Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
AF Form 354, Civilian Identification (ID) Card

The AF Form 354, Civilian ID Card is a credential identifying Air Force civilians, retirees and their eligible dependents. AFI 31-113, Installation Perimeter Access Control, 26 January 2012, no longer recognize the AF Form 354 as a valid credential for installation access. AFI 36-3026, Volume 1, Identification Cards for Members of The Uniformed Services, Their Eligible Family Members, and Other Eligible Personnel is under revision to cancel the AF Form 354. Air Force Publishing Office has removed the AF Form 354 card stock from inventory and is no longer available for reissuance.

1. Why the change? The ID card which is a paper-based form, no longer meets newer stringent security requirements established by Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12 (HSPD-12) and the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS-201). These new security requirements employ identity vetting and on-line capabilities such as bar code scanning technologies used in today’s workforce.

2. Can I keep my old ID card for sentimental reasons? Presentation of the ID card by the holder for installation access will result in confiscation by gate entry controllers. Should an ID card holder desire to keep their card, they may do so, as long as a hole is punched through it or the serial number is removed or both.

3. Why doesn’t the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) issue dependent ID cards to Air Force civilian retirees? Current Department policy does not recognize or support DEERS for the purposes of issuing dependent ID cards of Air Force civilians and retirees. Therefore, if a dependent is eligible, a DBIDS ID card is issued, including a local base letter, authorizing access to certain facilities (if any) such as Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR).

4. Is the Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) available at all Air Force locations? Yes, mainly at stateside bases, with few exceptions in the oversea locations.

5. If my eligible dependents are issued a DBIDS card and a base letter, can these be presented for use at any Air Force facility? No. The DBIDS card and base letter are used for the location where the issuance occurred; with exceptions, installation commanders who exercise authority over several bases (e.g., joint-basing), multiply location access is granted.