



United States

Air Force Academy

PARENT GUIDE

2019-2020

*"We will not lie, cheat or steal, nor
tolerate among us anyone who does."*

The Cadet Honor Code





Dear Cadet Parents, Friends and Families

Welcome to the United States Air Force Academy! I am Lieutenant General Jay Silveria, the 20th Superintendent of our Academy. My own Air Force journey started right here in 1981, when I arrived for Basic Cadet Training and began four years of intellectual, physical, character, and leadership development. It's an honor to be at my alma mater now leading the institution that prepared me for an incredibly rewarding career in our Air Force, and it's my great privilege to welcome you to the USAFA Family.

Our newest Cadets, the Class of 2023, will enter the Academy on June 27, 2019. This summer they will begin their own journey toward joining the Long Blue Line and leading the next generation of innovative, agile-minded officers for our Air Force. Basic Cadet Training (BCT) is an intense program of physical and mental challenges that transforms Cadets into more self-assured, physically fit, motivated, and disciplined leaders. Our most senior Cadets, the Class of 2020, are now leading the Cadet Wing with confidence and will graduate in less than a year. No matter where they're at on their Academy journey, your sons and daughters are in the midst of an amazing transformation toward becoming leaders of character, and leaders of Airmen. They face a challenging but rewarding curriculum of academics, military training, athletics, and leadership development throughout the year, and will leave our campus as lieutenants ready to shape the future of our Air Force.

As parents, your love and support helped them get here, and your continued interest, encouragement, and involvement will help them succeed. Thank you for everything you've done and continue to do to prepare these young men and women to be the leaders our Air Force and our Nation needs.

Sincerely

**JAY B. SILVERIA, Lt Gen, USAF
Superintendent**

Academy Achievements

- On 18,500 acres at an average of 7,000 feet above sea level; host to 1 million+ visitors per year consisting of tourists, sports fans and family members
- As of 2018, commissioned 50,689 new Second Lieutenants
- Class of 2018 – 511 of 984 graduates were selected for rated career fields
- Over 737 USAFA graduates have attained the rank of General; approximately 131 are on active duty
- Averages 55 international students each year from 25 countries
- Rankings: #2 – Aeronautical & Astronautical Engineering; #2 – High School Counselors; #3 – Top Public Schools; #5 – Undergrad Engineering
- 41 Rhodes Scholars, 40 astronauts
- 731 All-American Athletes; 25% or 1,000 Cadets are intercollegiate athletes
- Won 9 conference championships the last 2 seasons (5 in 15-16, 4 in 16-17) – best back-to-back run in school history
- 17 conference or national level “Coach of the Year” honors the last 2 years

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Academy Overview

The Academy Mission is to educate, train, and inspire men and women to become officers of character, motivated to lead the United States Air Force in service to our nation.



The Academy envisions that graduates will be commissioned leaders of character who, in preparation for the intellectual and ethical responsibilities of officership, are broadly educated, professionally skilled, morally and ethically grounded, physically fit, and committed to continued growth and development both as Air Force officers and as American citizens.

As such, graduates must understand the Profession of Arms and the application of a broad liberal education in the arts and sciences to that profession; the fundamentals of the American Constitution and the responsibilities of commissioned officers to its defense; and the values and ethical standards of the United States Air Force.

Graduates must also demonstrate personal devotion to the duties of a commissioned officer: intellectual curiosity, imagination, and creativity; ability to act rationally and decisively under pressure; mastery of the basic military and physical skills required for entry into commissioned service; inspiration and motivation to lead American soldiers in war and peace—leadership characterized by a winning spirit; the ability and motivation to achieve and sustain unit climates that are conducive to military effectiveness and professional excellence; and personal commitment to the selfless standards of officership within the United States Air Force.

Academy systems and programs have been structured to contribute to instilling these characteristics in each graduate.

Basic Academy Information

The Air Force Academy is both a military installation and a university, essentially operating similar to other Air Force bases. Academic and athletic operations are overseen by a Superintendent (akin to a university president), Dean, and Director of Athletics. The Commandant (no civilian equivalent) oversees the military aspects of your Cadet's training. Under this organization, rank structure is as follows:

- Superintendent – Lieutenant General (3-star)
- Dean – Brigadier General (1-star)
- Commandant – Brigadier General (1-star)
- Athletic Director - Civilian

Parents may be contacted by various people from USAFA such as the Academy Parent Liaison, Air Officers Commanding (AOC), Air Military Trainers (AMTs), Coaches, the Association of Graduates (AOG), the USAFA Endowment, local parent clubs/class spirit committee and other Academy staff.

My Cadet's Information

Class Color _____ Class Exemplar _____

Class Motto _____ Mailbox P.O. Box number _____

Squadron Name & Number: _____

Squadron Motto _____

Squadron AOC (Commander) Info

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Sponsor Family's Name _____

Email/phone _____

Address: _____

My local USAFA Parents Club

President _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Website _____

Class FACEBOOK Website: _____

USAFA Parent Liaison: Marie Nikovits

Phone: 1-877-268-3383 or (719) 333-3828

Email: USAFA.ParentLiaison@usfa.edu; Parent Webpage: <https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>

Important Dates

In-Processing Day _____

Academic First Day _____

Acceptance Day & Parade _____

Recognition _____

Exemplar Dinner _____

100s Night _____

Ring Dance _____

Graduation _____

Deadlines

Class Ring Order _____

Graduation Announcements & Invitations Orders _____



Congratulations to both you and your Cadet for their Acceptance into the United States Air Force Academy

USAFA!

Not only are they a part of your family, but now they have chosen to serve their country and join the USAFA family. You have a right you be proud!



NOTE: Fourth Class Cadets C4C (Freshman) Parents please see the “**What to Expect in the First 10 Weeks: A Parent Guide**” for helpful information including information on sending mail during Basic Cadet Training (BCT).

Please check out the Official [USAFA Parents Webpage](https://www.usafa.edu/parents/) for lots of helpful information. This is where the USAFA Parent Liaison posts information and links for parents. Keep this link as a favorite to make it easier to find.



It can be found at: <https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>.



The Long Blue Line

Over 50,000 graduates

698 generals, including 40 four-star generals

1 former and 1 current member of Congress

41 astronauts

Over 1,600 company presidents, vice presidents

More than 490 medical professionals

592 legal professionals

1 Medal of Honor

19 Air Force Crosses

278 Silver Stars

3,727 Distinguished Flying Crosses

37 Prisoners of War (POW)

182 graduates named on the Academy War Memorial



Military Commitment

Cadets must complete the course of instruction at the Academy and serve on active duty as a commissioned officer for at least 5 years after graduation. Further, after entry on active duty, they may incur an additional active duty service commitment that extends beyond the minimum 5-year requirement stated above (i.e., currently, a 10-year active duty commitment is incurred for those graduates who complete Undergraduate Pilot Training). Graduates completing Combat Systems Officer, Air Battle Manager, Remotely Piloted Aircraft, Combat Rescue Officer, Special Tactics Officer or Air Liaison Officer Training incur a 6-year active duty commitment after completing training.

