



## **Fort Wainwright eWelcome Packet**

Congratulations on your assignment to Fort Wainwright, Alaska! Because the Last Frontier has so much to offer, the Army Community Service (ACS) Relocation Readiness Program (RRP) created an eWelcome packet to help you with your move. The official US Army Alaska (USARAK) web site is <https://www.usarak.army.mil/main/default.asp>. Your assigned **sponsor** is there to ease your transition and will help expedite your ability to become productive at your new command. If you do not have a pinpoint assignment or a **Sponsor** contact your **Sponsorship Coordinator**, 907-384-9341; USARAK Officer Strength Management, 907-384-2606; or Military Processing Division In-processing, 907-353-6668. If you are calling DSN, use 317 instead of 907 and all other numbers the same as above.

### **Emergencies:**

While enroute to Ft Wainwright, and extenuating emergency situations arise, please contact 1-800-582-5552

**Directions to Fort Wainwright.** If you are flying to Fairbanks and do not have transportation to Fort Wainwright arranged, please look for the Armed Forces YMCA Lounge. It is located in the baggage claims area of the Fairbanks International Airport. This lounge is for military use only and may be used to call Fort Wainwright Military Personnel Division at the Fort Wainwright Welcome Center, Building 3401, Santiago Avenue, Fort Wainwright, Alaska. Please call the Welcome Center at 907-353-2273/2253 for a ride to Fort Wainwright. If no one answers, please call the 1st/ 25th Stryker Brigade Emergency Contact at 907-353-6666/1111 for instructions.

### **Transportation:**

From Fairbanks International Airport: After you pick up your luggage from the baggage claim, there is a Kiosk located at the Fairbanks Information Desk, with a courtesy phone and numbers to contact Ft Wainwright's Garrison Replacement Detachment (907-353-4311/353-2273) to request transportation from the Airport. You can also take a taxi (which is reimbursable if receipt is turned in to Finance) from the Airport to Building 3419 on Ft Wainwright.

### **Check-in Procedures**

*What to do when you arrive at the Installation Gate*

Upon arrival at the Fort Wainwright gate, proceed to the Visitor Center located to the right before entering the Fort Wainwright gate. You will need a copy of your orders, your military ID card, driver's license, current vehicle registration and proof of insurance to acquire a Fort Wainwright vehicle pass. You will need to request a Fort Wainwright map and ask for directions to the Fort Wainwright Welcome Center, Building 3401, Santiago Avenue where you must sign in with Military Personnel Division. If you have any questions, you may call the Welcome Center at 907-353-2273.

### **Signing In:**

If you are signing in off leave during duty hours (0730-1630), please report to Building 3401 (907-353-2273/2253) with a copy of your orders and leave form.

### **Billeting:**

E-5 and below unaccompanied Soldiers will reside in Ft Wainwright Garrison Replacement Detachment Barracks (Bldg 3419)

E-6 and above and those accompanied with Family Members should make temporary housing arrangements before they report to Ft Wainwright. All lodging can be found on Fairbanks, Alaska websites.

**IHG Hotel Lodging:**

If your Family is with you in concurrent travel status, you will be sent to the IHG Hotel Lodging Office which is open 24 hours a day.

All personnel traveling on PCS orders are required to check with IHG Hotels Lodging Office before seeking transient accommodations off post. Call (907) 353-3800. <http://www.ihgarmyhotels.com>

**Command Sponsorship.** Alaska is considered an overseas (OCONUS) assignment. All Family members must obtain an Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) screening prior to the Soldier's approval for Family travel to Alaska. Contact the EFMP Manager ***at your losing installation*** to initiate the screening process. Soldiers can request the paperwork from the losing installation Levy section of Military Personnel or S1 section. Upon completion, each Family member's name will be amended to your orders so that travel, transportation, and housing arrangements can be made. To prepare for your outbound move, you should attend a Levy Briefing six months out.

**Housing.** Fort Wainwright has more than 1,500 Privatized Housing Units located on post. Please visit North Haven Communities at <http://www.nhcalaska.com/>. To check the status of on-post housing availability or more information, contact the North Haven Housing Office at 907-356-1883/1882/1881.

Please make sure you stop by the Housing Office before signing a lease. When signing documents, ensure there is a military clause in your lease agreement or bring it by the legal office in the Welcome Center. A military clause allows you a legal avenue to break your lease if you need to relocate for a permanent change of station or deployment.

Due to housing privatization, there may be a shortage of on-post housing. The Fort Wainwright Housing Office recommends that you visit the Department of Defense's Automated Housing Referral Network (AHRN) web site <http://www.ahrn.com/>. AHRN provides BAH information, rental, and for sale by owner listings. If you are planning on buying, AHRN has a link called Moving Station which will provide free assistance in the home buying process. You may find additional rental properties by visiting <http://www.gfbr.org/> <http://www.newsminer.com>.

Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) is based on number of command sponsored dependents you have with you in Alaska or if you live in the barracks. To determine your COLA visit the Defense Travel Per Diem web site <http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/colaCalc.cfm>.

