EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

- **BLUF: EFMP is a mandatory enrollment program based on public law and DoD mandates.**

- EFMP provides a comprehensive, coordinated, multiagency approach for community support, housing, medical, educational, and personnel services to Families with special needs.

- EFMP provides certain reimbursable and non-reimbursable medically related services to Family members.

- EFMP participants are enrolled permanently in the program unless medical or special education needs warrant closure.

- Soldiers are required to update their enrollment documentation every 3 years or when EFM condition changes, whichever comes first.

- The Army has approximately10% of active duty Soldiers (51,251) enrolled in EFMP with over 67,900 FMs registered.

- Military personnel assignment managers consider the documented medical needs of EFMs during CONUS and OCONUS assignment process, provided there is a valid personnel requirement for the Soldier's grade and specialty.

- FMs are screened and EFMP enrollment initiated, if eligible, during routine medical care and deployment OCONUS.

- Screening also occurs during in-processing, reassignment processing, and out-processing if Soldiers indicate they have or suspect they have an EFM.

- Army is 99% effective in assigning Soldiers to overseas locations where medical care is available and accessible; goal is 100%. In FY07, 3 mis-assignments occurred (out of approximately 33K Family members screened) where Families returned to CONUS due to errors in the EFMP process. FY08 data has not been analyzed yet.

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EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

- ACS coordinates and manages the installation EFMP for the garrison commander.

- EFMP Coordinators serve as advocates and ensure parents are linked with appropriate special needs education school officials.

- Army has funded respite care program to support Soldiers with FMs with special needs. It provides temporary rest periods for Family members responsible for regular care of persons with disabilities.

- Community support services provided to the EFM include: information and referral on community support services and educational resources; advocacy to meet their needs, rights, and responsibilities under local, State, and Federal laws; transition support for Families with school age children; family-find activities; respite care; and provision of recreational and cultural programs.

- DA civilian employees do not enroll in the program. However, they must identify dependent children with special education and medically related service needs when processing for an OCONUS assignment where Family member travel is authorized at Government expense.

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EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

Q: Does the Army have a program to assist Soldiers with special needs Family members?

A: Yes, Army EFMP works with other military and civilian agencies to provide a comprehensive, coordinated, multiagency approach for community support, housing, medical, educational, and personnel services to Families with special needs.

Q: How can Soldiers and their Families participate in this program?

A: Family members are screened and EFMP enrollment initiated, if eligible, during routine medical care and deployment OCONUS. Completion of DD Form 2792 (EFMP Summary) constitutes enrollment in EFMP. Also, screening occurs during in-processing, reassignment processing, and out-processing if Soldiers indicate they have or suspect they have an exceptional Family member.

Q: How does EFMP benefit Soldiers and their Families?

A: EFMP provides transition and community support to Soldiers with special needs Families to ensure successful integration into the community. EFMP ensures Family members may not be excluded on the basis of disability from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, in any program or activity that receives or benefits from Federal financial assistance.

Q: How can EFMP assist Soldiers that have EFM school age children?

A: EFMP Coordinators serve as advocates and ensure parents are linked with appropriate special needs education school officials and medical providers and, upon the request of the parents, assist in the IEP process. EFMP works with relocating Families of exceptional school age children to ensure they have a copy of the IEP, a summary of educational activities for current and past school years, and any other information or documents needed for a successful school transition.

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EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

Q: How long can a Soldier be enrolled in EFMP?

A: Enrollment is permanent unless medical or special education needs warrant case closure or Soldier is separated from the Army.

Q: Does this EFMP requirement apply to DA civilians?

A: DA civilian employees do not enroll in the program. However, they must identify dependent children with special education and medically related service needs, and all Family members with medical needs, each time they process for an OCONUS assignment where Family member travel is authorized at Government expense.

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