

Yellow Ribbon Program

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Summary

The Yellow Ribbon program is a legislatively mandated program that provides a wide range of services, information, referrals, and proactive outreach to Servicemembers and their Families. The intent of the program is to prepare Servicemembers and their Families for deployment, sustain their Families during deployment, and reintegrate Servicemembers and Families, communities and employers upon re-deployment.

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Yellow Ribbon Events

	Phase	Timeframe	Participation	Details
Event 1	Pre-deployment	1-2 day event; 30 days before deployment	Servicemembers and Families	Receive information and training on how to deal with the difficulties of separation and deployment. Services that are covered include: Financial Readiness and Counseling, TRICARE, Military OneSource, VA benefits and entitlements, and Employer Support. Emphasis is placed on creating resilience & risk reduction, Psychological First Aid, pay and finance, Family Assistance Centers (FACs), Chaplain and/or other religious support, child and youth services, and the American Red Cross.

	Phase	Timeframe	Participation	Details
Event 2	During deployment	1-2 day event; 30-60 days into deployment	Families	Receive information on how to connect with their Servicemember during deployment. Health professionals assist in identifying at risk Family members and provide referral information on appropriate agencies. Other areas covered are TRICARE issues, Psychological First Aid, coping tips, financial readiness issues, and child and youth issues.
Event 3	During deployment	1-2 day event; 30-60 days before demobilization	Families	Receive information about the homecoming, resilience and risk reduction, traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) awareness, identifying and discussing reunion issues, and Psychological First Aid. Other areas covered are how to communicate with their Servicemember, outreach to employers and religious communities, and child and youth services.

	Phase	Timeframe	Participation	Details
Event 4	Post-deployment	2 day event; 30 days after demobilization	Servicemembers and Families	Provide assistance on how to reconnect and resources to mitigate the stressors associated with the extended separation. Items covered include marriage counseling, VA benefits, VA VET center, TRICARE, domestic violence awareness and prevention, resilience skills, substance abuse awareness, Psychological First Aid, safety awareness, employment outreach, Military OneSource, and Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).
Event 5	Post-deployment	2 day event; 60 days after demobilization	Servicemembers and Families	Provide assistance on how to reconnect and resources to mitigate the stressors associated with the extended separation. Areas covered include mental health awareness and referral, anger management, substance abuse awareness, Psychological First Aid, domestic violence awareness, VA benefits, financial and tax assistance, legal issues, and child and youth issues.

	Phase	Timeframe	Participation	Details
Event 6	Post-deployment	2 day event; 90 days after demobilization	Servicemembers	Focus is on physical and mental health. Provides small group discussion about deployment experiences, pay and finance process, and military careers. Receive assistance on completing the Post Deployment Health Re-Assessment (PDHRA) form and information about Psychological First Aid.

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Quick Guide: Finding Local Yellow Ribbon Personnel and Organization Resources

1. Access the [Joint Services Support – Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Website](#)
2. Click on “Find Local Resources”
3. Select your State
4. Click on “Next”
5. Select the personnel and/or organization resources you wish to find (e.g., ARNG YRRP Program Manager)
6. Click on “Next”
7. Receive information about local Yellow Ribbon events and/or personnel

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the mission of the program?

- A. Take care of Servicemembers and their Families; make them self-reliant and resilient throughout the entire deployment cycle: Pre-Deployment, Deployment, Demobilization, and Post-Deployment / Reconstitution.

Q. What is the vision of the program?

- A. A cooperative network of military services, Veteran service organizations, State governmental departments, and other agencies that provide information, resources, referral, and proactive outreach to Servicemembers, Spouses, employers, and youth throughout all mobilization phases. Additionally, it is a flexible Family support system focused on meeting the needs of mobilized Servicemembers and geographically dispersed Families.

Q. What information will Yellow Ribbon provide?

A. The Yellow Ribbon program helps Servicemembers and their Families navigate through the numerous Department of Defense (DoD), Veterans Affairs, and State systems to ensure they receive information and assistance regarding all the benefits and entitlements they have earned as a result of deployment.

Q. Who is required to participate in the Yellow Ribbon program?

A. Currently, it is a voluntary program for Servicemembers and their Family members.

Q. What is resilience?

A. Resilience is the ability to grow and thrive in the face of challenges and bounce back from adversity and in keeping with the Director ARNG's theme of building resilient Soldiers and Families.

Q. What services are available to Family members?

A. Benefits may include referrals, relationship, financial, or other counseling through Military OneSource, VA Vet Centers, TRICARE, and other State and local programs.

Q. How does the Yellow Ribbon program benefit Servicemembers and their Families?

A. The program benefits by helping to provide education and access to services for a wide variety of questions and concerns that Service members and their families may have regarding their health, benefits, or other deployment related challenges unique to the Reserve Components.

Q. What happens if a Servicemember or their Family still needs assistance after completing the Yellow Ribbon program process?

A. Servicemembers and their Families are eligible to receive referrals for follow-on care through Military One Source (1-800-342-9647), VA Vet Centers, and TRICARE.

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Links

- [Joint Services Support – Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program](#)
This website provides the mission and vision of the National Guard Bureau's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration program and information about the Yellow Ribbon program events that occur throughout the deployment cycle.
- [Yellow Ribbon Program](#)
This website provides information and resources on the Yellow Ribbon program to Servicemembers, their Families, and military leadership, web links for recent news articles about the program, policy and guidance references, and additional resources (i.e. health care, counseling, financial, legal, etc.).
- [American Red Cross](#)

This website provides information on how to get assistance from the American Red Cross, how to find your local Red Cross center, how to get involved, and how to prepare for an emergency.

- [4-H](#)
This website provides the history of the 4-H community, a list of programs involved in the community, how to get involved, and resources.

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References

Documents and Forms

- Army Guidance Concerning the Amount of Days for Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence (PDMRA) and Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP) Activities for Reserve and National Guard Personnel
- Change to Current Mobilization/Demobilization Personnel and Pay Policy
- Designation of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) as the DoD Executive Agent for the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program
- National Guard Bureau Policy and Implementation Guidance for the Department of Defense Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program

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Points of Contact

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