

Youth

Table of Contents

[Summary](#)

[Military Youth Programs](#)

[Programs Available to ARNG Families](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Links](#)

[References](#)

[Points of Contact](#)

Summary

Army National Guard and Military Youth Programs are designed to support children and youth impacted by deployment. These programs support the Army Family Covenant by reducing the conflict between a Soldier's mission readiness and parental responsibilities. There is a variety of affordable, quality care programs for children of ARNG Soldiers. However, some program eligibilities depend on status. In addition, the ARNG has launched several youth programs to help troubled and at risk children.

[Back to top](#)

Military Youth Programs

Program	Objective and Targeted Participants	Eligibility
Child Youth & School Services (CYS Services)	CYS Services is an integral part of the Army mission. CYS Services supports the Soldier which in turn enhances Army readiness. A Soldier can concentrate on his/her mission knowing that their children are safe and supervised by trained and professional staff members while participating in quality developmental programs.	Mobilized Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers are eligible for the same CYS programs and services as Active Duty Soldiers. Non-Mobilized National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers may be entitled to programs and services offered through their Component.
Operation: Military Kids	The U.S. Army's collaborative effort with America's communities to support the children and youth impacted by deployment.	Dependent children and youth of all services and components (to include DOD civilians).
Sesame Street: Talk, Listen, Connect	Sesame Workshop is committed to supporting National Guard and Reserve Families and young children coping with issues such as deployments, homecomings, and changes.	All of these materials are FREE to military Families.

Military and Family Life Consultants (MFLC)	<p>Provide licensed professional clinical consultants to augment the child behavioral services offered through the Child & Youth Services (CYS) Program. Support the children participating in the CYS Program as well as faculty, staff and parents. Provide non-medical counseling services and addresses short-term problem resolution such as school issues, deployment and reunion adjustments, and parent-child communications.</p>	<p>Dependent children and youth of all services and components (to include DOD civilians). CYB-MFLC at the JFHQs provides support to Guard events and Guard youth. Additional “surge” MFLCs can be requested through Military One Source. This support can be provided at camps, youth activities and Yellow Ribbon events within the state/territory.</p>
Zero to Three	<p>Promote the health and development of infants and toddlers of military Families by increasing awareness and collaboration throughout the military community to more effectively serve young children and their Families impacted by deployment-related issues.</p>	<p>Dependent children and youth of all services and components (to include DOD civilians).</p>
Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)	<p>MCEC is a non-profit, world-wide organization. Its work is focused on ensuring quality educational opportunities for all military children affected by mobility, Family separation, and transition.</p>	<p>All Military Families and community partners, e.g. Area school district guidance counselors and other professional educators; installation leaders; transition specialists; community professionals; military parents; School counselors and other professional educators; school nurses; Family support personnel of the National Guard and Reserves.; Military parents with their children; Area school district guidance professionals and other professional educators identified as faculty advisors; student leaders.</p>

[Back to top](#)

Programs Available to ARNG Families

Program	Objective and Targeted Participants	Eligibility
National Guard Youth Development Program	This program serves children and youth ages 6-18 and provides opportunities for youth to develop their physical, social, emotional and cognitive abilities and to experience achievement, leadership, employment, friendship and recognition.	All Army National Guard Soldiers (all statuses).
About Face! Program	About Face! provides at-risk youth the tools they need to stay in school and get a job. Teaching the skills employers want. With a "learn to do by doing" philosophy, students practice these skills in a real-life setting.	All Army National Guard Soldiers (all statuses) may volunteer, however eligible participants are only children considered to be at-risk.
Forward March Program for Young Adults	This hands-on program teaches adult men and women job and life skills so they can make the move from welfare to work. Forward March participants practice job-search skills and business skills in a real-life setting.	Young adults are eligible.
National Guard Youth ChalleNGe	The National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program is designed to intervene in and reclaim the lives of at-risk youth as well as produce program graduates with the values, skills, education, and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults.	At risk youth are eligible.
Our Military Kids, Inc. (OMK)	Enrichment activities such as sports, arts, dance, tutoring, or similar activities. Children can get up to a \$500 grant per six months of activity per child. Children can apply for a second grant at the end of six months of activity if parent is still deployed.	Children of deployed ARNG Soldiers (ages 3-18) are eligible.
Operation Military Childcare (OMCC)	To assist military Families experiencing a deployment with the cost of high quality child care by making child care fees paid off post commensurate with those paid on post.	Soldiers activated or deployed in support of an Overseas Contingency Operation (OCC). Spouse must be working or going to school at least part-time. Full-time subsidy amount is adjusted accordingly.

