

RFI 11 for DACOWITS June 2016 meeting

The Committee requests the **Air Force** provide a **written response** to follow-up questions from the December 2015 briefing:

a. How is the Air Force progressing on its single parent policy change to date?

As of 10 Dec 2015, the AF changed its policy allowing for single parents with up to 3 children to enlist (OTS applicants were not restricted). If an individual has an AFOQT score of 50 percentile or greater and has up to 3 children under the age of 18, no waiver is required. If they score below 50 percentile and are qualified for the AF need, they may receive a waiver from a local AFRS commander as long as they do not exceed 3 children. As of 1 Apr 2016, the policy was updated to reflect single member parents with custody of more than 3 children would be ineligible. Waivers are considered for those whose legal custody has been transferred by court order.

i. What are the lessons learned?

Too soon to tell of lessons learned and the impact of having an increased number of single parent members who may be limited in fulfilling deployment or work schedule requirements due to being the single/primary care giver for their dependent. So far we have not heard of any issues with this change in policy.

ii. What will the Air Force modify going forward?

The AF has no plans for future modification going forward.

b. What does the prior entry counseling address?

Prior entry counseling addresses that applicants must receive counseling from a squadron First Sergeant (AD or Guard/Reserve) on the responsibility to develop a credible family care plan and maintain one throughout their AF career. They are also counseled on their responsibility to ensure they are capable of performing the mission and their responsibility to obtain child care.

c. What documentation is required of the single parent recruit to demonstrate suitability to receive a waiver?

Documentation required is a credible family care plan certified by the First Sergeant and reviewed by the local squadron commander.