

Military Information Sheet – The Essentials for Child Support Professionals

Key Military Acronyms for Child Support Professionals

AD - Active Duty: Full-time military service

AGR - Active Guard Reserve: Full-time federal support for National Guard/Reserve

ANG - Air National Guard: Air component of the National Guard

ARNG - Army National Guard: Army component of the National Guard

BAH - Basic Allowance for Housing: Non-taxable housing allowance based on location and rank

BAS - Basic Allowance for Subsistence: Non-taxable food allowance

COLA - Cost of Living Allowance: Additional compensation for high-cost locations

CRDP - Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay: Allows concurrent receipt of retired pay and VA disability

CRSC - Combat-Related Special Compensation: Tax-free combat-related disability compensation (not counted as income)

DEERS - Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System: Database of eligibility for military benefits

DFAS - Defense Finance and Accounting Service: Handles military pay, allotments, retirement, and child support garnishment

DMDC - Defense Manpower Data Center: Manages DEERS, SCRA site, and other personnel systems

DOD - Department of Defense: Oversees all military services and systems like DFAS and DMDC

DRP - Disability Retirement Pay: Retirement pay based on service-connected disability

LES - Leave and Earnings Statement: The military equivalent of a pay stub

myPay - Online portal for DFAS-managed pay accounts

NCP - Noncustodial Parent: A parent without primary custody in a child support case

PCS - Permanent Change of Station: Relocation of active duty member to new assignment

RAPIDS - Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification System: System used to issue military ID cards and update DEERS

SCRA - Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: Federal protections for servicemembers in civil proceedings

SDU - State Disbursement Unit: Processes and disburses child support payments

SGLI - Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance: Life insurance for active duty and reserve members

TDRL - Temporary Disability Retired List: Temporary medical retirement pay list

TRICARE - Health care program for military families and retirees

TSP - Thrift Savings Plan: Retirement savings plan for military personnel

UCMJ - Uniform Code of Military Justice: Set of criminal laws applicable to servicemembers

Essential Websites

SCRA Status Verification - <https://scra.dmdc.osd.mil>

DFAS (Pay & Retirement Info) - <https://www.dfas.mil>

milConnect (DEERS updates) - <https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil>

TRICARE Health Coverage - <https://tricare.mil>

VA Benefits & Services - <https://www.va.gov>

myPay Portal - <https://mypay.dfas.mil>

Military OneSource - <https://www.militaryonesource.mil>

Military Locator Services

U.S. Army (Locator Discontinued)

Contact: U.S. Army Human Resources Command, ATTN: AHRC-PDR-V, 1600 Spearhead Division Ave., Dept 420, Fort Knox, KY 40122-5402

Phone: (502) 613-4400 | Website: <https://www.hrc.army.mil>

U.S. Navy

Address: Navy Personnel Command (PERS-1), 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, TN 38055-3120

Phone: (901) 874-3388 | Email: MILL_NAVY_LOCATOR@navy.mil | Website: <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil>

U.S. Air Force / Space Force

Address: HQ AFPC/DP1ORM, 550 C Street West, JBSA-Randolph, TX 78150-4713 Phone: (210) 565-2660 |

Fax: (210) 565-2023 | Website: <https://www.afpc.af.mil>

U.S. Marine Corps

Address: MMSB-17, 2008 Elliot Road, Quantico, VA 22134-5030 Phone: (703) 784-3941 | Website:

<https://www.manpower.usmc.mil>

U.S. Coast Guard

Address: PSC-BOPS-C, U.S. Coast Guard Stop 7200, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE, Washington, DC 20593-7200

Phone: (202) 795-6617 | Email: ARL-SMB-PSC-BOPS-C@uscg.mil | Website: <https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/psc>

Key Manuals & Handbooks

- DFAS Child Support Enforcement Information:

<https://www.dfas.mil/Garnishment/cseainfo>

- Handbook for Military Families (PDF Download):

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/a_handbook_for_military_families_version.pdf

- OCSS Working with the Military on Child Support Matters

<https://acf.gov/css/toolkit/working-military-child-support-matters-trainer-guide>

Involuntary Allotment Request Letterhead

[Use agency letterhead]

Commander

[Appropriate Military Payment Processing Center Address] Reference: [Name and SSN of military member]

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is notice of delinquent support payments and a request for the initiation of the statutory allotment pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 665.

[Identify military member] is subject to a court or administrative order (certified copy enclosed) requiring [him][her] to pay current child support in the amount of [identify amount and payment schedule] [if appropriate, add "plus an amount of xxx toward elimination of arrears of xxx"]. [He][She] has failed to meet this obligation and arrears exceed the total amount due under the order for two months. [If appropriate, insert "In addition, a portion of the arrearage pertains to payments that are more than 12 weeks overdue."]

I request initiation of a statutory allotment from the member's active duty pay in the amount of [identify amount], the monthly support obligation [if appropriate, add "and arrearage payment"] due under the order. Please direct the payment to this address:

[Provide the name/address of the appropriate state payment location and explain what information must accompany the payment.]

Please continue the allotment until [insert termination date] or such earlier date as this agency may later advise you.

I certify that I am an "authorized person" as defined by 42 U.S.C. § 655(b) and 32 C.F.R. Part 54. I am an agent of a state with an approved Title IV-D program under the Social Security Act, and my duties include seeking recovery of child and spousal support.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter.

[Authorized agent signature]

Enclosure (certified copy of court or administrative child support order)