Cadets disenrolled prior to graduation may be required, at the option of the Secretary of the Air Force, to either serve on active duty or reimburse the United States government for the entire cost of their Academy education. Freshmen and sophomore Cadets are ordinarily relieved from all military duty, active or reserve commitment. The active duty commitment varies according to the number of years the Cadet has attended the Academy. Cadets ordered to reimburse the cost of their education incur a liability for each year of instruction. Cadets who fail to complete their required period of active duty also incur a liability to reimburse the United States for an appropriate portion of the cost of their Academy education.

As a Parent of a Cadet, the main thing to remember is that the Academy isn't like a normal college. Parents don't come and help their son or daughter's move into the dorms, and Cadets have many responsibilities that include not only academics, but also military training, and athletics. It's a lot to juggle, but remember, they are adults and being trained to serve our country. A lot will be thrown at them and many will struggle for the first time, especially academically. Encourage them to get help early if needed. More information to follow in this Guide on the helping agencies for Cadets. Part of being a Cadet is making decisions and making mistakes. Let your son or daughter grow into the competent officer they are destined to be.



Colorado Springs Overview and Area Highlights

Colorado Springs is located at the foot of Pikes Peak, 70 miles south of Denver. With a land area of 194.87 square miles and a 2016 estimated population of 465,101, Colorado Springs is Colorado’s largest city in terms of area and second only to Denver in population.

The Air Force Academy is the 2nd largest undergraduate school in the city, trailing only the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS) in enrollment.

Throughout its history, Colorado Springs has been a popular tourist destination due to its surrounding natural beauty and magnificent climate. Aside from the Air Force Academy, plan to see some of the most visited attractions in and around Colorado Springs.

COLORADO SPRINGS ATTRACTIONS

- The Broadmoor Hotel
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
- Garden of the Gods
- Pikes Peak – America’s Mountain
- Cave of the Winds
- Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame and American Cowboy Museum
- United States Olympic Headquarters and Training Center



Average Days of Sunshine: 257
Elevation: 6,035 feet

Average Annual Precipitation: 16.2 inches
Elevation at USAFA: 7,258 feet

To help plan your trip to visit your Cadet or Cadet Candidate (C/C) at the Academy you can visit the Colorado Springs Visitor website at <https://www.visitors.com/> for more information. First time information can be found at <https://www.usafa.edu/visitors/tourists-first-timers/>

Academy Gift Shops

Visitor Center:



2346 Academy Drive
United States Air Force Academy, CO 80840
(719) 333-2025

The Barry Goldwater Visitors Center is a 35,000-square-foot facility offering information about the United States Air Force Academy, including films and exhibits on Cadet life and Academy history.

The center is named in honor of retired Arizona Senator Barry M. Goldwater, an avid supporter of the Academy. It is open to the public every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is accessible through the North Gate. The center has a snack bar and gift shop. Visitors may also park in the Arnold Hall parking lot to reach the Cadet Chapel. This is still about a one-third-mile walk but with a more natural grade.

Disabled Access for Visitor Center. As a courtesy to visitors wheelchairs are provided for use within the Visitor Center, however, they cannot be taken out of the facility. The paved nature trail is a strenuous walk with a variety of hills, and the walk from the Cadet Chapel to the Visitor Center is mostly uphill with a steep grade in some areas. People with limited mobility should bring a wheelchair to help them get to and from the Chapel.

Clune Arena (Field House) Store: There is a small store in Clune Area.

2169 Field House Dr.
USAFA, CO 80840
Call for hours (719) 333-4008.

Shop online at: http://shop.goairforcefalcons.com/?_s=bm-afsite18&utm_medium=referral.

Association of Graduates (AOG) Store:

The AOG has a store in Doolittle Hall. Hours 7:30 am – 4:30 pm.
3116 Academy Dr.
USAFA CO 80840
(719) 472-0300



Getting on Base:

The Academy public areas are open 7 days a week 9 am – 5 pm for visitors. Visitors can enter through the North Gate (exit 156 on Interstate 25) and will need to provide one of the following: Military ID, Driver's License, or photo ID.

More access information can be found at: <https://www.usafa.edu/visitors/getting-on-base/>

Acceptable primary forms of identification, not including a driver's license, are:

1. United States Passport or United States Passport Card.
2. Permanent Resident Card/Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551).
3. Foreign passport with a temporary (I-551) stamp or temporary (I-551) printed notation on a machine-readable immigrant visa.
4. Employment authorization document that contains a photograph (Form I-766).
5. U.S. Military or draft record.
6. U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card.
7. Transportation Worker Identification Card.
8. Native American Tribal Document.
9. In the case of a nonimmigrant alien authorized to work for a specific employer incident to status, a foreign passport with Form I-94 or Form I-94A bearing the same name as the passport and containing an endorsement of the alien's nonimmigrant status, as long as the endorsement has not yet expired and the proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form.

RESTAURANTS AND SWEET TREATS

USAFA can't recommend Restaurants, but below is a short list. Go online to search for more options and addresses.

I-25/Academy Blvd (outside USAFA South Gate)

Schlotsky's
Saltgrass Steak House
Olive Garden
Mimi's Café
Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que
Cracker Barrel Old Country Store
Red Robin Gourmet Burgers

Panera Bread
Buffalo Wild Wings
Coles Gourmet Popcorn
Applebee's Grill & Bar
Coldstone Creamy
Uncle Buck's Fish Bowl & Grill

I-25/Northgate (outside USAFA North Gate)

Starbucks
Costa Vida
D-Dation
Chick-fil-A
Josh & John's Ice Cream
Uncle Buck's Fish Bowl & Grill
Bourbon Brothers Southern Kitchen

Kneaders Bakery & Café
Dog Haus Biergarten
C.B. Potts
The Brass Tap (Bar & Grill)
el Padrino Mexicano

I-25/Interquest (right across from Academy Football Stadium area)

Starbucks
Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen
Jersey Mike's Subs
Baskin Robbins
Atmosphere Gastropub
Dickey's Barbeque Pit
Colorado Mountain Brewery

Jimmy Johns
Zoup!
Freddy's
Fuzzy's Taco Shop

I-25/Briargate Parkway (Between Interquest & Academy Blvd)

Modern Market Eatery
Bad Daddy's Burger Bar
Ted's Montana Grill
Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano

Lulu's Frozen Yogurt
P.F. Changs
Panera Bread
Einstein Bros Bagels

I-25/Monument

Qdoba
Rodolfo's Mexican Grill
Don Tequila Mexican Grill/Cantina

Fuji Mt Hibachi & Sushi
Chili's Grill & Bar

Commerce Center Dr. (I-25/Woodmen)

Carrabara's Italian Grill
Old Chicago
Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery

Margarita at Pine Creek
Outback Steakhouse

Garden of the Gods (I-25/Garden of the Gods)

La Bella Vita Ristorante Italiano
Caspian Café
Black Eyed Pea Restaurant

Freddy's
Carl's Jr.
Phantom Canyon Brewing CO

Colorado Springs Downtown Area (I-25/Bijou)

The Rabbit Hole
Skirted Heifer
Mackenzie's Chop House
The Thirsty Parrot
Josh & John Naturally Homemade Ice Cream

Antler's Grill
Fujiyama
Saigon Café
Jack Quinn's Irish Pub & Restaurant



FUN THINGS TO DO

Academy Trails:

