



**FY 2010 National Defense Authorization Act
Section 563
Pub. Law No 111-84**



Exceptional Family Member Program

- A family support program for military families with special needs
- Special needs –
 - chronic medical condition
 - child in special education/early intervention program



Enrollment in the EFMP

- Mandatory for active duty service members
- Identifies the family member with a special medical or educational need
- Documents their needs
- Coordinates with the receiving command that the services are available
- Recommends to Personnel Command whether the family member should travel to that location.
- Requires assignment to locations where care and support are available



National Defense Authorization Act, Section 563

Public Law No. 111-84

28 October 2009



Landmark Legislation

- Established a new Department of Defense office:
***Office of Community Support for
Military Families with Special Needs***
- Requires this Office to develop a new policy
- Requires the Military Services to provide community support to military families with special needs
- Applies to service members regardless of location



DoD Requirements

- Identify gaps in services
- Address the gaps
- Oversee the expansion of case management
- Oversee the EFMP enrollment and assignment coordination process
 - Expand EFMP assignment coordination to include to and within the US
- Monitor availability and accessibility of non-Military programs (e.g., special education, Medicaid, SSI)

Stabilization

- Requires stabilization of assignment for a minimum of four years.

“In a manner consistent with the needs of the armed forces and responsive to the career development of Service members”



Communication with Families

- Enhance and disseminate appropriate information
- Establish capability to provide timely access to information and referral services

Service Responsibilities

- Establish a community support program in all locations with military families, to include:
 - *case management* for military families with special needs
- Establish an infrastructure to support installation efforts, including training



Service Progress

- Army – EFMP managers at most installations, multiples at larger locations
- USMC – EFMP managers, case workers, education and training specialists, and three attorneys
- Navy – EFMP liaisons at five high concentration areas, hope to expand to all installations by October 2010, using school liaisons for educational issues
- Air Force – EFMP as a collateral duty



Current Status

- NDAA authorized \$50M for FY 2010, but funding was not appropriated
- Unofficially stood-up the Office
 - Assigned/hired five staff
 - Package to officially stand-up office in coordination
- Providing Services funding for a limited number of EFMP coordinators in 2010 and 2011
- MC&FP will POM for FY 2012.
- Working with the Services on projects that will benefit families with special needs



The Way Ahead

- Officially Stand-up Office
- Joint service site visits in the DC area - May
- EFMP Off Site – June 10-11
- Benchmark Study
- Functional Analysis of data management systems
- Study of availability/accessibility of Medicaid
- Study of accessibility to children and youth services
- Establish a mechanism to involve families with special needs



Joint Service Working Group

- In April 2009, OSD convened a Joint Service working group to identify issues for military families with special needs. The WG:
 - Developed a communication plan to inform families about the EFMP
 - Planned and conducted a joint service training conference (November 2009)
 - Is currently working on an EFMP Implementation Guide and eLearning modules for EFMP families



Joint Service Working Group

- **Rebecca Posante**, OSD
- **Isabel Hodge**, OSD
- **Lorie Sebestyen**, OSD
- **Susan Johnson**, Army (M&RA)
- **Vickie LaFollette**, IMCOM, Army
- **Sharon Fields**, EFMP Manager, HQ, Army
- **Evonne Carawan**, Navy (M&RA)
- **Fred Davis**, CNIC, Navy
- **Rhondavena LaPorte**, HQ, USMC
- **Linda Stephens-Jones**, Air Force, (M&RA)
- **Teresa Barrow**, HQ USAF
- **Kelly Hruska**, NMFA
- **Cyndy Brissenden**, Military OneSource
- **Francine Forestell**, TMA



A 24/7 Resource for
Military Members, Spouses & Families

1.800.342.9647

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Counseling



E-mail
and get answers

Special Needs



Special Needs Military Families



Whether your special needs family member is a child or adult, the Department of Defense and the military services are committed to giving you personal, high-quality support.

