

# **Operation: Military Child Care (OMCC)**

## **Who is eligible to participate?**

Operation: Military Child Care (OMCC) is an initiative sponsored by the Department of Defense (DoD), the National Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NCCRRA), and the Child Care Resource and Referral Network (CCR RN) to support the child care needs of military parents who are activated/deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Families and child guardians of members of the Guard and Reserve activated/deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism are eligible to participate during the military parent's deployment period and for 30 days after the military parent's return.

Families and child guardians of deployed active-duty Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines who are unable to access care on military installations are eligible during the deployment period and for 60 days after the military parent's return.

*Note: The subsidy program is intended to help support military spouses' employment, education, or special medical circumstances. Subsidies will only be provided to single-parent families, families with a working spouse, or one who is enrolled in school. It will also be provided to families where the spouse is looking for work for a period of 60 calendar days.*

## **Why is child care needed?**

When military parents are activated/deployed, their needs for child care often increase and so do their out-of-pocket child care expenses.

## **How does Operation: Military Child Care support activated/deployed parents?**

This initiative helps eligible military families locate affordable child care options in local communities. Military families who are using licensed/legally operating community-based child care programs and providers will pay reduced fees. Military families living near installations will be referred to on-base child care programs.

## **How much will fees be reduced?**

Fee reductions will vary for each family depending upon Total Family Income (TFI), geographic location, military service/DoD child care fee policies, and available funding. Family circumstances are considered when determining fees.

## How do you apply for Operation: Military Child Care reduced-fee child care?

1. The military member, spouse, or legal guardian contacts Child Care Aware toll-free at 800-424-2246 or via the Web at [www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org).
2. Staff from NACCRRRA collects information from the military member, family member, or legal guardian to determine eligibility and child care needs. Callers also receive tips on selecting quality child care.
3. Callers who need child care will be linked to their local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency for referrals to legally operating child care programs in their area or to the nearest military installation.
4. Callers with children already enrolled in a legally operating child care program may submit an online application for reduced child care fees. Go to [www.controltec.com/App/OAP/Default.aspx](http://www.controltec.com/App/OAP/Default.aspx) to process an online application. *(Note: Applications will also be accepted by mail or fax.)*
5. The child care providers or child care centers will be required to submit an application to determine if they are legally operating. *(Note: Applications will also be accepted by mail or fax.)*
6. Applications will be processed within 1 to 5 business days after receipt of the family's and provider's application. The reduced fee becomes effective after application processing.
7. Fee reductions will vary depending upon military member's Total Family Income (TFI), geographic location, military and DoD child care fee policy, and funding availability.
8. NACCRRRA will pay the "fee offset" directly to the provider. Service members will pay their "reduced fee" directly to their child care provider.

*Note: Operation: Military Child Care services are not an entitlement and are subject to geographic availability of care and DoD and military-service funding.*