

NAVY RESERVE FAMILY INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

For more family information go to <http://navyreserve.navy.mil/Public/HQ/WelcomeAboard/CNRFC+Families>

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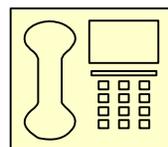
HOLIDAY MILITARY MAILING DEADLINES

Military Mail Addressed To	Express Mail® Military Service (EMMS)	First-Class Mail® Letters/Cards	Priority Mail®	Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL)
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4
APO/FPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	Dec 4	Dec 4	Dec 4
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4
APO/FPO AA ZIPs 340	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4

OPERATION UPLINK

Operation Uplink, a program sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) keeps military personnel in touch with their families and loved ones through a free phone cards. For more information or to request a card, visit <http://www.operationuplink.org>. Phone cards can only be sent to hospitalized veterans or deployed military personnel.

NAVY HOTLINE ASSISTS IA FAMILIES DURING DEPLOYMENT



Express Mail Military Service (EMMS) is available at select military post offices. Local post offices can determine if this service is available to an APO/FPO address. The information also is available by calling 1-800-ASK-USPS.

The USPS can also supply military family members and friends with packaging materials. Call toll-free 800-610-8734 and select option #1, then #1 again, and ask for the "military pack." USPS will send eight boxes, tape, packaging materials and labels. They will also give you an I.D. number so you may request more materials if your supplies runs out. The materials take about 4-10 days to receive. For more tips on mailing care packages to military members overseas please go to <http://www.usps.com/supportingourtroops/>.

MILITARY ONESOURCE WEBINAR

Military OneSource is introducing an exciting new tool for military families with special needs. The new DoD Special Needs Parent Toolkit has important information for families navigating the maze of medical and special education services, community support, benefits and entitlements. Learn how to advocate for your special needs family member using this comprehensive resource. Dates and times are as follows:

December 6 at 0900 (ET)

December 6 at 1200 (ET)

December 6 at 2100 (ET)

To register for the Webinar go to <http://www.militaryonesource.com>

The Navy Expeditionary Combat Readiness Command (ECRC) has established a hotline for families of Sailor's of Individual Augmentee (IA) or mobilization orders. The toll-free phone number is 877-364-4302. This resource provides family members a way to find the information or resources they may need while their Sailors are deployed.

MILITARY DISCOUNTS

There are hundreds of companies who want to say "thank you" for serving our country. To see a listing of over 700 companies offering military discounts go to <http://www.military.com>. Look under features on the left side and click on discounts. You are able to view discounts nationwide or select individual states.

ART/ESSAY CONTEST

The Armed Services YMCA has launched its annual art contest, sponsored by GEICO, and its essay contest, sponsored by Lockheed Martin. This year's theme is "My Military Family" and "Why My Military Dad/Mom Is My Hero." Winners will be announced at the Armed Services YMCA luncheon in Washington in May 2007. For more information go to <http://www.asymca.org> and look under 2007 Art & Essay Contest on the left side.