**Schools.** The School Liaison Office (SLO) assists Ft. Wainwright families living both on and off Post with school related issues. The SLO can assist you in locating points of contact in the schools and makes referrals as appropriate. For more information call the Fort Wainwright School Liaison Office (907)361-9377/9897. Also visit <http://www.wainwright.army.mil/sites/services/education/>

Click for more information regarding school districts in Fairbanks go to <http://www.k12northstar.org/> Your residence will determine which school your child attends. Visit Military Youth on the Move [www.defenselink.mil/mtom](http://www.defenselink.mil/mtom), a helpful tool for youth who are relocating.

**Travel to Alaska.** There are three ways to travel to Alaska: fly, drive, ferry or a combination. Visit <http://shade.keeptrees.com/publications/g31/The%20Army%20in%20Alaska%20-%20Ft%20Wainwright%20and%20Ft%20Greely/>

Winters in Alaska can start as early as September and last through April. You should fly during this time of year unless you are experienced driving in severe winter conditions (blizzards, extreme cold temperatures to minus 50, black ice, and long, dark days). If you are not accustomed to driving in severe winter conditions it is not recommended that you start with your PCS to Fort Wainwright. If you decide to drive [The Mile Post](#) magazine is an excellent tool to help you with maps, motels, gas stations, etc. For more information, visit [Driving the Alaskan Highway](#).

Driving the Alaska Highway (formerly known as the ALCAN):

- Though not command restricted, driving the Alaska Highway is not advised during the November to April time frames without in-depth research of the route and associated planning. Gas stations and motels along the highway can be seasonal (closing for the winter) or even temporarily closed due to weather (forcing you to wait). Cell telephones and even in places, satellite phones will not have a signal. See "Winter Driving/Preparation" below for tips.
- You will be driving through Canada unless you reserve passage on the ferry into Whittier. Pets require health certificates, and there are restrictions on certain animals and foodstuffs.
- Notify auto insurance and the lien holder on your vehicle to see if they have any restrictions or specific guidance for your travel through Canada.
- Legal issues (misdemeanors, DUIs), step-children, and firearms can prevent you from crossing the Canadian border. Canada has strict stipulations and restrictions on what you can transport and the requirements to cross.
- Your Family members 16 years and older will need passports. Visit the web sites listed below for details and up to date information.

[http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1082.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1082.html)

<http://cbsa.gc.ca/menu-eng.html>

<http://www.dhs.gov/files/crossingborders/travelers.shtm#0>

**Winter Driving/Preparation:**

Military Police recommend installing studded tires, adding antifreeze to your windshield fluid, installing an engine block heaters with plug-in, and ensuring engine fluids are rated to -70 degrees. Winterizing your car can be done at many northern states car dealerships or other local auto care centers.

Carry an emergency, winter safety car kit for all passengers that includes winter clothes, food, water, blankets and/or sleeping bags, propane stove, road flares, jumper cables, shovel, hand and foot warmers, etc. Dress in layers including gloves and/or mittens, hats, scarves, coats, and boots.

**Note:** It is not recommended to drive to Fort Wainwright between Nov-Apr.

Both the Army and Air Force authorize shipping one car. It usually takes three to four weeks for cars to arrive from the East Coast.

**What to do if you get married enroute?**

If you get married before you PCS, you **must** inform your commander and follow the procedures exactly as you are given them. The military **will not pay** for travel and housing of your spouse if you do not follow proper procedures. If you get married enroute, you need to travel to Fort Wainwright, Alaska alone. During in-processing, you will receive instructions on how to acquire Command Sponsorship and necessary steps for travel arrangements for your new family.

**ACS Relocation Readiness Program (RRP).** The Lending Closet provides small kitchen appliances and kitchen items for temporary loan. Driving maps, community information, and other ACS services and support are also available. Newcomers Orientation is—mandatory for Soldiers—is held from 0900-1530

on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Last Frontier Community Activity Center (LFCAC). **Spouses are highly encouraged to attend.**

If you have additional questions or concerns in regards to your move, please contact the Relocation Program Manager at the below address.

Relocation Readiness Program Manager  
Army Community Service  
Bldg 3401 Santiago Ave  
Fort Wainwright, AK 99703  
907-353-7908 (Relocation Readiness)  
907 353-4328 (Fax)  
DSN 317-353-7908  
[acsreloc@wainwright.army.mil](mailto:acsreloc@wainwright.army.mil)

**USARAK Units:**

**USARAK Commanding Generals welcome video.**

<http://www.usarak.army.mil/main/default.asp>.

