

DACOWITS' RFIs for June 2019

June 2019

MARINE &
Family



CHILDCARE RESOURCES

Comprehensive childcare has been an ongoing challenge for Service members and has been highlighted as such by DACOWITS for more than 35 years. With the anticipated increase in the number of women joining the Military Services, the Committee anticipates there will be an increase in the demand for childcare resources. In 2017, the Committee recommended that the Secretary of Defense “*expand affordable, quality childcare resources and offer more 24-hour options to Service members to meet increasing demands.*”



Current and new initiatives to expand childcare support to Service members (e.g., 24/7 facilities).

Answer:

- Since 2004, The Marine Corps has offered Off-Base Fee Assistance to eligible Marines who are geographically dispersed (outside a 15 mile radius of a military child care program) or on an installation military child care program waitlist. Eligible Marines receive assistance in paying for the cost of nationally accredited child care within the local community.
- Per an August 2015 Secretary of the Navy Directive, the Marine Corps extended Child Development Center hours to 14 hours per day.
 - Marine Corps implemented action beginning 1 October 2015. Overall usage was minimal.
- On 20 July 2017, following two years of data collection on extended hours utilization, the Acting SECNAV granted Installation Commanders the flexibility to expand or contract hours of operation to meet the unique demands of each installation and the needs of the Marines, and their families. 6 of the 14 installations still offer extended hours.
- A \$37.4M Child Development Center at MCAS Miramar is currently under development and submitted as part of the FY20 Unfunded Priorities List (UPL).

Current and new initiatives to increase awareness of childcare options and resources.

Answer:

Military Child Care.com

- The Department of Defense (DoD) program makes it easier to find the child and youth care your family needs. Now military and DoD civilian families can search for child and youth care options through a single website. Using MilitaryChildCare.com, parents can find comprehensive information on child care programs worldwide, conduct a customized search for the care the family needs, and submit a request for care at any time and from any location.
- Child Care Aware is a "national network of more than 850 child care resource and referral centers (CCR&Rs) located in every state and most communities across the United States. CCR&R centers help families, child care providers, and communities find, provide, and plan for affordable, quality child care." Child Care Aware also partners with each service branch to help military families find affordable, quality child care.
- Military One Source offers recourses for parents on child care.
- Local USMC installations have website that offer parent information on local child care options.

Current or pending policies to enforce Child Development Center (CDC) priorities via revalidation of enrolled children vice those with a higher priority on the waiting list.

Answer:

The USMC uses the DoD priority system to place qualifying children of eligible patrons. A qualifying child is defined as someone between birth and the age of 12.

The highest priority for full-time care shall be given to qualifying children from birth through age 12 years of age of combat related wounded warriors, child development program direct care staff, single or dual active duty Military Service members, single or dual DoD civilian employees paid from APF and NAF, surviving spouses of military members who died from a combat related incident, and those acting in loco parentis on behalf of the aforementioned eligible patrons.

Families are required to re-enroll once a year for both on installation care and off base fee assistance.

USMC does not re-prioritize except for Space Available.

USMC Child Care Enrollment

Provide the percentage of childcare slots at CDCs filled by children of Service members.

- CDC 4,116 87%
- SAC 1,140 84%

Provide the percentage of childcare slots at CDCs filled by children of DoD civilians.

- CDC 534 11%
- SAC 185 13%

Provide the percentage of childcare slots at CDCs filled by others.

- CDC Contractors: 56 1%
- SAC Contractors: 10 <1%
- CDC Space Available: 41 <1%
- SAC Space Available: 28 2%

Totals: CDC 4,747 SAC 1,363

Questions?