<p>Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood (MCCYN)</p>	<p>To assist military Families with the cost of high quality child care by making child care fees paid off post commensurate with those paid on post.</p>	<p>Soldiers in a Title 10 or Title 32 Active, Guard, and Reserve (AGR) or Active Duty for Operational Support (ADOS) status. Also available to full-time Title 32 dual status or non-dual status Technicians and Department of the Army civilian employees. Spouse must be working or going to school at least part-time. Full-time subsidy amount is adjusted accordingly.</p>
<p>Respite Care Programs</p>	<p>To provide Families up to 16 hours of respite care per month to be used to take a mental break, medical appointment, spend time with spouse during R&R leave, etc.</p>	<p>Spouse or legal guardian of child(ren) of activated/deployed ARNG Soldiers.</p>
<p>Community-Based Respite Care ("Give Parents A Break") -Contact your State's Youth Program Office to learn more</p>	<p>To provide geographically-separated Army/ARNG Families up to 16 hours of respite care per month to be used to take a mental break, medical appointment, spend time with spouse during R&R leave, etc. Hourly Child care services through licensed providers via NACCRRRA.</p>	<p>Spouse or legal guardian of child(ren) of activated/deployed ARNG Soldiers.</p>
<p>Installation-Based Child Care -Contact your State's Youth Program Office to learn more</p>	<p>To provide quality child care and before/after-school care to Army Families. Child Development Centers and Family Child Care Homes provide full-time, part-time and hourly care to registered Army Families. Families must register with the garrison CDC Central Registration Office. Fees paid are based on Soldier's rank and number of children requiring care.</p>	<p>All ARNG Soldiers in a full-time status, regardless of component or deployment status. Garrisons determine their own order of priority for spaces.</p>

<p>Installation-Based Army Youth Programs -Contact your State's Youth Program Office to learn more</p>	<p>To provide enrichment (sports, fine arts, crafts, entertainment) activities to Army youth on the garrison and within the catchment area (50 mi radius).</p>	<p>All ARNG youth, regardless of component or deployment status.</p>
<p>National Science Center (NSC) Partnership -Contact your State's Youth Program Office to learn more</p>	<p>To stimulate and increase student math and science proficiency, and to increase access to NSC programs to the Guard and the community youth.</p>	<p>Children of deploying/deployed ARNG Soldiers.</p>
<p>Teen Panel/Teen Council -Contact your State's Youth Program Office to learn more</p>	<p>To provide teens the opportunity to shape youth programs and initiatives that meets their unique needs. Panels also serve as a forum to provide teen input to State and Army programs, and inform leadership of critical issues facing Guard/Army teens.</p>	<p>All National Guard teens can participate in State Teen Panels; Two ARNG reps participate in the annual Army Teen Panel. Two youth from each state/territory participate in the Youth Symposium.</p>
<p>Life, Inc. -Contact your State's Youth Program Office to learn more</p>	<p>To provide youth an inspirational look at their future. A career and financial planning curriculum to assist children by helping them begin thinking about future career possibilities and how their likes and dislikes should guide their career choice.</p>	<p>Middle and High School aged children of ARNG Soldiers.</p>
<p>Tutor.com</p>	<p>To provide live, one-on-one, online tutoring assistance and homework help to Army-affiliated children anywhere in the world 24/7. Assistance to adults in College Coursework and resume/job search/citizenship/standardized testing.</p>	<p>Dependants of Title 10 AGR/ADOS ARNG Soldiers and dependants of deployed Soldiers.</p>

