



Air Force & Space Force Military Child Care Program Overview

This document is designed to help military families understand and navigate the availability, eligibility, and access requirements for each program, ensuring they can secure high-quality child care tailored to their unique needs. It serves Air Force and Space Force active duty members, reservists, civilians, and Gold Star Spouses by providing essential information, resources, and guidance on securing and maximizing child care benefits.

CDC

Child Development Centers (CDCs) are on-post child care centers that offer full-day, part-day, and hourly care for children (Ages six weeks to kindergarten). The programs offered are certified by the DoD, which is also responsible for ensuring they meet national accreditation requirements. Since this is a military-operated program, you can access this care on a sliding scale fee basis if you meet the eligibility requirements and have a high enough priority status.

Where is it?

A CDC is almost always on the installation, but only some installations have a CDC, or they may be closed due to staffing or building updates. You can find out if your installation has a CDC by searching at this link: <https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil/mcc-central/provider-search>

Who has access?

This [quick priority status](#) guide lets you see who can access this program. There is limited availability, and most locations deal with long waitlists. Operation Child Care Project color-coded this priority guide to give you a better idea of access. This is just a guide and not definitive. To determine your likelihood of access, log in to your militarychildcare.com account and use the Find Child Care option to see your Anticipated Placement Time (APT).



SAC

School-age care (SAC) offers child care (before and After School Care and Full Day Care During Breaks) for children and youth from five to 12 years of age.

Where is it?

School-age care is located in a CDC, a separate youth programs facility, or another location the DoD determines to be suitable. This may be on or off an installation, and transportation to and from the local school may be available. You can find out if your installation has the option for SAC by searching at this link:

<https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil/mcc-central/provider-search>

Who has access?

This quick priority status guide lets you see who can access this program. There is limited availability, but families report greater access, unlike the CDC.

Operation Child Care Project color-coded this priority guide to give you a better idea of access. This is just a guide and not definitive. To determine your likelihood of access, log in to your militarychildcare.com account and use the Find Child Care option to see your Anticipated Placement Time (APT).



FCC

Family child care (FCC) is care that is usually provided by military spouses in their homes. Designed for children of all ages, most FCC providers are able to determine what care they offer, which may include full-day, part-day, school year, summer camp, 24/7, and extended care. Some FCC providers offer flexible operating hours, and are able to adjust their hours to accommodate requests from parents. These individuals are certified by the installation themselves.

Where is it?

This care occurs in the providers' homes, on or off an installation. If the provider is located off an installation, they may be subject to the state's requirements for operating an in-home licensed child care center.

Following Virginia's lead, many states seek to eliminate this requirement, which no longer requires state licensing or inspection for military providers.

Who has access?

This quick priority status guide lets you see who can access this program. Limited availability is flexed due to the nomadic nature of military families who usually operate these centers. Operation Child Care Project color-coded this priority guide to give you a better idea of access. This is just a guide and not definitive. Unlike the other military-operated options, you are unlikely to know your anticipated placement time (APT) for this program through militarychildcare.com. Please contact your local Child and Youth Services Program to speak with a FCC Coordinator to discuss availability.

OCCP's mission is to empower military families by providing them with educational resources and guidance when it comes to childcare options. Our goal is to alleviate the stress and uncertainty that comes with being a military family, giving parents peace of mind and the ability to focus on their work.



MCCYN

Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood (MCCYN) is a DoD and U.S. Coast Guard fee assistance program that operates on a reimbursement basis for eligible families. With fee assistance, a portion of your child care costs are reimbursed in payments directly to your child care provider. The intention is to offset community-based care costs that meet program requirements. You can use the calculator on the [Operation Child Care Projects](#) site to determine how much fee assistance you should budget for. To learn more about what the requirements are for participating child care centers, you can review the FAQ on [MCC Central at this link](#), and scroll down to “Quality Standards for MCCYN Providers”.

Where is it?

The MCCYN program is available in all 50 states but may not appear as an option when searching militarychildcare.com due to your installation being labeled as a non-enabled installation. Here is a link to the most recent list of [enabled installations](#).

If your installation is not listed, that does not mean the program is unavailable; you must request access. Operation Child Care Project found that families who email for access may also be required to call militarychildcare.com to submit a help desk ticket request and wait for approval.

