

# EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM FACTS

APRIL 2015

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, Fort Hood, Texas

## EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

### PATIENT AND PROVIDER INFORMATION

The EFMP is a mandatory enrollment program under Army Regulation 608-75 and is based on Department of Defense directives. This program works with military and civilian agencies to ensure that comprehensive and coordinated community support, appropriate housing, educational, medical and personnel services are available to Families with special needs, prior to Family movement to that location. **When Family Members with special needs are enrolled in the program prior to the assignment cycle, their needs can be considered in the military assignment process.** An Exceptional Family Member (EFM) is an active-duty Family Member (adult or child) with any physical, emotional, developmental or intellectual disorder that requires special treatment, therapy, education, training, housing or counseling.

**Enrollment in the EFMP is MANDATORY** if any of the criteria are met. In general, an active-duty Family member qualifies for EFMP if they:

- Require any medical care above the level normally provided by a family physician in an outpatient setting.
- Have serious or chronic medical problems, physical disabilities, mental health disorders or require specialty follow up support or early intervention/special education services.

#### Common Diagnoses for Enrollment (not all inclusive):

- **ADD/ADHD/ODD** (if on more than one medication, have a co-morbid condition or receive any counseling)
- **Allergies** (if require allergy shots or follow up with an allergist more than once a year)
- **Asthma/RAD** (intermittent asthma NOT requiring controller medication is no longer required to be enrolled)
- **Autism Spectrum/Pervasive Developmental Disorders/Developmental Delays** (may also require educational enrollment)
- **Autoimmune/Neuromuscular Disorders** (such as Muscular Dystrophy, Lupus, Multiple Sclerosis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, etc)
- **Cancer** (unless patient has completed treatments, is in remission > 5 years, and is requiring no further follow up)
- **Cervical Dysplasia/Abnormal Pap Smear** (if requires pap smears 2x/year or greater or requires colposcopy)
- **Cerebral Palsy or Loss of Mobility** (requiring use of wheelchair, walker or other aid; requiring PT or OT)
- **Cleft Lip/Palate** (unless after complete repair and no longer requiring any services or follow up)
- **Diabetes** (all insulin dependent diabetes and any non-insulin dependent requiring frequent or specialist follow up)
- **Medical Equipment** (e.g. g-tube, oxygen, ventilator, home nebulizer, CPAP, TENS, apnea monitor, home dialysis, wheelchair or other mobility aid, splints, braces, orthotics; for insulin pump, hearing aid, pacemaker-include brand and model number)
- **Genetic Disorders/Congenital Anomalies** (e.g. cystic fibrosis, Trisomy 21, hydrocephalus, spina bifida)
- **Hearing Problems/Deafness** (requiring hearing aids or special services)
- **Heart Conditions** (congenital and acquired heart disease, any conditions requiring frequent follow up or cardiology)
- **Inflammatory Bowel Disease** (e.g. Crohn's Disease, Ulcerative Colitis)
- **Immunodeficiency** (primary or secondary, including SCID, HIV/AIDS or requiring frequent medical care)
- **Mental Health Conditions** (Anxiety Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Depression, Eating Disorders, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, PTSD, Schizophrenia, Drug or Alcohol Abuse, etc. All must be enrolled who have been treated with medication or received therapy within the last 5 years, if required therapy > six months).
- **Ostomies/Shunts/Prosthetics** (any artificial openings that must be maintained, any artificial body parts)
- **Premature or High Risk Infants** (delivered at less than 36 weeks, those who required extended oxygen support or assisted ventilation, admission to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit or readmission to hospital within one month)
- **Seizure Disorders/Epilepsy** (not including simple febrile seizures)
- **Sickle Cell Disease/Bleeding Disorders**(such as hemophilia or requiring frequent or hematology follow up)
- **Special Education/Early Intervention Requirements** (services required per Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP) or Individual Education Plan (IEP); DD Form 2792-1 to be completed by Early Intervention Program or School.
- **All bariatric surgeries** (gastric bypass, gastric sleeve, lap band)
- **Thyroid Problems** (Graves Disease, frequent follow up or endocrinology follow up)
- **Vision Problems/Blindness** (sight not corrected with glasses or any conditions requiring ophthalmology or housing limitations)
- **Any other medical, psychological or educational condition** should be considered if follow up by a **specialist or special services** are required. When in doubt, contact the **EFMP office at Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, (254) 288-8099**, for additional guidance.

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**PURPOSE OF EFMP:** Duty assignment coordination, to avoid sending family members to locations that do not have the appropriate medical or educational care. Provide eligibility to certain services not otherwise available, including Army Community Services EFMP Systems Navigators, School Advocates and Respite Care Programs, as well as TRICARE ECHO, which covers some services not covered by regular TRICARE.

- WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Family members of active-duty Soldiers.
- DUAL MILITARY FAMILIES NEED TO ENSURE FAMILY MEMBERS ARE ENROLLED UNDER BOTH SERVICE MEMBERS.
- MANDATORY ENROLLMENT PROGRAM. UCMJ action is authorized for soldiers who refuse to participate.
- Being enrolled ensures that your branch manager will be able to check with the gaining installation prior to placing you on assignment.
- **OCONUS assignments**
  - When a Soldier is notified of an OCONUS assignment, Fort Hood Soldiers must complete the online levee brief. Within 72 hours later THE SOLDIER'S S-1 CAN PRINT THE **DA FORM 5888** for the Soldier. Any questions regarding the DA FORM 5888 can be addressed by having the SOLDIER'S S-1 call **Family Travel** at **254-287-5253/6101**.
  - As soon as the Soldier is notified of an OCONUS assignment the Soldier or Family will call **Central Appointments**, at **254-288-8888**, to schedule a Family Member Overseas Screening appointment at the CRDAMC EFMP Office. **DO NOT WAIT FOR ORDERS** or the DA Form 5888 as any medical conditions identified at the screening will need to be addressed as early as possible.
  - If **FAMILY MEMBERS RECEIVE THEIR MEDICAL CARE OFF POST**, they must contact their providers to have their medical records released and faxed to our office. They may come in to the EFMP office to complete a Release of Information form, at least two weeks prior to the scheduled appointment, to ensure the records are at EFMP on the day and time of the appointment. Records requested through EFMP do not require a fee. The **EFMP fax number is 254-288-8768**
  - ALL CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SIX MUST BE PRESENT at the appointment for a developmental screening unless they are already in kindergarten (not pre-k).
  - ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS (18 AND UP) MUST BE PRESENT at the appointment.
  - ALL **AIR FORCE** FAMILY MEMBERS MUST BE PRESENT AT THE OVERSEAS SCREENING APPOINTMENT
  - The overseas screening is good for 6 months
  - If a Family member is identified as having a special need, requiring enrollment, at the time of the Overseas Screening, or are completing the screening after the Soldier has departed to the assignment, **they risk not being able to join the Soldier and a possible unaccompanied tour for the Soldier due to non-availability of care. IT IS CRITICAL TO GET THE OVERSEAS SCREENING DONE AS SOON AS THE SOLDIER IS PLACED ON ASSIGNMENT and to enroll Family members as soon as qualifying medical conditions or special needs are identified. Do not wait for orders or the DA Form 5888 to schedule.**
  - The EFMP Regulation requires enrollment for active diagnoses requiring care within the last year, but for asthma, cancer, or any mental health diagnoses, any care in the last five years must be reviewed for possible enrollment.
  - TO ENROLL FOR MEDICAL conditions, take the **DD FORM 2792 August 2014** to your provider.
  - TO ENROLL FOR EDUCATIONAL needs, if your child has an IEP/IFSP, take the **DD FORM 2792-1 August 2014** to the school or Early Childhood Intervention to be completed.
  - All **enrollment forms** must be returned to CRDAMC EFMP inside Darnall Army Medical Center Rm 1243 A.
  - TO DISENROLL A FAMILY MEMBER who is no longer eligible for enrollment please contact the Darnall EFMP, at **254-288-8099**, for guidance.
  - TO UPDATE YOUR EFMP ENROLLMENT, you must come to the CRDAMC EFMP office to get a printout of the current enrollment to ensure all previously enrolled diagnoses are addressed.
  - **ANY QUESTIONS** regarding the enrollment process can be answered by calling **CRDAMC EFMP** at **254-288-8099**.
  - **TIMELINE** - once the DD FORM 2792 or DD FORM 2792-1 is submitted to the CRDAMC EFMP office, it will be reviewed for completeness, then sent to the Regional Coding Center to be coded into PERNET. It may take up to four weeks to process and transfer between PERNET, MEDPROS and EDAS. This is why IT IS IMPORTANT TO BEGIN AN UPDATE OR DISENROLLMENT WELL BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE and an initial enrollment well before the PCS cycle. Only enrollments and updates related to compassionate reassignments may be expedited by the coding center.

**EFMP CANNOT ACCEPT OLDER VERSIONS OF THE DD 2792/2792-1. PLEASE ENSURE YOU USE THE AUGUST 2014 VERSION.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE EFMP AND TO DOWNLOAD PDF FILL-ABLE FORMS:** <http://efmp.amedd.army.mil/>.