Falcon Trail

Santa Fe Trail

Stanley Canyon Trail

Farish Hiking Trail

<https://www.usafa.edu/visitors/hiking-biking-trails/>

The Summit at Interquest

1180 Interquest Parkway

COS, CO 80921

(719) 278-3861

<https://playatthesummit.com/interquest/>

4 miles from north gate

Chapel Hills Mall

1710 Briargate Blvd.

COS, CO 80920

(719) 594-0111 <https://www.chapelhillsmall.com/>

1 mile from south gate

Wings Over the Rockies Museum

7711 East Academy Blvd., Denver, CO 80230

(303) 360-5360 <http://wingmuseum.org/>

53 miles from north gate

Overdrive Raceway

196 Spectrum Loop, COS, CO 80921

(719) 473-8930 <http://overdriveraceway.com/>

1.2 miles from north gate

COS Rodeo

1680 S. 21st St., COS, CO 80904

(800) 755-0935 <http://www.cosrodeo.com/>

12 miles from south gate

Adventures Out West

1680 S. 21st St., COS, CO 80904

(800) 755-0935 <https://advoutwest.com/>

12 miles from south gate

Pinot's Palette

12245 Voyager Parkway, Ste 162, COS, CO 80921

(719) 465-3098 northgatevillage@pinotpalette.com

3.4 miles from north gate

Painting with a Twist

9475 Briar Village Point, #105, COS, CO 80920

(719) 375-0553 studio347@paintingwithatwist.com

8 miles from north gate

Mailing Information



A private post office box has been assigned for your Cadet or Cadet Candidate's (C/Cs) personal mail. The correct mailing address for your Cadet is crucial. Mail not deliverable due to the incorrect address or insufficient information will be returned to the sender or sent to the Dead Letter Office (if there is no return address).

The Cadet Post Office requests that [no packages](#) be sent by parents in the months of [August](#) and [January](#), since Cadets are ordering textbooks for classes.

In addition to regular mail (envelopes), you may also send packages to the post office box (after BCT) and the Cadets will receive a note in their mail boxes instructing them to pick up their packages at the counter. The address must be complete and correct. Cadets were given their P.O. Box number online with their appointment package. (Note that the zip code for Cadets is 80841.) The correct address for Cadets is below:

FEDEX, DHL, & UPS

The Post office will accept packages from companies that don't send to P.O. Boxes and delivery services. You must use the post office's street address for these packages. The Cadet Post Office will accept delivery by private carriers (FEDEX, UPS, and DHL) that do not deliver to a P.O. Box. Both street addressed mail and P.O. Box addressed mail can be delivered to your Cadet's P.O. Box.



Photo Access for Parents:

5156 Community Center Dr. (your Cadet's P.O. Box #)
USAF Academy, CO 80840



Signature on File – When your Cadet arrives they will be asked to sign a signature card for the post office which will be kept on file. This allows the post office to accept some signature-required mail and packages for your Cadet. This allows the Cadets to enjoy the conveniences of this service for products such as Express Mail.

Cadet e-mail: _____

(Cadet's First.Lastname@usafa.edu) - e-mail sample

Cadet Address:

Name

P. O. Box _____

USAF Academy CO 80841

Cadet Candidate e-mail: _____

(First.Lastname@us.af.mil) - e-mail sample

Cadet Candidate Address:

Name

P. O. Box _____

USAF Academy CO 80840

The U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs office provides command information to the installation and the public. One of the ways Public Affairs does this is through social media venues such as **Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Flickr and YouTube**. All information provided is official, but there is also fun stuff on there, too. Did you know you can download photos from our Facebook page, for free?

FB: www.facebook.com/USAF.A.Official

Twitter: [@AF_Academy](https://twitter.com/AF_Academy)

Instagram: [AF_Academy](https://www.instagram.com/AF_Academy)

Flickr: [AF_Academy](https://www.flickr.com/photos/afacademy/)

Other Academy Social Media Options:

Superintendent's Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/usafa_supt/

Lt. Gen Silveria's LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jaysilveria/>

The Academy also wants your Academy photos! Upload them to Instagram using **#YourAcademy**. You might see it on Facebook and Twitter. If you have any questions, please call the Public Affairs office at 719-333-7731.

Amazon Alexa App: Just open the skills section of your Alexa app, search Air Force Academy and select enable. For the latest news and events, say “Alexa, what’s the news? Or “Alexa, play my flash briefing.” If you don’t have an Alexa device, tune into our online radio station at www.usafa.edu/kafa.

The Academy Radio Station: 97.7 Kafa Radio Station is Academy’s Radio Station. Parents can stream the station by clicking <https://www.usafa.edu/kafa/>.

The Association of Graduates (AOG) also provides pictures for a cost for Cadet Parents called WebGuy. There is also Prep School Husky Club so you can follow your Cadet Candidate (C/C) during Basic Training, parades and other events. You can sign up with WebGuy using this link: <http://www.usafawebguy.com/>. (See more information under the AOG paragraph later in this Guide).

Ways to treat your Cadet:

There are several ways to send gifts to your Cadet.

CADET TREATS:

Petals and Blooms: The base flower shop, in addition to flowers also handles Cadet Treats. They not only do flowers but goodies baskets and cleaning supply baskets as well for Saturday Morning Inspections (SAMIs).



<http://petalsnblooms.com/index.php>
719-472-8589

NOTE: LOCAL deliveries can be sent to ARNOLD HALL for your Cadet to pick up. Sorry, it can't be a surprise. Online orders sent by FEDEX etc... must still go to the Cadet Post Office.

The address for Arnold Hall is: 10 FSS/FSL, 2302 Cadet Dr., USAFA, CO 80840. Please ensure your Cadet's name and Squadron are on the delivery receipt so Arnold Hall stall can contact your Cadet for pickup.

GIFT CARDS for Cadets:

AAFES (Exchange or Cadet Store) Gift Cards: These cards can be used at the Cadet Store, Arnold Hall (Subway & Wing Zone), & the Base Exchange store as well. Parents can call (719) 472-1953 and order an Exchange gift card for their Cadet. The Exchange will either mail the gift card to the parent. Parents also tell the Cadet to come pick up the gift card or the Cadet Store Exchange will e-mail the Cadet and have them come and get the gift card.

10th Force Support Squadron (10 FSS) Gift Cards: These cards can be used at the Arnold Hall coffee shop, HAPS, and all 10 FSS activities (Outdoor Recreation [think skiing, bicycle rentals & fun trips] Bowling Alley, Golf Course, Horseback riding, Arts & Crafts center etc.) Parents can call (719) 472-7930 and order a gift card for their Cadets. The coffee shop will either mail to the parents or parents can tell the Cadet to come pick up the gift card at the coffee shop in Arnold Hall.

Domino's Pizza Gift Cards: You can get these cards in multiple online websites and mail to your Cadet. There is a Domino's Pizza located in Arnold Hall and they deliver to the cadet squadrons.



