exceptional Family Members
- Support counseling for family members
- Advocacy
- Administrative assistance with deletions, compassionate reassignments, and deferments of assignments
- On and off post agencies and support groups
- Educational workshops and recreational activities
- Relocation services
- Educational and medical advocacy for needed services
- Facilitating exceptions to policy for housing

Respite care services

The EFMP Respite Care Program is community support service that provides a temporary rest period for Family members responsible for regular care of persons with disabilities. Care may be provided in the EFMP respite user's home or other settings such as special needs camps and enrichment programs. It is time limited based on the EFM medical condition and availability of funding. An eligible EFM may qualify for up to 25 hours per month. Eligible Family members must be enrolled in the EFMP and may qualify for

EFMP Respite Care if there is documentation of a severe chronic medical condition or significant medical needs. A severe chronic medical condition is defined as a serious medical condition that persists for greater than 6 months and requires the coordinated intervention of multiple primary and specialty care providers for evaluation, treatment and maintenance of health. Severe chronic conditions are often not curable and may carry a poor clinical prognosis. Significant medical needs are defined as one or more medical conditions that require extensive coordination of care by health care providers, ancillary services and/ or durable medical equipment in order to sustain a reasonable level of health. The EFM's medical provider must substantiate the need for EFMP Respite Care. The application process begins at the ACS EFMP office where application forms, as well as documents to be completed by the EFM's medical provider, can be obtained. Following proper completion of those forms, an assessment interview will take place with EFMP staff.

System Navigators

Systems Navigators are knowledgeable about the systems of care used by Families with special needs. The primary role of a Systems Navigator is to navigate family's needs through the available systems of care. Systems Navigators also assist Families who are transitioning from the program, due to retirement, separation from the military, or transition to another duty station. A Systems Navigator can help you develop a Family Service Plan to reach your goals, identify support groups and social activities, make necessary referrals, provide information about disabilities or medical conditions of concern, and strengthen your ability to advocate for your EFM.

EFMP Systems Navigators work closely with our EFMP medical counterparts to accept referrals for those Families who have received new and/or complex diagnoses that require multiple support services.

Housing

Housing is privatized and is operated by Corvias Property Management. The housing waiting lists vary based on rank and family size.

Families with a medical need for priority placement, modifications to housing or specific housing accommodations can submit a request for medical exception to policy.

Some examples of requests:

SM requests to be accelerated on the waiting list due to a fragile medical condition of a family.

SM requests to move to a larger home or to a single level home due to a medical condition.

SM requests ADA modifications such as grab bars to an existing Caution-home.

For required documents and additional information contact Corvias Property Management at 785-717-2200.

The Exceptional Family Member Program: A Program for Families With Special Needs online resources.

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/family-relationships/special-needs/exceptional-family-member/the-exceptional-family-member-program-for-families-with-special-needs>

The Department of Defense Directory on Early Intervention.

https://apps.militaryonesource.mil/MOS/f?p=EFMP_DIRECTORY:HOME:0

Irwin Army Community Hospital EFMP

For more information about EFMP, contact the EFMP point of contact through your nearest Army medical treatment facility.

The EFMP program has grown tremendously over the years and is now a comprehensive, coordinated multi-agency program helping meet the needs of the Exceptional Family Member (EFM). The Irwin Army Community Hospital (IACH) EFMP web address has established a standard registration process for families and guidance for maneuvering through the enrollment procedures. Families have access to concise information about IACH EFMP support.

Visit IACH EFMP for access to enrollment, screening, and any necessary forms related to the Exceptional Family Member Program

Find more Information on EFMP Enrollment, EFMP screening, Overseas Assignments, and any necessary forms related to EFMP go to the IACH EFMP website <http://efmp.amedd.army.mil> . The IACH EFMP Clinic can be reached at (785) 240-7543.

CONTACT FOR THIS INFORMATION SHEET:

FORT RILEY EFMP, 785-239-9435