Military OneSource Specialty Consultations

Military OneSource provides 60-minute consultations, up to 12 times a year, with a Special Needs Specialty Consultant. The consultant will assess your family's needs and answer your questions about moving benefits, education, finances, housing, support groups, medical resources, and more. To schedule your consultation, call Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647 and ask for an appointment with a Special Needs Specialty Consultant.



Resources

DoD and Branch Resources

- [Army EFMP Web site](#)
- [Marine Corps EFMP Web site](#)
- [Navy EFMP Web site](#)
- [Air Force EFMP Web site](#)

[HOMEFRONT Connections](#)

[MilitaryHOMEFRONT](#)

Featured Military OneSource Articles

- [Adopting a Child with Special Needs as a Military Family](#)
- [Summer Planning for Children with Special Needs](#)
- [Parenting a Special Needs Child When Your Spouse is Deployed](#)

On this site

- [Special Needs Parent Tool Kit](#)
- [SCOR for Children with Special Health Care Needs](#)
- [Discuss Special Needs](#)

[Family Support](#) - The Department of Defense and the military services provide several types of support to military families with special medical and/or educational needs.

[Moving](#) - Moving is stressful under any circumstances. If you're moving with a special needs family member, it requires even more planning.

[Medical](#) - If your family member has special medical needs, it's important to understand the medical benefits available through the military health care system, who can help you, and where to get more information.

[Education and Early Intervention](#) - If your child with special needs is under 21 or hasn't yet graduated from high school, you need to know about two important programs: early intervention services and special education.

[Financial and Legal](#) - If you're struggling to pay bills related to your special needs family member, need help securing her financial future, or have questions about estate planning and guardianship, these resources can help.

[Support for Adults with Special Needs](#) - It's important to know about options and benefits available when your child with special needs graduates from high school or ages out of special education at 21.

[Taking Care of Yourself](#) - The fast pace of military life makes it hard to find time for yourself. The responsibilities of caring for a special needs family member makes it even harder. These resources can help you stay focused and healthy.

[Respite Care](#) - Respite care can give you much-needed time for yourself. Learn here about TRICARE, branch-specific, and community respite-care programs.

Advocacy and Care for the Disabled

[Advocacy](#)

[Emotional Well-Being](#)

[Medication Concerns](#)

Advocacy and Special Programs

[Advocating in the Schools](#)

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1.800.342.9647

or call OCONUS: [Counseling](#)[E-mail
and get answers](#)[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)

1.800.273.TALK (8255)

ENROLL IN THE EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM

If you are active duty and have a family member with special educational or medical needs, you *must* enroll in the EFMP.



Special Needs Family Support



Who Can Help You?

If you live on or near a military installation, the [Exceptional Family Member Program](#) staff at the family center can help you. EFMP staff are trained to help navigate the systems that provide the services you need. To find the EFMP provider at your installation, visit [MilitaryINSTALLATIONS](#), then enter the name of your installation and Exceptional Family Member/Special Needs. You can also contact Military OneSource day or night at 1-800-342-9647 to speak with a consultant.

If you do not live near an installation, Military OneSource can help you. Call to speak with one of our consultants, day or night, at 1-800-342-9647.

What Military OneSource Can Do For You



Military OneSource has a team of highly qualified Specialty Consultants who specialize in the lifestyle of military families with special needs. If you have an issue, instead of using your valuable time to research and gather information, call Military OneSource.

Military OneSource can answer your questions about

[ENROLL IN THE EFMP](#)[MILITARYINSTALLATIONS](#)[ONLINE LIBRARIES](#)[HEALTH COACHING](#)[Health Library](#)

SPECIALTY CONSULTATIONS

Military OneSource provides 60-minute consultations, up to 12 times a year, with a Special Needs Specialty Consultant. The consultant will assess your family's needs and answer your questions about education, moving benefits, finances, housing, support groups, medical resources, and more.

We know the system. We can help.

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ENROLL IN THE EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM

If you are active duty and have a family member with special educational or medical needs, you *must* enroll in the EFMP.

[Learn more about this program and its benefits to you.](#)

"My husband is deployed and I work full-time. I don't have time to do the research I have to do to find services and support for my daughter who is visually and hearing impaired. Military OneSource helps find them for me."