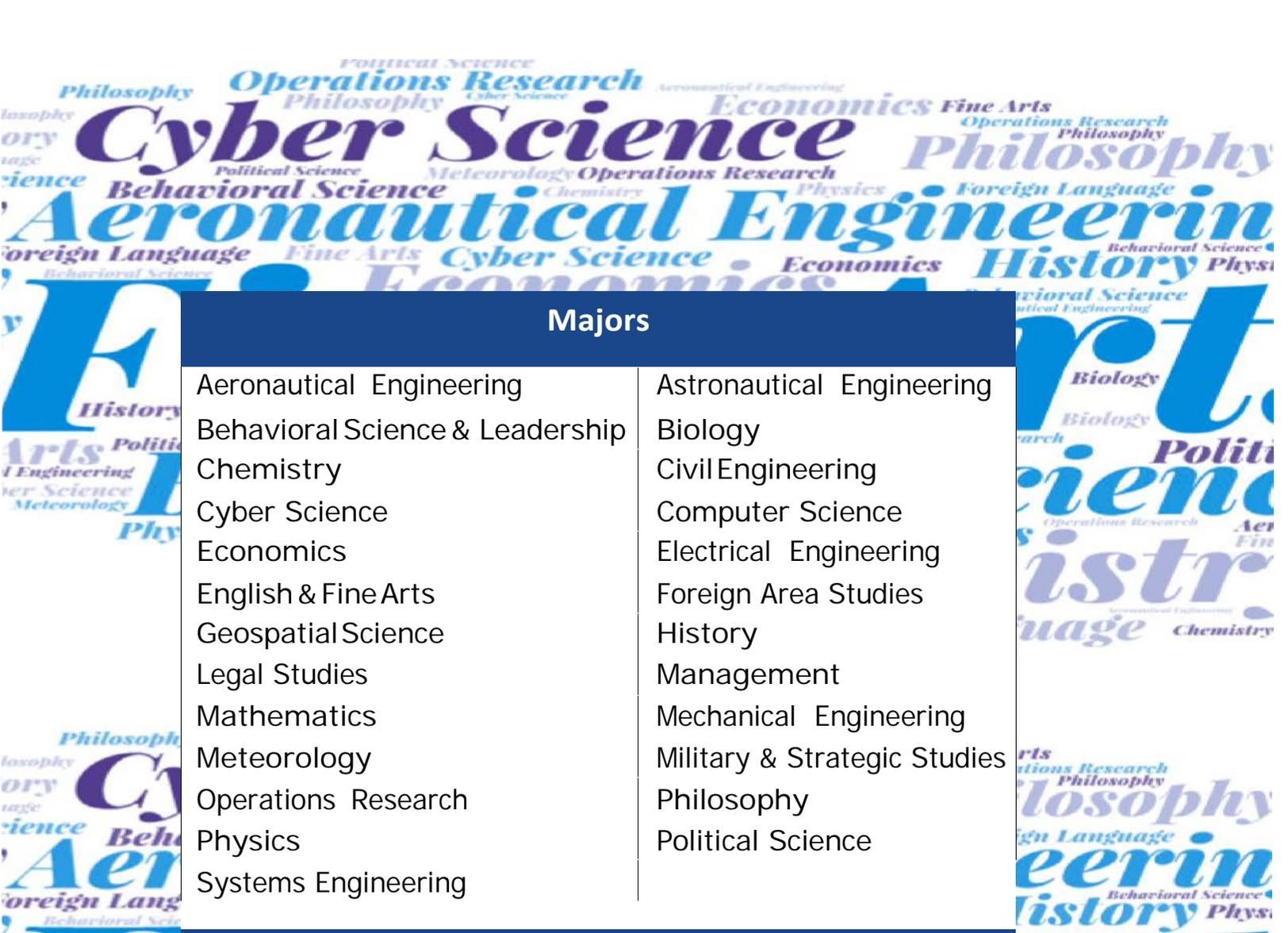
Academy Local Parent Clubs (PCs): Are you a member of a parent club yet? If you wish to be a member, the Academy Parent Liaison would be happy to connect Parents with the nearest local parent club. PCs are a wealth of information and many have events for Cadets here at USAFA and at home. These parents have been where you are and can help you adjust.

Parent Clubs are also how the Academy Parent Club Liaison gets word out fast concerning of changes or news to Academy Parents. PCs really are a vital part of our Academy family. Typical club activities include meetings, informal get-togethers, tailgates, Military Service Academy Holiday Balls, and new Appointee sendoff events. Many PCs are starting to have “State Nights” for their Cadets at the Academy providing food and love from home. Parents Clubs work closely with the Association of Graduate Chapters and Admissions Liaison Officers in their areas.

To be able to release Appointee/Parent contact information to local parent clubs and Class Spirit Committee, the USAFA Parent Liaison must have a Privacy Act (PA) Release for Local Parent Clubs and Class Spirit Committees on file. Cadets/Parents can download the from the Official Academy Parent webpage: https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/PC_Privacy_Release_Form.pdf. C4Cs: On the Admissions Portal there will be a Privacy Act release form for parent clubs/Class Spirit Committee. Cadets download it, fill it out, sign it and upload it into the Admissions Portal.

Upper Classman can send a copy directly to the USAFA Parent Liaison, Rose “Marie” Nikovits, USAFA.ParentLiaison@usafa.edu, USAFA/CM, 2304 Cadet Dr., Ste 3100, USAFA CO 80840. Even if parents have already joined the local parent club, fill out and sign the form as it allows the Parent Liaison to release updates to the local parent club and to the Class Spirit Committees who does things for the class as a whole.

Once the Academy Parent Liaison receives the signed permission she will notify the local parent club of parent contact information. The Parent Liaison will use this for the whole four years (five if an Academy Prep School Cadet candidate) that your Cadet is here at the Academy. The Academy has parent points of contacts for each class year group and can be found on FACEBOOK.



Majors

Aeronautical Engineering	Astronautical Engineering
Behavioral Science & Leadership	Biology
Chemistry	Civil Engineering
Cyber Science	Computer Science
Economics	Electrical Engineering
English & Fine Arts	Foreign Area Studies
Geospatial Science	History
Legal Studies	Management
Mathematics	Mechanical Engineering
Meteorology	Military & Strategic Studies
Operations Research	Philosophy
Physics	Political Science
Systems Engineering	

Minors

Foreign Language	Nuclear Weapons &
Philosophy	Religion Studies

Grades:
parents

Most
are

curious about their Cadet’s grades and academic progress. The policy regarding the release of student grades to parents is dictated by the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. This law specifies that educational records of the students may not be released without (1) the written consent of the student that specifies those educational records to be released and to whom, or (2) judicial order or subpoena of the student’s educational records. In the latter situation, the student must be notified of the institution’s compliance with the order or subpoena. Based on this policy, the Academy provides grade reports directly to the Cadet.

Cadets must declare a major by October of their third year. More information on degrees can be found at: <https://www.usafa.edu/academics/majors-minors/>.

Majors’ Night: Each Semester, the Academy host Majors’ Night to help Cadets explore their options by speaking with department representatives and consulting with academic advisors or Associate Air Officers Commanding for Academics (ASOCAs).

Core Curriculum:

Here at the Academy, we are committed to meeting the highest ideals of a broad, liberal education while also providing our Cadets with the best possible preparation for a lifetime of service to the Nation. In fact, achieving this balance is one of the most unique and critical contributions of the Air Force Academy to the officer corps. No other commissioning source can create the collaborative blending of rigorous academics, military training, character and leadership development, and competitive athletics than what defines the four-year experience Cadets have at the Air Force Academy.

