



UNITED STATES ARMY
CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

Fort Meade CYS

Waitlist Factsheet



MilitaryChildCare.com is a single gateway for military families to find comprehensive information on military-operated or military-approved child care programs worldwide. With MilitaryChildCare.com, you create an account and maintain a family profile that you can access at any time from any location.

Fort Meade has a growing population with an extensive waitlist on average we have more than 500 families with an immediate need for childcare. When extending childcare offers to families we have to offer based on priority.

Priority Placement



INFANTS- 100% of all infant childcare offers are made to families in priority 1a-1c, with the majority of the offers going to families who are in the 1C priority. Occasional, we are able to offer childcare to families in priority 1D, but those offers are rare.



PRE TODDLER- within this age group we are able to extend childcare offers to many families who are within Priority 1(1A-1G). This is because the Pre-Toddler waitlist is mixed between what we identify as Pre-Toddler 1(12 -17 months) and Pre-Toddler 2 (18-23 months). These childcare offers are made in priority order, but depending on the vacancy and age of the child on the waitlist. This is the one waitlist we have to look at the vacancy and the age, from there we follow the Family priority order.



TODDLER- within this age group the majority of these childcare offers are made to families who are 1A-1D, then 1E-1F. On average we have very few vacancies this is due to many of our toddler vacancies are filled within the programs (i.e. if a child enrolled in the program turns 2 the center transition that child into the toddler age group).



PRESCHOOL- within this age group typically around Aug-Oct timeframe we are able to extend childcare offers to families who are priority 1, 2 and 3. Once all preschool childcare spaces are filled throughout the year the majority of the offers are for families who are in priority 1. During the August timeframe our centers experience a huge shift where over 100 children leave the preschool programs to attend school. After children who are able to transition into the preschool programs are moved internally our office is able to extend child care offers from the waitlist.



SCHOOL AGE- during the school year we are able to extend childcare offers to just about every family who request care from priorities 1, 2, 3 and Space Available. This is due to the fact that we have two buildings and many vacancies. The only exception is kindergarten as those rooms could fill up, and at times are not able to offer childcare to families past priority 3.

During the summer season, we have a waitlist and historically we have only been able to offer childcare to Priority 1, 2 and 3. The School Age waitlist is one waitlist that will not produce an anticipated placement date. The reason is because these waitlist are created with a beginning and end date (i.e. school year and summer). However, families are placed in order based on priority and date care was requested. When looking to offer child care these are the factors we use.

***All families who are space available who accept childcare and enroll in a School Age program are required to sign receipt of the Space Available Army Directive 2019-10 dated February 5, 2019. FCC- families are listed on the waitlist based on priority and date care was requested. Childcare offers are made by priorities.*



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Our office staff are unable to give families a number placement as this can change. The system holds two list, an immediate placement list (these are families we see who need care within 30 days of their initial request) and a projected (this list consist of families who need care in the future) as the dates for the families who are on the projected list come near they will then move to the immediate list. When this happens, it could change the placement of families within the immediate list.

Family Responsibility

1. Ensure that your priorities are listed correctly in the system. Anytime, there is change in status (ie. Going from dual military to military with a working spouse) families are encourage to update their profile. Again, the waitlist is priority based if you are listed on the waitlist as a higher priority, and we offer you care, once you come to our office we must verify eligibility if your priority changed we may have to rescind the offer, as you are offered care based on your priority.

2. Ensure that you are validating your request, every 30 days the system will email you asking you if you still want to be on the waitlist. It is important that you do this step as if it goes unanswered the system will remove you from the list.

We highly encourage you to request childcare for all CDC programs and FCC providers. We have three Child Development Centers, and several Family Childcare Providers each program has vacancies at different times and although we may not be able to offer you childcare at your program of choice, we may be able to offer you viable childcare in another program or with a FCC provider.

3. Ensure that the date you actually need care is correct. If your date changed to a later date you are able to update the date care is needed option. This update will move you to the projected waitlist, until 30 days prior to the date care is needed.

4. All offers are sent via MilitaryChildCare.com, once you accept an offer you will have 48 to come to our office to start the enrollment process. If you receive an offer for childcare and do not respond to the email after 48 hours the system will cancel out your request.



Definitions

Request for care: date you made your original request.

Date care needed: the date you need care to start.

Anticipated placement: this an estimated date, and will fluctuate based on how care is offered out, it is computer generated.

Transition: when children enrolled in the programs age up, children are moved to the next age group. This transition opens up vacancies and allow us to extend offers to new children.

We hope that you find this information sheet helpful. For additional questions please call Parent Central Services at 301-677-1149/1618/1104.