



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS**

Children born out of Wedlock

The following provides information relating to identification card eligibility and conveyance of medical benefits and shopping privileges for children born out-of-wedlock.

Eligibility for an ID card and benefits and privileges:

The ID card is issued based on a family member's enrollment and current eligibility within the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility System. Children are generally issued a Department of Defense/Uniformed Services ID card beginning at age 10, however; there are exceptions for issuing an ID card to children under age 10. At a minimum, the ID card provides the family member access to medical care; in this case, TRICARE programs and military treatment facility access. The ID card may also provide access to installation services such as shopping at the Base Exchange, and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation facilities. Commissary privileges are based on the child's residence and amount of support provided by the Airman. Child's residency with the Airman, including maintenance of household (more than 50 percent support from the Airman) are required to be recognized as an eligible patron at commissary stores.

Obtaining DEERS Eligibility

In cases of children born out-of-wedlock, there are two methods of obtaining DEERS recognition for eligibility/enrollment and ID card issuance. A birth certificate containing the name of the father is insufficient.

Method 1

Airmen may apply for DEERS enrollment and an ID card issuance for a child by submitting a Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity through the United States Local Health & Human Services. These state forms must be in original form, signed by both parents, and notarized as this is used to establish a child's relationship to his/her parents. Overseas Judge Advocate offices may assist those Airmen assigned to foreign countries in making determinations providing the Airman signs a notarized statement that he/she is the parent of the child.

Method 2

The child's mother may obtain a court order establishing legal paternity and submit such an order to the local United States Air Force base DEERS office, customer service.

NOTE: The child's father may also follow similar suit with obtaining a court order. Customer service will accept foreign court orders that are translated in English. A child support order for financial payment alone is not acceptable for DEERS enrollment.

Related Resources

[AFI 36-3026V1 IP](#)

[DoD/Uniformed Services DEERS office Locator](#)