Operation Purple Camps	<p>To provide free, week long, camping opportunities to children of deployed or severely-injured Servicemembers. The program aims to help military kids experience carefree fun while also learning coping skills to deal with deployment-related stress and fostering relationships with other children who know what they are going through. Operation Purple camp allows kids to gain confidence by learning to be stewards of the community and of the environment.</p>	<p>Operation Purple camps are open to military children from all service branches; however, priority is given to those children who have or will have a parent or guardian deployed during a 15 month deployment “window” (specific dates announced each year); includes pre-, during and post-deployment phases). If all spaces are not filled with campers who meet the deployment criteria, the remaining camp slots are filled with any eligible military child. Children of retired military personnel are eligible if the Servicemember was deployed at any time during the current deployment “window” before retirement.</p>
--	---	--

[Back to top](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How do I find CYS programs near me?

- A. [The Army OneSource – Child, Youth, and School Services Website](#), provides an interactive map with all the CYS programs available in the surrounding area.

If the Soldier and their Family are not located near an installation, they can still use CYS services!

- [ASPYN - Army School Age Programs in Your Neighborhood](#)
- [NACCRRA - National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies](#)
- [Cadet Command](#) - Access to the Cadet Command network of resources, including childcare in your area and eligibility information for childcare subsidy.
- [Military OneSource](#) - For help with child care, personal finances, emotional support during deployments, relocation information, or resources needed for special circumstances.

Q. Who do I contact with questions and concerns about child care benefits?

- A. Contact NACCRRA at 1-800-424-2246 and leave a voicemail. If NO response is received from NACCRRA within 24 hours, contact MAJ Brenda Golden (Phone: 703-607-5448; Email: Brenda.Golden@us.army.mil) or Mrs. Paula Sumrall (Phone: 703-607-1476; Email: Paula.Sumrall@us.army.mil).

Contact local Family Assistance Center (FAC) for application forms. The local FAC will be able to answer questions concerning new applications. To find a local FAC, visit the [Joint Services Support Website](#).

Q. What other programs are available?

A. For more information on some of the previous mentioned programs as well as a number of others, please visit the following sites:

- [Youth Programs](#)
- [ASVAB Career Exploration Program](#)
- [Heritage Outreach Program](#)
- [Guard Fit Challenge](#)
- [YOU CAN School Program](#)
- [HUMVEE School](#)
- [Partners in Education](#)
- [Patriot Academy](#)

[Back to top](#)

Links

- [Army OneSource – Child, Youth, and School Services](#)
Army OneSource presents information on various child, youth, and school services available, it also provides the opportunity for parents to register with CYS Services.
- [Family and Moral, Welfare, and Recreation](#)
The Army MWR website provides information and links to child and youth programs that are available to Servicemembers.
- [National Guard Family Program](#)
This link provides information on three National Guard Youth Programs including: National Guard Youth Development Program, National Guard Child Care Program, and Sesame Street: Talk, Listen, Connect.
- [Operation: Military Kids](#)
The Operation: Military Kids website provides links to national youth program partners, information on the availability of programs in local areas, and resources on youth, child, and school programs.

[Back to top](#)

References

Regulations

- [AR 215-1, Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities](#)
- [AR 608-1, Army Community Services](#)
- [NGR 600-12, National Guard Family Program](#)

Documents and Forms

- [DoDI 1402.5, Criminal History Background Checks on Individuals In Child Care Services](#)
- [DoDI 6060.1, Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect in Child Care Settings](#)
- [DoDI 6060.2, Child Development Programs \(CDPs\)](#)
- [DoDI 6060.3, School-Age \(SAC\) Program](#)
- [DoDI 6060.4, Department of Defense \(DoD\) Youth Programs \(YPs\)](#)

[Back to top](#)

Points of Contact

- Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command
Phone: (703) 681-5385
ATTN: FMWRC-CYS
4700 King Street, 4th Floor
Alexandria, VA 22302-4418
E-mail: CYS@conus.army.mil
- Individual State Contacts found at: [Operation: Military Kids](#)

[Back to top](#)

02 AUG 10