Army Regulation 600–20

Personnel-General

Army Command Policy

Headquarters
Department of the Army
Washington, DC
24 July 2020

UNCLASSIFIED

Chapter 5
Other Responsibilities of Command

5–1. General
This chapter discusses additional responsibilities concerning certain Soldier activities and practices whose regulation is an inherent aspect of command.

5–2. Army Family readiness
Commanders have an obligation to maintain Army Family readiness.

a. Concept.

(1) Family readiness is the state of being prepared to effectively navigate the challenges of daily living experienced in the unique context of the Army. A prepared Army Family understands the challenges they may face, is aware of supportive resources available to them, has the skills needed to function in the face of challenges, and uses those skills and resources to manage challenges.

(2) The DCS, G–9 issues implementing guidance and develops programs; establishes and administers the resourcing through the budget process in support of the Family Readiness system including but not limited to Soldier and Family quality of life and MWR programs and services provided to garrisons and geographically dispersed members of the Total Army.

(a) The type and level of Family readiness services provided focus on three domains: mobilization and deployment readiness, mobility and financial readiness, and personal and Family life readiness.

(b) Family readiness services will be provided through a system that maximizes a network of agencies, programs, services, and individuals in a collaborative manner to promote Army Family readiness.

b. Responsibilities.

(1) Heads of HQDA staff agencies (and field operating agencies, if appropriate) are responsible for Army wide policies, plans and initiatives within their areas of proponency pertaining to the Family readiness system.

(2) The CG, AMC through CG, IMCOM will—

(a) Provide guidance, technical assistance, and consultation to support the execution and delivery of Soldier and Family readiness programs and services.

(b) Identify needs and design and conduct Armywide Soldier, Family member, and survivor training and awareness events.

(c) Determine requirements and develop training for individuals responsible for Family program execution.

(d) Provide consultation and liaison with the ARNG and USAR to ensure interaction and synchronization among RA and USAR concerning Family assistance and readiness issues.

(3) Army National Guard.

(a) The NGB is the Army's lead agency for the establishment and execution of Family assistance for ARNG Soldiers at all levels of contingency and mobilization.

(b) The Chief, NGB through the NGB Family PM will—

1. Provide policy, guidance, technical assistance, and consultation to support the development and implementation of Family readiness programs and services within the ARNG.

2. Identify, design, and provide ARNG Soldiers and Family members training and awareness support.

3. Develop training for individuals responsible for Family program execution within the ARNG.

(4) The Chief, Army Reserve (CAR), through the Office of the CAR Family PM will—

(a) Provide policy, guidance, technical assistance, and consultation to support the development and implementation of programs and services within the USAR.

(b) Identify, design, and provide USAR Soldier and Family member training and awareness support.

(c) Develop training for individuals responsible for Family program execution within the USAR.

(d) Ensure that regional readiness commands have staffed the centralized Family readiness office to meet assigned duties and responsibilities.

(5) ACOM, ASCC, or DRU commanders will provide an environment that encourages an effective Family readiness system and will, at a minimum—

(a) Ensure command emphasis at the unit level.

(b) Identify and input fiscal and personnel resource requirements for programs and services as part of the command operating budget process.

(c) Provide for Soldier, DA Civilian, survivor, retiree, and Family member participation in quality of life matters.

(d) Ensure inclusion of single Soldiers in quality of life programs/initiatives.

(6) USARC/CONUS Army/installation/Joint Forces Headquarters (JFHQ)/RSC commanders at all levels will provide an environment that encourages an effective Family readiness system and will, at a minimum—

(a) Ensure command emphasis to the unit level.

(b) Ensure the appointment of a Family readiness liaison point of contact as an additional duty in each unit below installation/JFHQ/RSC/level.

(c) Identify and input fiscal and personnel resource requirements for programs and services as part of the command operating budget process.

(d) Provide for Soldier, DA Civilian, retiree, and Family member awareness of available programs and services.

(e) Provide for Soldier, DA Civilian, retiree, and Family member access to entitlements, Family programs, and Family services for which they are eligible.

(f) Provide for Soldier, DA Civilian, retiree, and Family member participation in quality of life programs.

(g) Ensure inclusion of single Soldiers in quality of life programs and initiatives.

(h) Installations/JFHQs will ensure/facilitate appropriate coordination of program and service elements for all components within their geographical area of responsibility during peacetime and at any level of contingency or mobilization.

(7) Unit commanders at all levels will provide an environment that encourages an effective Family readiness system and will, at a minimum—

(a) Appoint a Family readiness liaison point of contact as an additional duty.

(b) Complete an annual Family readiness evaluation and ensure subordinate commands complete their Family readiness evaluations annually. Provide pre-deployment, sustainment, and reunion briefings as required by rotational assignments.

(c) Provide for Soldier and Family member awareness of available programs and services.

(d) Provide for Soldier and Family member access to entitlements, Family programs, and Family services for which they are eligible.

(e) Actively engage in the sponsorship of new Soldiers, Families, Youth, and DA Civilians arriving to their units.

(f) Ensure the proper documenting and monitoring of personal affairs readiness of Soldiers, to include Family care plans (see para 5–3).

(g) Ensure inclusion of single personnel in quality of life programs and initiatives.

(h) Maintain, as appropriate to the needs of their units, a unit Soldier and Family Readiness Group (SFRG) to encourage self-sufficiency among its members by providing information, referral assistance, and mutual support. Refer to AR 608–1, appendix J, for information pertaining to SFRG fundraising, reporting, and informal funds activities.

(8) Army Community Service Directors will—

(a) Advise the commander concerning the impact of programs and services on retention, readiness, training, and rotational assignments.

(b) Coordinate the development of programs and services according to needs assessment.

(c) Coordinate the development of resource requirements to support programs and services.

(d) Coordinate public/community/employer awareness and support of programs and services.

(e) Serve as command liaison with military and civilian agencies involved in resourcing and supporting programs and services.

(9) Soldiers bear primary responsibility for their own individual readiness and resiliency and that of their Families. At a minimum, Soldiers will—

(a) Keep themselves and their Families informed concerning key (unit) personnel information, benefits, and programs.

(b) Support and, where appropriate, encourage their Family members to participate in programs, services and activities that develop, strengthen and sustain the quality of life and well-being of all members of the Army Family, for example, Soldier and Family Readiness Groups, deployment cycle support training, and Army Family team building.

5–3. Family care plans

a. The DCS, G–1 is responsible for policy on Family care plans as follows:

(1) Commanders oversee mission, readiness, and deployability as they affect RA and USAR Soldiers who are: single parents; dual-military couples with dependent Family members; married with custody or joint custody of children whose non-custodial biological or adoptive parent is not the current spouse of the Soldier, or who otherwise bears sole responsibility for the care of children under the age of 18 or others unable to care for themselves in the absence of the Soldier; or primarily responsible for dependent Family members. Plans must be made to ensure Family members are properly and adequately cared for when an RA Soldier is deployed, on TDY, or otherwise not available due to military requirements. USAR Soldiers will implement Family care plans during any period of absence for annual