Family support

What is family support?

The EFMP family support assists families with special needs by helping them identify and access programs and services. It includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Information and referral for military and community services
- Education and outreach
- Referral to other military and family support center providers
- Local school and early intervention services information
- Warm handoffs to the EFMP at the next location
- Non-clinical case management

Where are the program's family support providers located?

The EFMP family support providers are primarily located at installation Military and Family Support Centers. For families who are not located near an installation, consult your service branch website for more information about accessing services or call Military OneSource.

Contact information for your EFMP can be found at the following locations:

- Service branch websites
- Installation military and family support centers
- MilitaryINSTALLATIONS at http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil
- Military OneSource at 800-342-9647 or http://www.militaryonesource.mil/family-and-relationships/special-needs

Place local contact information here.

Exceptional Families Exceptional Service
SUPPORTING MILITARY FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

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The Exceptional Family Member Program

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SUPPORTING MILITARY FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

What is the Exceptional Family Member Program?

The Exceptional Family Member Program supports military families with special medical and educational needs. The program has three components.

- **Identification and enrollment**
- **Assignment coordination**
- **Family support**

Who is a family member with special needs[1]?

A family member who has special needs is a

- Spouse, child or dependent adult who, regardless of age, has special medical needs and:
  - Requires medical services for a chronic condition such as asthma, attention deficit disorder, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, etc.
  - Receives ongoing services from a medical specialist
  - Has significant behavioral health concerns
- Child (birth through 21 years) with special educational needs who is eligible for, or receives, either:
  - Special education services through an individualized education program
  - Early intervention services through an individualized family service plan

[1] Specific criteria can be found in DoD Instruction 1315.19

Identification and enrollment

Enrollment in the EFMP is mandatory for active-duty military members. When a family member is identified with special medical or educational needs, the special needs are documented through enrollment in the EFMP. This allows medical and educational personnel to review the availability of medical and educational resources in projected assignment locations.

Members of the National Guard or reserves may enroll according to service-specific guidance.

Why enroll?

Enrollment ensures that the family member's documented medical and educational needs are considered during the assignment process.

What is the enrollment process?

Paperwork required for enrollment in the EFMP is available from the EFMP medical point of contact at the installation military treatment facility or, in the Marine Corps, from Marine Corps Community Services.

Paperwork:

- Department of Defense Form 2792, Family Member Medical Summary, documents medical needs. The service member, spouse or adult family member completes the first page. The remainder is completed by the family member's physician or other qualified medical professional, and includes the diagnosis, frequency of care, medication and any special accommodations required by the family member.
- Department of Defense Form 2792-1, Special Education/Early Intervention Summary, documents educational needs. The sponsor, parent or legal guardian completes items one through seven of the first page. The remainder of the form is completed by school or early intervention program personnel. The form includes the child's educational diagnosis and is accompanied by a copy of the individualized education program or individualized family service plan.

After the appropriate medical or education provider completes the form(s), they must be returned to the EFMP medical point of contact.

Assignment coordination

What is assignment coordination?

The military mission is the driving force behind the assignment process, but enrollment ensures that a family member's special needs are considered in the process. Assignment coordination occurs when the personnel command requests medical or education professionals to review a family member's documented needs (available because of the EFMP enrollment) to determine availability of services at a projected location.

Why is assignment coordination important?

Assignment coordination is important because access to appropriate medical and educational services may be limited in some locations, especially in overseas and remote locations. When assignment coordination occurs, family members receive the care and support they require and the service member can focus more clearly on mission-related responsibilities.