Nowhere is the Academy's commitment more evident than in the Core Curriculum, which all

Cadets are required to complete. As part of the Core, all Cadets, regardless of academic major, complete 29 Dean of Faculty courses across a variety of academic disciplines, while also engaging in military training programs, participating in seminars and symposia offered by our Center for Character and Leadership Development, and completing required Physical Education courses offered by our Director of Athletics. Importantly, these diverse programs are purposefully integrated to create a one-of-a-kind four-year experience that prepares our Cadets to serve as commissioned officers in the greatest Air Force in the world! Link to Core Curriculum Handbook: <http://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/CHB.pdf>.

Honors List Criteria:

Athletic Director's (AD) List: Cadets who earn a semester Physical Education Average (PEA) of at least 3.0 will be on the Athletic Director's list. These Cadets are authorized to wear the Athletic Director's pin on their uniform for the next semester. PEA is a weighted 4.00 grading scale (50% Physical Fitness Test + 35% Phy Ed course grades + 15% Aerobic Fitness Test).

Dean's List: The Cadet has to earn a 3.0 GPA, minus grades from physical education courses.

Commandant's List: The top 1/3 of each class year are eligible for this honor. However, if a Cadet is on "ANY" probation, he/she is not eligible for the honor.

Superintendent's List: Cadets must be on the Dean's/Commandant's/AD lists combined

Calculators: New Cadets will be issued a scientific calculator prior to the start of classes in August. This calculator will be sufficient for all core courses at the Academy. The use of alternate calculators in 100- and 200-level core courses is restricted. Therefore, there is no requirement to purchase a calculator or bring one. Some Cadets majoring in engineering and sciences will require a more advanced "scientific" calculator, which can do simple linear regressions or graphing functions, but these can be purchased here if required.

Cadet Wing Breakdown for the Academic Year

Academic Year Squadron: After Basic Cadet Training (BCT), the Cadets will enter their academic year squadron. The Cadet Wing are divided into 40 squadrons each with approximately 110 Cadets, with 25-30 from each class. The Cadet Squadron (CS) is the unit in which Cadets live and operate. Cadet's Academic Squadrons 1-23 are in Vandenberg Hall and 24-40 squadrons are in Sijan Hall.

Note: Before their junior year, Cadets are assigned to a new squadron (called upper classman shuffle), which will become their permanent squadron for their remaining two years at the Academy.

Cadet Wing 40 Squads App. 3,900-4,100 Cadets		
Groups		
1st Group -	1 - 10	App. 1,000 Cadets
2nd Group -	11 - 20	App. 1,000 Cadets
3rd Group -	21 - 30	App. 1,000 Cadets
4th Group -	31 - 40	App. 1,000 Cadets
Squadron		App. 100 Cadets
Flights within Squad	A	App. 30 - 35 Cadets in each
Elements within Flights	1 2	App. 10 - 12 Cadets in each

Approved Academic Calendar:

The Academic calendar link can be found on the Official Academy Parent Webpage under other helpful links: <https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>.



Physical Fitness Test (PFT)/Aerobic Fitness Test (AFT):

To help evaluate your Cadet's fitness level, we've provided the average and maximum PFT/AFT scores below. Each fitness test is given to Cadets once a semester. The PFT events are performed consecutively on a three minute interval (two minutes per event and one minute to rest and transition to the next event.) For instance, earning average scores in all events listed in the table below would translate to the lowest possible "C" grade.

Overall Fitness: Remember, a Cadet's physical fitness level at entry will be an important factor in determining their success as a Cadet. For people in good physical condition, exercise can be an excellent tool for releasing stress. Likewise, for those in poor physical condition, physical fitness training (running, push-ups, sit-ups, etc.) can add to their overall stress level. Any questions regarding the fitness training program should be addressed to the Athletic Department, HQ USAFA/ADPVT, 2170 Fieldhouse Drive, Suite E240, USAF Academy CO 80840-9500, telephone 719-333-2340.

	Pull Ups	Standing Long Jump	Sit Ups	Push Ups	600 Yd Run (min)	1.5 Mile Run (min)
Men Average	12	7'7"	71	48	1:53	11:15
Maximum	21	8'8"	95	72	1:35	7:45
Woman Average	3	6'3"	71	29	2:12	13:31
Maximum	8	7'2"	95	48	1:53	8:55

To meet these requirements, we suggest your Cadet follow the Strength and Endurance Programs. See the Cadets "Instructions to Candidates" booklet for a complete description of both tests and suggested workouts.

USAFA BODY MASS INDEX (BMI) SCREENING TABLE

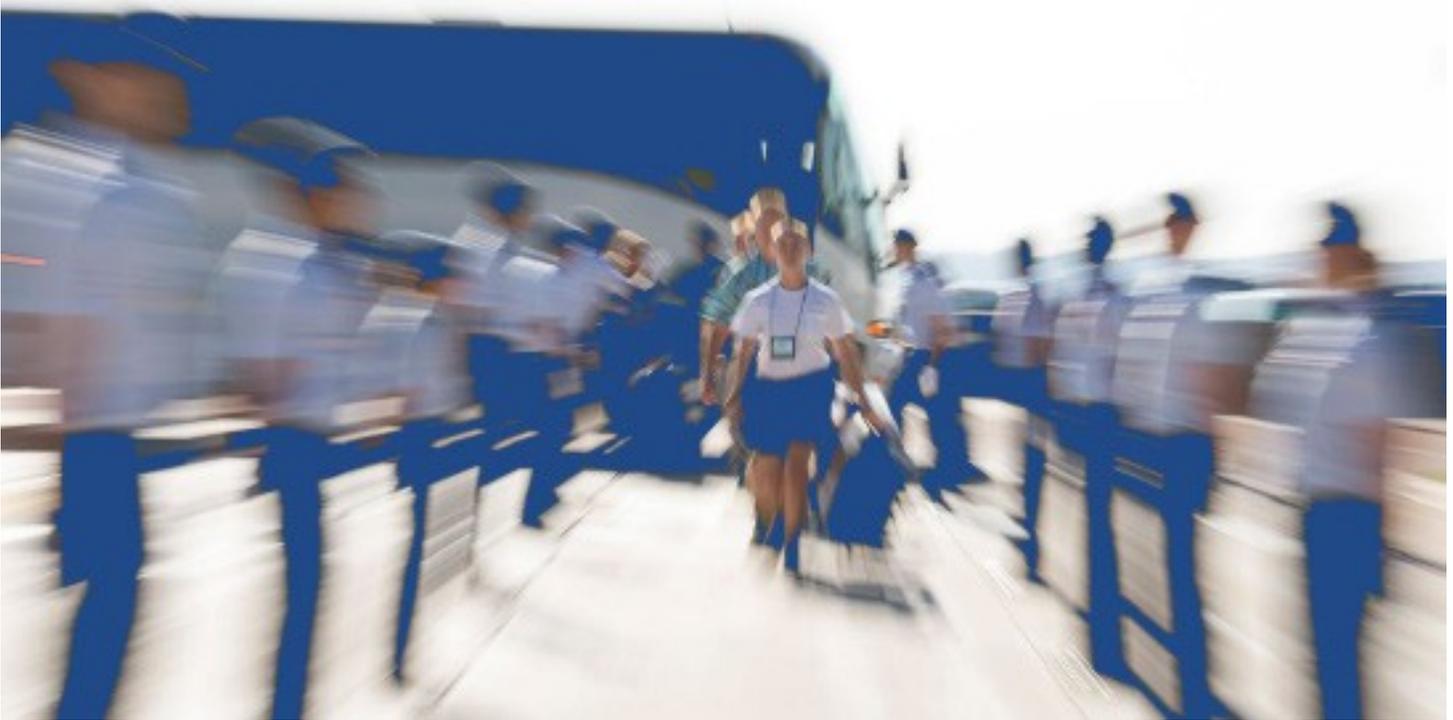
Air Force Body Composition Standards

HEIGHT	USAFA MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE WEIGHT (pounds) (regardless of age or sex) BMI of 25.0 kg/m ² (regardless of age or gender)
58	119
59	124
60	128
61	132
62	136
63	141
64	145
65	150
66	155
67	159
68	164
69	169
70	174
71	179
72	184
73	189
74	194
75	200
76	205
77	210
78	216
79	221
80	227

Unless a Cadet has received a weight waiver any Cadet above the maximum or below the minimum Body Mass Index (BMI) screening weight will be taped to determine body composition. Unless authorized a temporary body fat adjustment, male Cadets above the 25.0 kg/m² and 18% body fat maximum, and female Cadets above the 25 kg/m² and 26% body fat maximum, will be entered into a remedial weight management program. For Cadets below the 19.0 kg/m² minimum BMI, the Air Officer Commanding (AOC) will provide their body composition measurements to the Cadet Clinic for a health assessment review (reference USAFA Instruction 36-2002, Cadet Weight and Fitness Programs).



Separation Process



Separation from the Academy during Basic Cadet Training (BCT) is a rare occurrence and special procedures are in place to support Cadets in this situation. The Goal is to keep all Basic Cadets through BCT. Normally Basics aren't discharged unless medically turned backed during BCT. Please note it is not a simple or immediate process in most situations, and can take two to three weeks. The Academy understands that exhaustion and discouragement may be major factors in the desire to leave. Thus, the initial counseling process by the Chain of Command deliberately is extended over the course of a few days to give the new Cadet every opportunity to assess their situation with Cadre feedback.

Once the Cadet has consulted with their officer in charge of the squadron and separation is requested, paperwork for the transition is initiated. New Cadets will be allowed to call home to inform their parents about their decision. While the new Cadet is in separation process, they may reconsider until the paperwork is signed. Once the paperwork is complete, the n Cadet will be free to return home.

In addition, Parents will not be given status updates unless there is an emergency and your Basic Cadet wishes to inform you of what's going on and is allowed to call home again. Cadet leadership counsels the Basic Cadets if they are thinking of leaving to ensure that is truly their wish or perhaps it is a quick decision based on a bad day or they are home sick, etc. Be patient, when your Cadet gets closer to out-processing and is finalizing their travel plans, they will be allowed to call home.



June

Class of 2023 In-Processing (I-Day) (27 Jun 19) (4th Degree - Freshman): New Cadets are In-Processed, put in a uniform, vaccinated, and begin learning marching and military customs and courtesies all in one day. Parents are invited for the I-Day Parent Program. See Official USAFA Parent Webpage for more information.

Swearing In Ceremony – (28 Jun 19) 4th Degree (Freshman): The Commandant conducts a ceremonial class swearing in ceremony the day after I-Day. Public is invited.

Basic Cadet Training (BCT) Begins: BCT is a 5 1/2-week transition period from civilian to military life. Indoctrination of the overall Academy program: Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), Introduction to Living Honorably in the Profession of Arms (ILHPA), manual of arms, drill, customs and courtesies, introduction to basic Air Force weapons, a field encampment, and other general military subjects. There are two types of students: the primary student (Basic Cadet) and the leadership student (Cadre).

1st Phase of BCT: Comprised of three weeks of training. This training is primarily conducted in the Cadet Area and the objectives mirrors USAF Basic Training. Upper class Cadets organize, coordinate, and execute the processing, training and evaluation of Basic Cadets. Basic Cadets In-Process, learn drill and ceremonies, customs and courtesies; participate in Physical Readiness Training (PRT), and attend classes in character and honor lessons, Equal Opportunity (EO) and sexual assault prevention.

July

Field Day – (12 Jul 19) 4th Degrees (Freshman): Basic Cadets compete in athletics events as squadrons such as Tug of War. BCT intramurals culminates with Field Day. All Basic

Cadets must participate in at least one Field Day sports event. Parents with a military ID can come and watch, but No Parent Contact with Basics.

Pikes Peak Rodeo – (13 Jul 19) 4th Degrees (Freshman): Basic Cadets are allowed to enjoy the rodeo. The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo is held in July and lets the Basic Cadets take time out of their busy summer schedule to attend and a chance to relax and enjoy one of the area’s oldest western heritage traditions. No Parent Contact.

Preparatory School In-Processing and Basic Military Training (BMT): (14 Jul 19 – Priors, 17 Jul 19 non-priors) Cadet Candidates (C/Cs) In-Process in the Preparatory School...Life at the Prep School begins with an 18-day indoctrination into the military known as Basic Military Training. BMT is designed to transition Prep School appointees into the profession of arms. Basic C/Cs are exposed to the Air Force (AF) lifestyle, discipline, and the importance of teamwork. Basics who successfully complete BMT promote to Cadet Candidate status and begin the academic year.

Basic C/Cs are exposed to the following curriculum through the military training program: Air Force Core Values & the Academy Honor Code, Organization & heritage of the AF, military customs & courtesies, physical training, military history, drill & ceremonies, proper uniform wear, dress & appearance, & room inspections. All Basic C/Cs are held to the same standards as representatives of the Air Force – our goal is to prepare them to become leaders at the Academy & later, in their roles as AF officers. Due to the Preparatory School located on the secure part of the base, only Parents with military ID can attend the BMT Graduation parade.

March out to Jack’s Valley: (21 Jul 19) 4th Degree Cadets (Freshman): Jacks Valley is the location of the 2nd part of BCT. The Cadets march to their “Deployment” to a tent city where they learn combat skills, train on the obstacle course, confidence course, and assault course, and participate in team building exercises. This is a rewarding, but difficult part of BCT. Parents are welcome to park at Field House and cheer Basic Cadets on.

2nd Phase of BCT – Jack’s Valley: (21 Jul 19) The 2nd phase of BCT is comprised of three weeks of training. The training is conducted in Jack’s Valley Training Complex (JVTC) and includes field training, course orientation and execution. The Cadet Wing (CW) reinforces training requirements previously taught, with extra emphasis on professionalism and teamwork to include a focus on the Warrior Ethos. Assigned cadre will provide professional orientation training and assessment using JVTC courses completion criteria. Cadre use Academy-approved lesson plans emphasizing safe and proper procedures and techniques. Mandatory BCT graduation requirements include successfully completing the Obstacle, Assault, Confidence, and Leadership Reaction courses. Self-Aid Buddy Care and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense are conducted in-line with USAF requirements.



March back to Jack's Valley - 4th Degree Cadets (Freshman): Basics have completed the second part of training and march back to the Academic Campus. Parents are welcome to park at Field House and cheer Basic Cadets on.

August - September

BCT Graduation Coin Ceremony: 4th Degree Cadet (Freshman): Shortly after the 4 Degrees march back from Jack's Valley there is a Ceremony from the Cadet Wing recognizing the Basic Cadets completion of BCT. No parent event. Right now this has been cancelled.

Preparatory School Class Basic Military Training (BMT) Graduation: (TBD) The Preparatory Basic Cadet Candidates complete BMT. No parent access unless you have military ID.

Commitment Dinner: (TBD) (2nd Class Cadet – Junior): Once the Cadets return to the Academy for their second-class year, they incur the financial or active duty “commitment” for their education if they depart the Academy prior to Graduation. This profound commitment to the AF is celebrated with a formal dinner. The Class Spirit Committee works with CW to give each Cadet a coin to honor the event.



Acceptance Parade: (6 Aug 19) The Acceptance Parade takes place after the Basics complete BCT. At this parade, they are “Accepted” into the Cadet Wing and they become fourth-class Cadets. The C4C’s Graduated Legacy Class is invited to view the parade and present Contrails to the Outstanding Basic from each of the eight squadrons. **This parade is open to the public.** Cadet families who choose to attend are able to view the parade and pin-on ceremonies, and spend approximately two hours and have lunch with their Cadet.

August – September

Parents Weekend (PW) (always Labor Day Weekend) (29 Aug – 2 Sep 19):

<https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/parents-weekend/>. This website has information for your planning purposes. Many parents make the reservations a year out for PW. 4th Degrees must wear their uniforms during your visit. Cadets are normally released on Friday evening to return Academic area for football game on Saturday. After the game Cadets are released until Monday evening. **Note: Cadets must sit with the other Cadets during the football game on Saturday.**



Below is where cadet sit for planning purposes.

Cadets seating area: L17 to L21

Cadet Escort area: L16

Drum & Bugle: Northern portion of Section L20 & southern portion of L19

September

USAFA Air Force Birthday Ball: (TBD) Each September USAFA hosts an AF Birthday Ball. Check with your cadet for information on guest attendance.

Homecoming: Held during first home football game after Parent Weekend normally in



October

Exemplar Dinner - 3rd Degree (Sophomores): Since the Class of 2000, each class has chosen someone who exemplifies the type of person the class wishes to emulate. The third-class Cadets celebrate this selection at a formal dinner, which their graduated Legacy Class members are invited to attend. Class Spirit Committee works with CW to make it special.

December

Class Ring Selection – 2nd Degree Cadets (Juniors): The class ring vendor will visit the Cadet library to allow Cadets to view and reserve genuine stones for their rings. An AOG representative will be onsite to facilitate the event and oversee the “stone show,” ensuring your Cadet is well-informed about their selection.

January

Class Ring Ordering: 2 Degrees (Juniors): The class ring vendor will visit the Cadet library to take orders over three days. At this time, your Cadet will choose their ring metal and place their order. An AOG representative will be onsite to facilitate the event, ensuring your Cadet is well-informed about their purchase.

Preparatory Exemplar Dinner: Each Prep School Class of Cadet Candidates selects a past leader of character whose life and career epitomize integrity, service, excellence, and the character traits they wish to exemplify. The Exemplar Program formally celebrates the individual chosen by the class, and memorializes the class’ affiliation as they journey to becoming leaders of character. Plaques are placed on permanent display in the Exemplar Hall showcased in the dining facility.

Snowfest: A military appreciation ski/snowboard weekend sponsored by designated Colorado ski resorts.

February

100rd Night: 1st Degree (Seniors): Approximately 100 nights before graduation, first-class Cadets join with their Legacy Class to celebrate 100 days to graduation and their commission as second lieutenants. Cadets also receive their base assignments and are given liberty for the weekend to celebrate. On the weekend, the firsties leave campus and the C4Cs "decorate" the firsties' rooms. It is quite the festive occasion.

National Character Leadership Symposium (NCLS): NCLS is a multiple-day event that consists of guest speakers from all walks of life, including military members, athletes, business professionals, and inspirational speakers. This event is streamed sometimes. Check the NCLS website if interested: <https://www.usafa.edu/character/national-character-leadership-symposium-ncls/>.



March

Recognition: (12-14 Mar 20) - 4th Degrees (Freshman): Recognition is the formal finale of the fourth-class year when the fourth-class Cadets are “recognized” as upperclass Cadets and are allowed to wear the Prop and Wings insignia on their flight caps. It is a vital and traditional segment of the Academy experience and is a ceremonial acknowledgement that the fourth-class has successfully met the military training requirements and is prepared to continue the rigorous Academy journey.

It lasts for 2 1/2 days and it is similar to Basic Training. There is marching, physical fitness etc...with upper classman. The most important thing is after Recognition C4Cs will be allowed to wear civilian clothes. The only involvement for parents should be if they are contacted by an upper classman in the squadron so parents can help with a surprise for their Cadet after Recognition concludes. If parents aren't contacted, feel free to contact the Academy's Parent Liaison and she can get you the phone number of the squadron CQ desk to get with an upper classman who is running Recognition for their squadron. Also C4Cs will get their Prop and Wings to wear on their uniforms.

April

The Academy's Founder's Day Events (here and across the U.S.): Speaking engagements are held at the Academy and abroad celebrating the Academy's Founder's Day Anniversary. The Academy also hosts a parade the first Saturday in April. The AOG and Parent Clubs work together many times to conduct Founders Day events.

Cadet Sponsor Appreciation Social: A social to “say thank you” to Cadet Sponsor families. It takes place Founders Day Weekend at the conclusion of the Founder's Day Parade.

May

Ring Dining Out and Dance: 2nd Degrees (Juniors): This formal dinner will be one of the most exciting moments of your Cadet's time at the Academy. Cadets will enjoy dinner and receive their class rings at Mitchell Hall, then attend the Ring Dance at Arnold Hall. Significant others are welcome and encouraged to attend this event. Ring Dining Out is

also the event at which the official class painting is unveiled and presented to the entire class.

Preparatory School Graduation: Preparatory School Cadet Candidates Graduate from the Preparatory School.



Cadet Graduation: 28 May 20 (1st Degrees -Seniors): Graduation for the Academy's Senior Class takes place in Falcon Stadium in May, culminating with an exciting demonstration from the USAF Thunderbirds in the skies over Falcon Stadium. This

capstone event will launch new lieutenants into careers of service to their nation and mark the significant achievement that is your Cadet's journey through the U.S. Air Force Academy!

Each Senior Cadet will get 20 Graduation tickets initially. If the Cadet needs more than



Lodging



USAFA can't recommend hotels, but below is a list near the Academy. Go to the USAFA Visitor Center for more detailed contact information <https://www.usafa.edu/visitors/tourists-first-timers/>.