To learn more about non-enabled installation access, you can view the FAQ from the MCC Central website at the link below; find the answer by navigating to [MCCYN: General Questions](#), and then selecting “My installation is not currently eligible for MCCYN. Can I request an exception?”. If you get stuck obtaining MCCYN fee assistance, feel free to [reach out to](#) Operation Child Care.

Who has access?

The MCCYN program [offers eligibility](#) to Air Force active duty members, Air Force Reservists serving on active duty, Air Reserve Technicians, Air Force civilians, and Gold Star Spouses. Your likelihood of access is according to your family's [priority status](#). This is just a guide and not definitive. To determine your likelihood of access, log in to your militarychildcare.com account and use the Find Child Care option to see your Anticipated Placement Time (APT).

MCCYN+

Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood Plus (MCCYN+) is a DoD and U.S. Coast Guard fee assistance program that operates on a reimbursement basis for eligible families. With fee assistance, a portion of your child care costs are reimbursed in payments directly to your child care provider. The intention is to offset community-based care costs that meet program requirements. You can use the calculator on the [Operation Child Care Projects](#) site to determine how much fee assistance you should budget for.



The most significant differences between MCCYN and MCCYN+ are location and accreditation requirements. Centers that are eligible for fee assistance through the MCCYN program must have a national accreditation. In contrast, in the MCCYN+ Program, they only need to be enrolled and in good standing in their respective states' Quality Rating Improve System (QRIS).



Where is it?

MCCYN-PLUS is available in Arkansas, Colorado, Kentucky, Maryland, Miami-Dade County, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia and Washington. The Program will also be expanding to South Carolina with a tentative date of August 1, 2024.

Who has access?

The same families who are eligible for MCCYN are also eligible for MCCYN+ as long as they are stationed in one of the participating locations. Similar to the MCCYN program which has nuance around non-enabled installation locations, the MCCYN+ program has some additional hurdles.

Families who seek to utilize MCCYN+ must first complete an enhanced referral search through the third-party administrator Child Care Aware of America to confirm that there aren't any available MCCYN centers that could fit the family's care schedule needs. If it is found that there is an MCCYN center available and the family has extenuating circumstances that would move them to request an MCCYN+ approved center instead, they must ask for an Exception to Policy (ETP). If you are a family who needs assistance understanding your options when it comes to the MCCYN+ Program please don't hesitate to reach out for assistance.



CCYH

The Child Care In Your Home (CCYH) Fee Assistance Program was formerly known as the In Home Child Care (IHCC) Pilot Program and is frequently referred to as the “Nanny Program.” You can watch a video on the program's [specific requirements here](#). This subsidy program covers some of the costs associated with an in-home, trusted caregiver for qualifying families in a reimbursement model to the caregiver.

Full-time care for a non-school-aged child, with the option to add in care for older siblings, must be 30 to 60 hours of child care weekly. Care can be provided on weekdays, during nontraditional hours such as evenings and weekends, and on rotating schedules to meet nontraditional work schedules.

CCYH Has Unique Requirements:

- Families must find, vet, and hire their trusted caregiver.
- Families must be prepared to become household employers and compensate their trusted caregivers by following all federal and state tax laws.
- Families must continuously manage their trusted caregivers, ensuring they complete the initial and recurring training and obtain favorable background checks.
- Families must facilitate and abide by quarterly home checks by a third-party contractor who ensures the program rules and regulations are followed.

Where is it?

The CCYH program currently has limited availability at the following locations:

- Fayetteville, North Carolina
- Fort Walton Beach, Florida
- Hawaii
- Jacksonville/Mayport, Florida
- Las Vegas, Nevada
- National Capital Region
- Norfolk, Virginia
- San Antonio, Texas
- San Diego, California
- Seattle/Tacoma, Washington



Who has access?

This quick priority status guide lets you see who can access this program. This program has minimal availability, and determining your position on the waitlist for access is impossible now. Operation Child Care Project color-coded this priority guide, but this coloring does not reflect this specific program due to its limited availability. This is just a guide and not definitive. If you need assistance determining if the CCYH program is the right fit or meets your care timeline requirements, please reach out to case management at Operation Child Care Project.