



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 May 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR DACOWITS

FROM: HQ USAF
1720 Air Force Pentagon
Washington DC 20330-1720

SUBJECT: DAF DACOWITS RFI Response RFI #3

QUESTION #3

In March 2023, via RFI 5, the Committee received responses from the Military Services regarding their single custodial parent accessions policies. The Committee remains concerned about the significant recruiting challenges facing the military.

a. Since implementing the change to the Active Component's single custodial accession policy in 2014, has the Air Force done a longitudinal study or any review to assess the impact of this policy change?

The DAF regularly reviews the Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 36-2032, *Military Recruiting and Accessions* policy. More specifically, the single custodial accession policy (section 3.6.9.3.2) mirrors Title 32 § 66.7. Since 2014, the Air Force has benefited from the change with a total of 2,798 accessions since implementation. Currently, the Air Force had 257 accessions this Fiscal Year.

b. Have there been any challenges or adverse impacts to the Air Force since permitting single custodial parent accessions?

In 2019, the DAF updated DAFI 36-2110, *Total Force Assignments* allowing Airmen a Child Custody Assignment Deferment or assignment action for single parents to further support co-parenting and provide better placement to augment single parents in the DAF.

c. Are there any lessons learned?

Updates to the DAFI 36-2110 better position Airmen, increase recruitment, and retention, and should be periodically evaluated for further lessons learned when new data is gathered by the DAF.