

Frequently Asked Questions

Is EFM enrollment mandatory?

Yes. If you are aware that you have a family member with a qualifying special need, you are required to enroll in the Exceptional Family Member Program.

Is EFM enrollment going to limit where I can be stationed?

Possibly. Depending on the category you are assigned, OCONUS or remote locations may not be an option for your family, though the service member may still be eligible for unaccompanied orders to these locations.

Will EFM enrollment affect my career development or advancement options?

No. Sailors enrolled in the EFMP have always received equal consideration for accompanied assignments and for advancement. Promotion boards have no record of EFMP enrollment. Though some service members may be limited geographically by EFMP category, they are always able to request unaccompanied and IA orders if they feel they need to diversify to advance within their community.

Will EFM enrollment keep me or my spouse from having to deploy?

No. EFM enrollment serves as a tool for detailers to use for geographical duty assignment only. Once you are enrolled, you may only be given orders within the confines of your category classification, but you or your service member spouse is still obligated to be worldwide deployable at all times. In certain extreme, emergent circumstances you may work with your physician and your command to request an Early Return or Humanitarian Reassignment, however you must meet specific criteria to qualify.

What if we have everything "under control" and don't think we should have to enroll?

We all know that military families are wonderfully resourceful and resilient. Keep in mind, however, that even if you feel you have everything "under control" in the current assignment, things may change drastically if you or your spouse receives orders to a location that cannot accommodate your family member's need(s) through appropriate medical or educational resources, or may in fact exacerbate your family member's condition.

Affiliated Programs

- TRICARE ECHO (Extended Care Health Option)
- Respite Program(s) through ECHO and NACCRA
- Navy School Liaison Officers (Child & Youth Programs)
- Humanitarian Reassignment Program
 - (HUMS) Early Return
- Program Overseas Screening
- Permanent Dependent Status



NAB Little Creek/Fort Story	(757) 462-7563
NAS Oceana/Dam Neck	(757) 433-2912
NAVSTA Newport	(401) 841-2283
NAVSTA Norfolk/Portsmouth.....	(757) 444-2102
NAVWPNSTA Earle	(732) 866-2115
Newport News Shipyard.....	(757) 688-6289
NOIC Sugar Grove	(304) 249-6519
NSA, Norfolk Northwest Annex.....	(757) 421-8770
NSA Saratoga Springs	(518) 886-0200x146
NSY Portsmouth	(207) 438-1835
NWS Yorktown.....	(757) 887-4606
SUBASE New London	(860) 694-3383

Fleet & Family Support Centers
MID ATLANTIC www.cnmc.navy.mil/navylifema



Exceptional Family Member Program



Program Description

The Navy's **Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)** is a quality of life program that supports Sailors who have dependents with chronic medical, dental, mental health, developmental or educational conditions and require special care and services. Enrollment in the EFMP allows Navy detailers to consider the Sailor's family needs during the assignment process, ensuring that necessary resources will be available at the Sailor's assigned duty station.

Benefits to Service Members, Families, and Commands

- **Networking, information, referral and resources**, and assistance during PCS moves.
- **Peace of mind** for deployed service members and their families.
- **Enhances command readiness** through support to the service member and family.
- **Improves retention** by providing support to skilled Sailors who may otherwise have considered separation in order to best meet their family's needs.
- **Decreases costly overseas returns** by proactively ensuring that duty assignments are made with special needs taken into consideration.

Who's Eligible for EFMP?

Military dependents who:

- Have chronic medical, dental, mental health, developmental or educational conditions that require special care and services.
- Are enrolled in DEERS.
- Reside with the sponsor (excluding geographic bachelors and family members living in residential care facilities).

EFMP Categories

Once enrolled, your family member is assigned one of six categories based upon the frequency and duration of treatment and support that he or she requires.

Orders are issued using the category assignment as a guideline. It is important to note that these categories apply to the family member and do not restrict the sea and shore duty requirements of the service member.

Category 1: Needs do not generally limit assignments

Category 2: Condition requires specific CONUS or overseas locations

Category 3: Usually no assignment to overseas locations based on non-availability of needed services

Category 4: Assignment to billets near major military or civilian medical facility

Category 5: Enables service member to homestead in a major medical area that offers both sea and shore assignments

Category 6: Temporary Category: Condition requires a stable environment for six months to one year

EFMP Assistance

Fleet & Family Support Centers' (FFSC) **EFMP Liaisons** can assist service members and families in locating local military and civilian resources, special education assistance, social and support groups, treatment providers, and information about local disability services.

Enrollment packets are available from FFSC, local branch medical clinics, Naval hospital, Command EFMP POC, or www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil. Regular **updates** are required and, in some cases, **disenrollment** may be necessary.

Assistance with enrollment, updates, and disenrollment is provided by FFSC **EFMP Liaisons, Command EFMP POCs (Point of Contact)** at every command, and **EFMP Coordinators** at every Military Treatment Facility or Branch Medical Clinic.

Information is also available to assist with a successful PCS move.

Notes: