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Family Connection is a publication of the Fleet and Family Support Program.

The Navy's Fleet and Family Support Program promotes the self-reliance and resilience of Sailors and their families. We provide information that can help you meet the unique challenges of the military lifestyle.

If you have questions or comments, contact Timothy McGough at timothy.mcgough@navy.mil.

Visit us online at:



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Military Consumer Protection Day

On July 17, the Department of Defense, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Military Saves campaign and many other organizations will observe the first ever [Military Consumer Protection Day](#). Throughout the month of July, DoD will empower military families with free consumer resources to help them avoid scams and make informed decisions about financial products and services. In addition to everyday scams, service members and their families are sometimes targeted due to unique factors of military life. Rental and moving, credit card, car buying and loan scams are examples of frauds focused directly on military families.

On Military Consumer Protection Day, service members will have access to tips on protecting themselves against scams, as well as the best information to make sound decisions in the marketplace, such as where to go to get more information or to file a complaint and how to find consumer protection resources. Commemorative activities may be held at the installation level and may include seminars, information through social media or free publications for service members and their families. Being aware of the types of scams that are happening is the first line of defense. Contact your [local FFSC](#) for more information.

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Did you know the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) Office of Servicemember Affairs has received more than 5,000 complaints from service members, veterans, and their families? These complaint statistics are not just numbers. They represent military members, their families and the impact consumer financial issues are having on their quality of life. A copy of the report can be found on the [CFPB website](#).

CFPB wants to hear from active-duty, Guard, Reserve, retirees, family members and veterans – the whole military community. You can contact them with questions or complaints about consumer financial products and services by visiting www.consumerfinance.gov/.

“Any informed borrower is simply less vulnerable to fraud and abuse.”

– Alan Greenspan





Navy Getaways, Navy Gateway Inns and Suites

Navy Getaways. Whether planning a family vacation, a class reunion, retirement, or a weekend getaway, Navy Getaways provides vacation accommodations and exciting recreational "Getaway" experiences for active duty service members, retirees, Reservists, DoD civilians and their sponsored guests. With 47 sites across the globe, Navy Getaways offers accommodations at prime locations that vary from rustic and simple to sophisticated comfort. The sites includes over 2,631 RV spots, tent sites, cottages, cabins, townhomes, and resort-style vacation rentals. Most sites also offer BBQ areas, laundry service, bathhouses, kids' play areas, game rooms, community centers, and some even offer swimming pools!

Navy Gateway Inns and Suites (NGIS). NGIS is the official Priority One Navy lodging choice for all temporary duty travelers. If space is available, NGIS also accommodates those traveling in a leisure status. With over 24,000 guest beds at military installations worldwide, NGIS offers lodging services comparable with commercial hotels for all active duty service members, retirees, Reservists, DoD civilians, and their sponsored guests.

Staying at Navy Getaways or NGIS not only provides great lodging at great prices, but also offers the convenience of other base amenities. Guests can take advantage of MWR activities, food services, swimming pools, gyms, golf courses, marinas, beaches, movie theaters, youth centers, discounted tickets for area attractions, and other great MWR activities right outside their doors.

NGIS has also partnered with commercial hotels offering lodging accommodations with rates below per diem while providing safe, secure lodging that meets DoD standards (available for TDY or leisure travel).

For more information and reservations, visit <http://www.navygetaways.com>, <http://ngis.dodlodging.net/>, or call 1-877-NAVY-BED (628-9233).

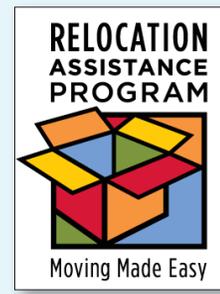
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[Change of Address – Online Forms](#)

Are you moving? Report your new address online using this consolidated list of change of address forms.



America the Beautiful

Free annual pass for U.S. military to National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands



This pass is your ticket to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites. It covers entrance fees at national parks and national wildlife refuges as well as standard amenity fees at national forests and grasslands, and at lands managed by the

Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation.

- Available to U.S. military members and dependents in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard and also, Reserve, and National Guard members.

- Must be obtained in person at a Federal recreation site by showing a Common Access Card (CAC) or Military ID (Form 1173).

Additional information may be found at <http://www.store.usgs.gov/pass/military.html>.





Location is everything when choosing where to live

Families have a lot to consider when choosing a home at a new installation. For families where both spouses have careers, deciding on where to live takes on additional complexity. Cities with large suburban areas like Washington, D.C., and San Diego, Ca., can also have commutes that dramatically impact quality of life. The job markets in these types of areas can be diverse and localized in particular suburbs. Understanding the local real estate market and industries is exactly why service members and their families should contact the local [Housing Service Center \(HSC\)](#) when moving into a new community.

