

Section A-1 Commander's Focus

The contents of this Toolkit have been developed to assist you in your efforts to support family readiness. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided is current and accurate. However, because statutory and regulatory changes may have occurred since the publication of this Toolkit, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs cannot assume responsibility for its continued accuracy. Before taking any significant action based on the contents of this Toolkit, you should contact a subject matter expert in your chain of command to secure the most current information.

Commander's Focus

Family readiness is a key component of mission readiness. Family readiness programs are a command responsibility. The commander's leadership and demonstrated concern for families before, during, and after a deployment can directly impact the success of the unit's family readiness efforts. As a commander, it is vital to articulate your goals, your vision for family readiness, information about the mission, and how you plan to link unit members, family members, and community resources. Clear and direct communication is essential. Command support for family readiness as shown by time, attention, and resources helps enable families to be self-sufficient during times of mobilization and training.

This section of the Toolkit focuses on a Commander's Checklist of significant items to consider when linking unit mission and family readiness. Three basic areas are covered:

- Pre-deployment and Mobilization
- Deployment and Rear Detachment
- Post-deployment and Reunion