– Air Force Spouse

What Military OneSource Can Do For You

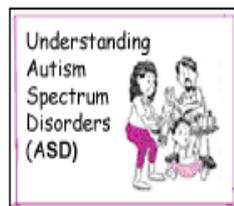


Military OneSource has a team of highly qualified Specialty Consultants who specialize in the lifestyle of military families with special needs. If you have an issue, instead of using your valuable time to research and gather information, call Military OneSource. Military OneSource can answer your questions about family support, as well as questions about transitioning, post-secondary education, housing, moving, and support for adults.

Additional Information and Materials

- [MilitaryHOMEFRONT Resources](#) (Care Givers, Child Care, Long Term Care, and Respite Care).
- To find helpful programs and resources in your state, visit [state resources](#).
- The [DoD Special Needs Parent Tool Kit](#) has comprehensive information to help military families with special needs children navigate resources, services, and support.

Featured Tools



Understanding ASD



Special Needs Toolkit



SCOR Organizer



Military OneSource Partnership

- www.militaryonesource.com/specialneeds
- Specialty consultations – up to 12 per year
 - Consultants with professional training and background in special needs
 - Consultants who also have a family member with a special need

Parent Toolkit

Department of Defense

*Special
Needs*



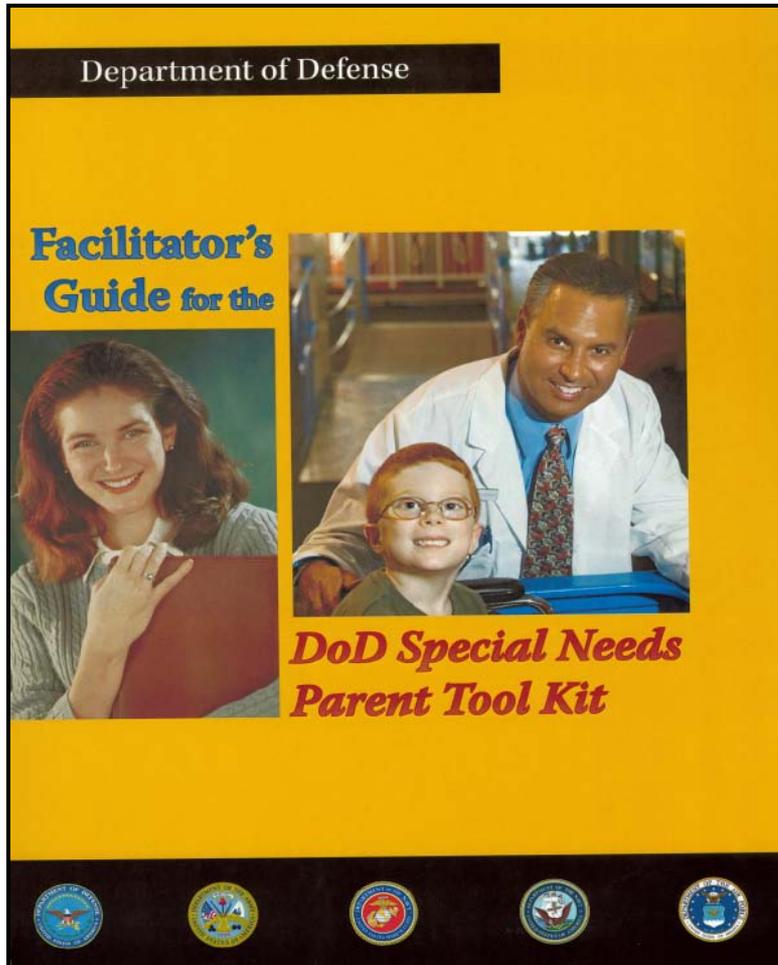
**Parent
Tool Kit**

- Discovering child has a disability
- Early Intervention Services
- Special Education
- Health Benefits
- Families in Transition
- Advocating for your child
- Resources and Support
- Records and other tools



AVAILABLE THROUGH MILITARYONESOURCE.COM/1-800-342-9647

Facilitators Guide



- Professionally developed
- Training Materials
- For the Parent Toolkit
- Available from Military Homefront

www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil

Parent Toolkit

Department of Defense

*Special
Needs*



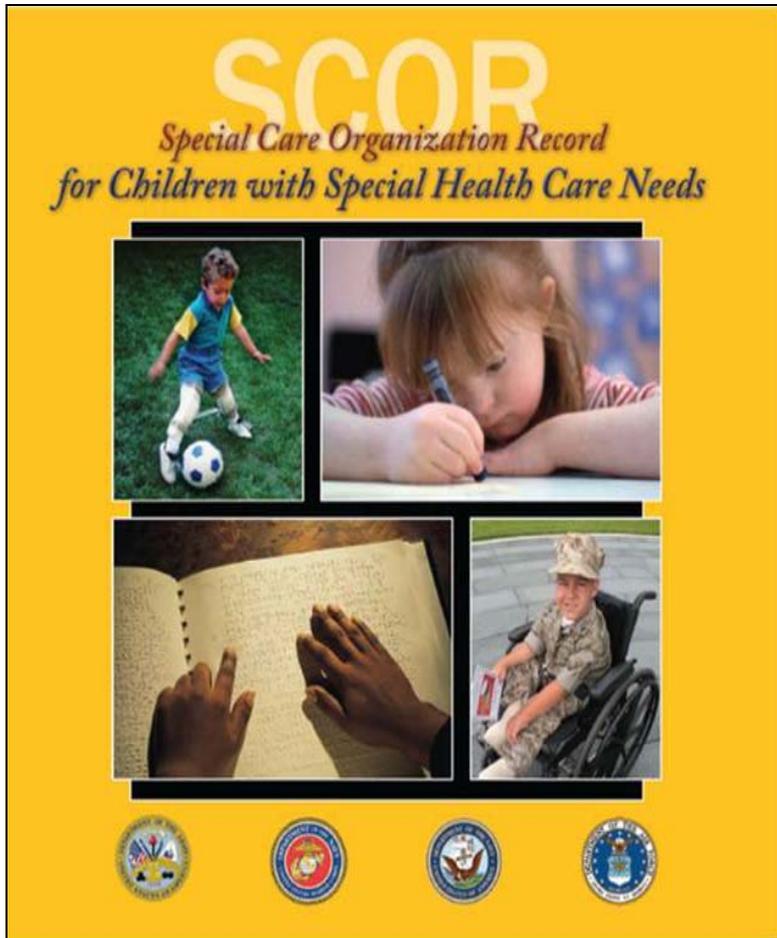
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AVAILABLE THROUGH MILITARYONESOURCE.COM/1-800-342-9647

SCOR for Children



- Tracks and organizes medical information/ special education
- Available on a CD
- Provided in a three ring binder
- Inserts for business cards, records and receipts

AVAILABLE THROUGH MILITARYONESOURCE.COM/1-800-342-9647



Accessible Playgrounds

- Forty military installations around the world are building accessible playgrounds for children with disabilities and for wounded warriors
- Renovating additional playgrounds at DoD schools to be accessible

Playgrounds

- **Kaiserslautern**
- Grafenwoehr
- Fort Gordon
- Fort Polk
- Fort Sill
- Fort Bragg
- Fort Lewis
- Fort Bliss
- Fort Stewart
- Fort Carson
- Fort Benning
- Fort Sam Houston
- Fort Belvoir
- Fort Riley
- Fort Drum
- Fort Lee
- Fort Campbell
- Fort Knox
- Fort Meade
- Fort Hood
- NAB San Diego
- NAS Oceana
- NAS Jacksonville
- NAVSTA Pearl Harbor
- NDW Anacostia
- NSA Naples
- NAS Sigonella
- **MCB Quantico**
- MCB Camp Pendleton
- **MCAS Cherry Point**
- **MCAS Miramar**
- MCB Camp Lejeune
- Andrews AFB
- Lackland AFB
- Travis AFB
- Wright-Patterson AFB
- Nellis AFB
- Aviano AB
- RAF Lakenheath
- Kadena AB



Questions