Your local Housing Service Center (HSC) can help when moving into a new community.

The professional counselors at the HSC can help you navigate your new community and will collect your concerns, needs and special situations and turn them into a solid plan for finding you the perfect navy home in the right neighborhood. This will help contribute to your family's employment readiness and consequently, your family's overall quality of life.

Your résumé: The key to obtaining an interview

Most people find writing a résumé to be a difficult task. Many military spouses and family members struggle to create a unified résumé that truly highlights all of their skills and accomplishments in a manner which is understandable to civilian employers. So where do you start? Your local [Fleet and Family Support Center \(FFSC\)](#) offers résumé writing workshops as well as one-on-one résumé writing assistance at no cost. Consultants are also available to guide spouses and family members on career planning and job seeking, as well as help prepare for interviews and negotiate job offers. In addition to your local FFSC, free résumé writing assistance is also available online.

Department of Labor's Career OneStop's Résumé Guide

This comprehensive [résumé guide](#) will help you:

- Identify the key elements of a great résumé.
- Understand four different résumé strategies and select the one that will get your résumé noticed.
- Market your résumé, online and in-person.
- Make the most of the Internet by providing tips on how to increase your online presence and use social media to your advantage.

American Job Center Network Locator

[American Job Center Network Locator](#) provides a single access point - open 24/7 - for key federal programs and critical local resources to help people find a job, identify training programs and tap into resources to gain skills in growing industries. This site, and the nearly 3,000 federally funded brick-and-mortar employment centers that are part of the American Job Center Network, provide an easily-identifiable source for the help and services individuals and businesses need. Many local centers have their own websites, so be sure to check out your local center's site to determine whether résumé services are among the services provided.

New spouse employment readiness resource launched



The Spouse Education and Career Opportunities (SECO) program launched a new tool to help provide education and career guidance to military spouses worldwide. [MySECO](#) gives spouses of active-duty, National Guard and Reserve

service members access to online education and career information, resources, tools and assessments 24 hours a day, seven days a week at no cost to the user. Spouses can begin to explore their interests, skills, passions, and personality type to determine the best fit for education and career choices and begin to build a portable and meaningful career path.



New NFAAS app launched

The CNIC Family Emergency Response Team and the Marketing and Multimedia Development Branch are pleased to introduce the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) app, now available for iPhones. This FREE disaster-based readiness application is designed to provide Sailors and their families with 24/7 access to NFAAS and emergency preparedness resources. Users will be able to inform their command of their status, update contact information, find checklists for emergency kits, and will have access to a Fleet and Family Support Center locator that can help find the closest site where assistance is available. The app is streamlined and easy-to-use. To download the new NFAAS app, go to the Apple App Store on your iPhone and type in NFAAS. (The NFAAS app for the Android smartphone is coming soon.)

DECA Guard/ Reserve On-site Sales

The Guard/Reserve On-site Sales Program provides the commissary benefit to deserving Guard/Reserve members and their families that live in areas that are not close to an existing commissary store. For more information visit: http://www.commissaries.com/guard_reserve_sales.cfm.

Employment and Transition Corner

The [Gold Card](#) is required to meet Transition GPS Career Readiness Standards. It provides unemployed post-9/11-era veterans with intensive preparation and follow-up services they need to succeed in today's job market. The Gold Card initiative is a joint effort of the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS).

An eligible veteran can present the Gold Card at the local [American Job Center](#) to receive enhanced intensive services including up to six months of follow-up. The enhanced in-person services available for Gold Card holders may include:

- Job readiness assessment, including interviews and testing.
- Development of an Individual Development Plan (IDP).
- Career guidance through group or individual counseling that helps veterans in making training and career decisions.
- Provision of labor market, occupational and skills transferability information that inform educational, training and occupational decisions.
- Referral to job banks, job portals and job openings.
- Referral to employers and registered apprenticeship sponsors.
- Referral to training by WIA-funded or third party service providers.
- Monthly follow-up by an assigned case manager for up to six months.

Transitioning service members and eligible veterans can [print a Gold Card here](#).



NAVY
U.S. Navy Individual Augmentees

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Returning Warrior Workshops (RWW)

Returning Warrior Workshop Schedule and IA Family Events — www.ia.navy.mil. Click "Links and Resources."

IA Discussion Group Schedule

[View the Fleet-wide list of classes, support groups and events.](#)



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