

QUESTION:

What is official procedure to get a family member of a spouse (i.e. mother, sister) sponsored in Alaska so that they are able to legally stay in housing during the 12-month deployment?

ANSWER:

For Family members to stay in post housing, the Soldier can submit a request through the FWA Housing Office. The Garrison Commander approves the exception to policy for extended stay of friends and family. Once approved, the visitors' center will issue an extended visitor pass (DD93) for the length of time they will stay.

If the family's guests are going to remain on FWA for the duration of the deployment, we can issue them a FWA ID card. We can craft them so they expire in December of 2009, just in case.

QUESTION:

Can family members who are staying to help out spouses of deployed soldiers get a dependent ID card? What is procedure to do this?

ANSWER:

No, dependent ID cards are not authorized. The process to make someone a dependent is through the ID Card Section of the Military Personnel Division, bldg 3401. Soldiers can pick up an application packet to be processed through Human Resource Command (HRC). They must apply through HRC. In order to meet the requirements to make someone a dependent, the Soldier has to permanently take care of the person and the Soldier has to show that they provide 90% of that person's support. Someone coming in taking care of the spouse does not meet the requirements. An example of making someone a dependent is if a Soldier's elderly parents or in-laws are incapacitated and cannot take care of herself and has no one else who can help, then the Soldier can apply to make them their dependent rather than have them go into a nursing home.

QUESTION:

Do family members who are staying in Alaska need to be command sponsored? (i.e. can they shop at PX & the commissary?)

ANSWER:

Family members cannot be command sponsored. Only dependents are command sponsored. For a family member to shop at the Commissary and/or PX, the Soldier needs to submit an exception to policy to the Garrison Commander for that family member. The request needs an explanation of why the family would require this benefit. The letter can be submitted to the Garrison Admin Office in bldg 1555 (Mr. Garbett or Ms. Blum).