**1<sup>st</sup> Stryker Brigade 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Arcticwolves)**

**[http://www.wainwright.army.mil/1\\_25\\_SBCT/](http://www.wainwright.army.mil/1_25_SBCT/)**

1-52d Aviation Regiment

<http://www.wainwright.army.mil/16CAB/1-52AV/index.html>

6-17 Cavalry Squadron

[http://www.wainwright.army.mil/16CAB/6\\_17\\_CAV/](http://www.wainwright.army.mil/16CAB/6_17_CAV/)

Bassett Army Community Hospital

<http://www.alaska.amedd.army.mil/>

9<sup>th</sup> Army Band

<http://www.wainwright.army.mil/9ArmyBand/>

Northern Warfare Training Center

<http://www.wainwright.army.mil/nwtc/>

65<sup>th</sup> Ordnance Company

<http://www.wainwright.army.mil/65eod/>

**On the next page is —Moving Made Easy where you will find a list of helpful websites.**

## **Moving Made Easy – Helpful Websites**

### **Preparing for the Move:**

Military Homefront: [www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/](http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/) and select  
[Military Installations:](#)  
[Plan My Move:](#)  
[Moving 101:](#)

Military Youth: <http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/pls/psgprod/f?p=MYOM:HOME:2239737624449749>

Military One Source: [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) or call toll free 1-800-342-9647

Moving: [www.pcsamerica.net](http://www.pcsamerica.net)

Pay Entitlements [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil), [www.dtic.mil](http://www.dtic.mil)

Defense Finance and Accounting Service: <http://www.dod.mil/dfas/>

Shipping Your Personally Owned Vehicle (POV): <https://www.wherismypov.com/>

Shipping Your Household Goods (Defense Personal Property System – DPS): [www.move.mil](http://www.move.mil)

Army One Source: <http://www.myarmyonesource.com/default.aspx>

### **Getting to Alaska:**

The MILEPOST Alaska Travel Guide & Trip Planner, an excellent resource to help plan your drive:  
<http://www.milepost.com>

North! To Alaska: [www.northtoalaska.com](http://www.northtoalaska.com)

Alaska Campground Association: [www.alaskacampgrounds.net](http://www.alaskacampgrounds.net)

Alaska State and National Parks: [www.TravelAlaska.com/stateparks](http://www.TravelAlaska.com/stateparks)

Alberta National and Provincial Parks: [www.TravelAlberta.com](http://www.TravelAlberta.com)

British Columbia (Discover Camping): [www.discovercamping.ca](http://www.discovercamping.ca)

Yukon (Yukon RV Parks and Campgrounds): [www.travelyukon.com/yukonaccommodations](http://www.travelyukon.com/yukonaccommodations)

Road/Highway Conditions: <http://511.alaska.gov> or 1-866-282-7577 (toll free)

Alaska Marine Highway System (ferry): [www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs](http://www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs) or 1-800- 642-0066

Alaska Department of Transportation: [www.dot.state.ak.us](http://www.dot.state.ak.us)

Pet Travel - US Department of Agriculture: [Traveling with Pets](#) and [www.petswelcome.com](http://www.petswelcome.com)

## **Traveling Through Canada - Important Information:**

US/Canadian Border crossing information: 1-204-983-3500

Canadian Import-Export Laws: 1-206-443-1777

US National Passport Info Center: 1-877-4USA-PPT

Canadian Firearms Declaration Form: [www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca/online-en\\_ligne/form-assistance/indiv\\_forms/909\\_e.asp](http://www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca/online-en_ligne/form-assistance/indiv_forms/909_e.asp)

Canadian Tourism Commission: [www.canada.travel/splash.en-us.html](http://www.canada.travel/splash.en-us.html)

Driving through Canada (Road/Highway Conditions): [www.drivebc.ca/](http://www.drivebc.ca/)

Canadian Consulate (before travel): [//www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/world/embassies/menu-en.asp](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/world/embassies/menu-en.asp)

Anyone with a criminal record, including a DUI, should contact the Canadian Embassy or nearest Canadian Consulate before travel: [http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/can-am/imm/inadmissible-interdiction.aspx?lang=eng&menu\\_id=63&menu=L](http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/can-am/imm/inadmissible-interdiction.aspx?lang=eng&menu_id=63&menu=L)

Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative at Land and Sea Ports of Entry:  
[//www.canadainternational.gc.ca/can-am/bilat\\_can/rulemaking-reglementation\\_land-rue.aspx](http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/can-am/bilat_can/rulemaking-reglementation_land-rue.aspx)

## **Housing/Real Estate Information:**

Army Housing Online: <https://www.housing.army.mil/ah/>

Automated Housing Referral Network: <http://www.ahrn.com>

Home Information: <http://www.homefair.com>

## **Employment for your Family Members:**

Employment websites:

<http://www.careeronestop.org/militaryspouse/>

<http://armycivilianservice.com>

<http://www.usajobs.gov>

<http://www.aidea.org>

<http://www.alaska.gov>

<http://newsminer.com>

## **General Information and Community Information:**

U.S. Army Alaska: <http://www.usarak.army.mil/main/default.asp>

Military Homefront; DoD Installation Guide. <http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/pls/psgprod/f?p=MI:ENTRY:0>

Fort Wainwright Homepage: <http://www.wainwright.army.mil/sites/local/>

School Age Liaison (907)361-9377/9897

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District: <http://www.k12northstar.org/>

Alaska: [www.alaska.org](http://www.alaska.org)

Alaska State Home Page: [www.state.ak.us/](http://www.state.ak.us/)

Alaska Info: [www.alaskaoutdoorjournal.com](http://www.alaskaoutdoorjournal.com)

Post Information; (907) 353-1110