

### Military Services and Programs Terminology

The goal of this sheet is to provide you with some of the most common acronyms and terms you may come across when working with military children and their families. If you hear a term or acronym you do not know, it is okay to ask for clarification - it could turn out to be important! It might be helpful to remember that it is uncommon to know everything “military” - there are eight uniformed services and each is different.

Full Name	Acronym	Description
Child Development Center	CDC	Located on a military installation, the center that provides child care under the CDP, usually for young children (0-5 years old).
Child Development Programs	CDP	Programming related to child care provided to military children 0-12 years of age, including: (1) Center-based and community-based care; (2) Family child care (FCC); (3) School-age care (SAC); and (4) Supplemental child care.
Child and Youth Programs	CYP	Meaning varies slightly across branches, but the intent is to describe the entirety of DoD operated programs that service children and youth on a particular military installation or within a branch.
Child, Youth, and Social Services	CYSS	The collection of DoD operated programs which provide social services programming to active duty members. Includes a component related to child maltreatment prevention and intervention.
Defense Enrollment Eligibility System	DEERS	Database of military family members and others entitled to receive TRICARE benefits.
Defense Health Agency	DHA	Established in 2013; considered the combat support agency, but shares health services with the entire MHS (Military Health System) with the goal of providing integrated and efficient service to the joint force.
Domestic Dependent	DDESS	The domestic schools managed by DoDEA, found on

Elementary and Secondary Schools		military installations.
Department of Defense Dependent Schools	DoDDS	The schools managed by DoDEA across the globe for military dependents. Most of the schools are overseas, representing 3 Regions, 8 Districts, 160 schools.
Department of Defense Education Activity	DoDEA	An umbrella organization that plans, directs, coordinates, and manages the education programs for DoD dependents who would otherwise not have access to a high-quality public education.
Exceptional Family Members Program	EFMP	Active duty members who have a dependent with a qualifying need are required to enroll in EFMP, which is intended to offer guidelines and resources to enhance service delivery throughout military-connected moves. The guidelines may impact where an active duty member is based and/or if the active duty member is moved without the family if the dependent's special needs require specialized accommodation.
(Soldier) Family Assistance Center	(S)FAC	Centers, usually on Army bases, which provide Military Family Readiness services.
Family Advocacy Program	FAP	DoD program established to address domestic abuse, child abuse and neglect, and problematic sexual behavior in youth. Works in coordination across military branches, DoD services, and civilian services.
Family Care Plan	FCP	A document outlining the legally appointed caregivers for youth when a service member is unavailable due to assigned duties (including deployment).
Family Liaison Office/Officer	FLO	This office/individual will serve a slightly different role depending on the military branch, but denote some level of support offered to a family when interfacing with another system (such as a school) or specific issue (such as a wounded or seriously ill family member).
Family Readiness or	FRC	Centers on a military installation, sometimes called

Resource Center		community service centers, which house services and programs targeting the military family as a whole. They are offered under the MFR program.
Military Family Readiness	MFR	Domains perceived to impact military family well-being that then contribute to retention, resilience, readiness, and quality of life. Domains include: (1) Personal and family life readiness (includes career, social, and community); (2) Financial readiness; (3) Mobilization and deployment; and (4) Relocation.
Military and Family Readiness Center	MFRC	The centers which provide an array of support services to enhance military readiness. Typically includes resources related to EFMP, deployment, financial readiness, relocation, and spousal assistance.
Military Family Readiness System	MFRS	Network of programs and services intended to address the unique challenges associated with military lifestyle.
Military Family Support Center	MFSC	May go by various names on the installation itself; Goal is to provide coordinated services under the MFRS at each installation with more than 500 service members.
Military Health System	MHS	Refers to the comprehensive system of leaders and providers (uniformed, civilian and contract personnel) that support military health.
Military Treatment Facility	MTF	Military hospitals and clinics found on military installations (bases and posts) across the world.
Office of Special Needs	OSN	DoD program that manages the EFMP and other military services associated with special needs programming.
School Liaison Program	SLP	Works to develop partnerships and support to enhance the educational experience of military children. May be integral at points of transitions, moves, and/or entry into specialized programming.
TRICARE	—	Operated by DHA; the military health insurance program designed to provide healthcare for military

		families (past and present). Integrated health care is offered through MTFs (military treatment facilities) and through networks of civilian providers operated by civilian managed care support contractors in the United States and abroad.
Youth Services	YS	YS is comprehensive. The goal of YS is to contribute to the readiness, retention, and lethality of the Total Force by helping families balance the competing demands of work and family life, assist the installation commander in supporting healthy youth development, increase youth well-being and promote resilience and inclusion, ease a successful transition through childhood and adolescence into adulthood; provide opportunities for personal, physical, emotional, cognitive, and social development and access to education-related services and resources.
Youth Sports and Fitness Program	YSFP	A general term for a military installation's youth programming focused on sports and health.