Military life presents unique challenges. The Air Force is committed to taking care of our Airmen and families and has a wide range of medical, chaplain and force support capabilities available to address and take care of the Total Force. Two such capabilities available to Airmen include the Exceptional Family Member Program and the Humanitarian Program.

**Exceptional Family Member Program**

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) actions are designed to assist an Airman who has a family member with special needs that meet Department of Defense (DoD) enrollment criteria. These needs are usually permanent or long-term and the family may require continued assistance.

The intent of the EFMP assignment policy is to utilize Airmen at locations based on current or projected manning requirements, while ensuring required specialized medical, educational, early intervention or related services are available at the projected location. These services are provided through the military medical system or local civilian resources utilizing TRICARE, or a combination thereof.

**EFMP Eligibility Requirements**

- The Airman has a family member with a medical or educational requirement that meets the DoD criteria for enrollment in the EFMP updated in the Military Personnel Data System (MiPDS).
- The Special Needs Coordinator has determined that adequate facilities/resources to meet the family member's medical, educational, related service or early intervention requirements do not exist and cannot be reasonably provided within the current assignment locale.
- The Airman's presence is determined to be essential in establishing, participating in, or continuing a medical regimen or educational program in the present area of assignment. Normally, only one assignment deferment for the continuing condition of the same family member is permitted. A temporary duty (TDY) deferment (when determined necessary) is normally only provided during the initial assignment deferment period.
- The Airman received a negative travel recommendation for family member travel by the gaining medical treatment facility (MTF) based on processing the AF Form 1466, Request for Family Member’s Medical and Education Clearance for Travel and other documentation.

**Humanitarian Program**

The spirit and intent of the Humanitarian Program is to assist Airmen in resolving severe short-term problems, normally within 12 months, involving a family member.

When a request involves reassignment, it will normally be to the closest location to where the concerned family member resides so the Airman can provide the family member maximum support, consistent with the manning needs of the Air Force.

For humanitarian consideration, a family member can be the Airman's spouse, child, parent, parent-in-law, stepparent, or other person actually residing in the applicant's household who is dependent on the Airman for over 50 percent of their financial support. It can also be someone who acted in loco parentis, that is, raised either the applicant or his or her spouse in the place of a parent for a minimum of five years before the Airman’s entry on active duty or 21st birthday, whichever comes first. While siblings (brothers and sisters) are not within the usual definition of family member for humanitarian consideration, a request involving a terminal illness is considered as an exception to policy.
**Priority Topic**

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Exceptional Family Member Program

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Humanitarian Program

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### Humanitarian Eligibility Requirements

- A vacancy must exist at the new duty station if a permanent change of station (PCS) is involved and the Airman must meet service retainability requirements for PCS.
- The Airman must be experiencing a problem involving a family member according to AFI 36-2110, *Assignments*, paragraphs A24.2.1 and A24.2.2 that is more severe than usually encountered by other Air Force members with a similar problem.
- The Airman’s presence must be absolutely essential to alleviate the problem.

### How to Apply

Airmen applying for Humanitarian or EFMP reassignment are required to submit a formal application electronically utilizing [virtual MPF](http://virtual.mpf.mil).

If vMPF is unavailable, or the Airman does not have access to vMPF, applications must be manually submitted through email to the [myPers - Total Force Service Center](http://myPers.totalforce.af.mil).

NOTE: Technical training students and basic trainees will submit hardcopy applications through their servicing Military Personnel Section.

The estimated timeline to process applications is:

- Humanitarian: approximately 2-4 weeks
- EFMP: approximately 4-6 weeks

Delays to standard processing time may be due to:

- Insufficient/incomplete information provided
- Airman requires retraining into another career field to facilitate reassignment
- Additional time required to obtain medical clearance based on the severity of the medical conditions, or limited number of potential locations based on the Airman's career field

### Additional Information

- [AFI 36-2110, Assignments](http://af.mil/Offices/Personnel/AEPI/Documents/AFI%2036-2110.pdf)

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**Personnel Topics of Interest**

- Benefits Delivery at Discharge pgm redesigned for faster benefits ([AF.MIL](https://af.mil/))
- AF Civilian tuition assistance increases course limits ([AF.MIL](https://af.mil/))
- AF Recognizes veterans in blue ([AF.MIL](https://af.mil/))
- Veterans Day Talking Points available on [Telling the AF Story site](https://af.mil/)

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Commander’s Call Topics Archive: [http://www.af.mil/AboutUs/CommandersCallTopics.aspx](http://www.af.mil/AboutUs/CommandersCallTopics.aspx)

Commander’s Call Topics is published weekly by SAF/PA to ensure leaders at all levels remain current on issues concerning Airmen and families. Requests for information to be included in future editions should be sent to SAF/PAX via email.

Submissions should include:

1. 1-2 sentence synopsis of the issue
2. hyperlink to further details
3. a POC name and contact information.

*Only submissions that pertaining to the majority of Airmen or specifically to command leadership teams will be considered. Local or limited-interest items will not be included.*