I-25/Academy Blvd (outside USAFA South Gate)

The Academy Hotel
Comfort Suites
Days Inn

Plaza Inn
Econo Lodge
Howard Johnson
Motel 6
La Quinta Inn/Suites

I-25/Interquest (right across from Academy Football Stadium area)

Residence Inn
Hampton Inn/Suites
Drury Inn
Grey Wolf Lodge
Holiday Inn Express/Suites

I-25/Northgate (outside USAFA North Gate)

The Lodge at Flying Horse
My Place Hotel

I-25/Briargate Parkway (Between Interquest & Academy Blvd)

Hilton Garden Inn
Homewood Suites

I-25/Monument

Fairfield Inn/Suites (Marriott)

The Hideaway Inn

South of the Academy

Commerce Center Dr. (I-25/Woodmen)

Hampton Inn North
Embassy Suites

(I-25 South of Woodmen)

InTown Suites Extended Stay
Extended Stay America

Microtel Inn/Suites
Fairfield Inn/Suites
Holiday Inn Express
Staybridge Suites

Hyatt House
Colorado Springs Marriott

Garden of the Gods (I-25/Garden of the Gods)

Days Inn
Super 8
Quality Inn/Suites
Hyatt Place
La Quinta Inn
Americas Best Value
Inn/Suites

Colorado Springs Downtown Area (I-25/Bijou)

The Antlers
The Mining Exchange
The Econo Lodge Downton

South of Downtown Areas (I-25/Lake Ave)

The Double Tree by Hilton
Cheyenne Mountain Resort

The Broadmoor Hotel
Hotel Elegante

Because Colorado Springs is a major tourist center, hotel and motel reservations are at a premium from Memorial Day through Labor Day; in particular, lodging close to the Academy may be limited due to the number of people arriving to visit Cadets.

Local Hotels

We can't recommend any hotels or homes for rent, but there are many hotels in the north Colorado Springs area readily found by a simple internet search. The following list of those located around the Academy is extensive but not exhaustive and there is a map of the Academy and Colorado Springs on page 118 of this guide.

Homes for rent: Vacation Rental by Owners <https://www.vrbo.com>

On non-peak times parents can get lodging on base through their Cadet by having their Cadet make the reservation or if they have military ID card by calling (719) 333-4910.

Transportation



Yellow Cab, Springs Cab, & Uber are authorized on base at any time. Airport Shuttles do not come on base so Cadets are picked up at local hotels. Cadets are authorized to rent cars. Check with your cadet on the details.

Groome Transportation".

<http://GroomTransportation.com>

They run 10-14 person vans. 16 trip/day. Nearest pick up is Academy Hotel.

Yellow Cab

(719) 777-7777

<http://www.yccos.com/community.html>

Springs Cab

(719) 444-8686

Uber drivers are authorized on base

1-800-101-3611,

<https://www.uber.com/cities/colorado-springs/>

Note: 10th Force Support Squadron provides shuttles (for a cost) round trip to airports (COS & Denver) during major breaks (except for Summer Breaks) for Cadets.



Important Dates: Important Date can be found online on the Official USAFA Parent Webpage: <https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>.

The Academy is extremely selective. They men and women are bright, eager, and enthusiastic; and they demonstrate a high degree of extraordinary leadership potential. They are among the finest young people in America, and we are proud that they have chosen to come to the Academy. When Cadets enter the Academy, they become active duty members of the U.S. Air Force and take the first steps toward joining The Long Blue Line, one of the proudest traditions in the Air Force and in the nation. At the Academy, Cadets will be developed as leaders of character to prepare to serve our Air Force and country for a lifetime. The demanding 47-month Academy experience transforms Cadets into leaders. This experience includes academic, military, and physical development. A strong emphasis on moral-ethical standards is woven into each developmental area. You can be enormously proud of the accomplishments of your Cadet.

Cadet Contact: Don't be surprised when you can't talk with your Cadet much or they don't get back to you quickly. They will have very limited time due to classes, studying, and military duties. They have to learn to juggle and prioritize many things, so be patient with them. Please remember Cadets are super busy and their e-mail boxes fill up quickly so try and limit your correspondence so they can receive official emails.

Noon Meal formation: Noon Meal formation occurs normally at approximately 11:35 am. Check with your Cadet to see which day of the week is the formation and march in. If you are in the area you can watch from the Visitor wall.

Legacy Squadron Program. Allows children, grandchildren, or siblings of former graduates or AOC/AMT to be assigned to the predecessor's squadron. No two siblings may be in the same squadron at the same time.



May, Cadets will have a busy schedule of classes, study periods, military training, and athletic participation. They will awaken by 5:30 am in order to be at morning formation at 6:45 am. Cadets have to rise in time to put their room in order, dress in the Cadet uniform of the day, and be on time for optional breakfast. After breakfast, Cadets will attend morning classes, which begin at 7:30 am and they will attend classes or study until 11:23 am, when they will go to their squadron area for the noon meal formation.



Next they will march to lunch with the Cadet Wing and have 20 minutes to eat. After lunch there are more classes or study periods in the afternoon followed by other training, athletics etc... Evening mealtime is from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, and academic call to quarters is at 7:50 pm.



Some military activities will be required in the evening, but most of the time will be devoted to studying in their room or in the library. Cadet's day ends with Taps and lights out at 11:00 pm. Most Cadets find that there is not enough time during the day to complete all their assignments and fulfill all their responsibilities. They learn that time management and prioritization are two skills key to survival. The daily schedule will vary during the summer, but they will be busy throughout the day.

AUTHORIZED ITEMS



Room Assignments

Upon arrival at the Academy, new Cadets will be assigned to a Basic Cadet Training (BCT) Squadron. Room assignments are two or three cadets-to-a-room. Roommates are members of the same squadron. Cadets have the same roommate throughout the summer. Women live in the same buildings as their male fellow squadron members but have separate rooms and use separate bathrooms and shower facilities.

The military atmosphere at the Academy is maintained even in the Cadet's room. The room must be set up according to the Cadet Standards Instruction. There is a place for everything and a way to fold almost everything.

Between the end of BCT and the start of the academic year, Cadets will be assigned to rooms in their permanent squadron areas. Cadets are generally assigned two or three to a room. Once assigned rooms, C4Cs retain the assignments until the upper classman squadron shuffle right before junior year.

Rooms in the two dormitories are similar. Every Cadet room has a twin size bed, dresser, and desk for each Cadet. There is a proper location for everything that is allowed to be in a Cadet's room, and they will be expected to keep their room in perfect order.

Authorized items include

Authorized item	C4C	C3C	C2C	C1C	Notes
Non-Issue Bedding	N	Y*	Y	Y	C3Cs are authorized alternate sheets
Mattress Topper	N	Y	Y	Y	As long as issue comforter covers both toppers & mattresses. Thickness can't exceed issued mattress thickness
Coffee Pot	N	N	Y	Y	One per Cadet, up to 12 cup capacity with auto shutoff
Plants	N	N	Y	Y	C1C: 2 per room; C2C: 1 per room
Refrigerator	N	N	Y	Y	One per room.
Personal Entertainment Audio/ Visual	N*	Y	Y	Y	One issued cabinet authorized per room for component storage. Additional computer/ video monitor connected to computer; up to 2 per occupant not to exceed 24" screen (diagonal) Must fit on desktop * C4Cs authorized one external monitor not to exceed 24".
TV	N	N	N	Y	One per room with screen no larger than 42" diagonal.

Dormitory authorization list

Small non-powered exercise equipment, desk lights, fans (one per occupant), heaters, and humidifiers (one per room and must have auto shutoff and be UL approved). Up to three large or heavy items per room (musical instruments, etc.) are authorized.

Approved electrical appliances include large popcorn machines (located in common areas), personal hot-air popcorn poppers, microwaves (common areas only), coffee/teapots and hot-pots with an automatic shut off. Large popcorn machines must be plugged directly into a wall outlet, and must be unplugged when not in use.

Coffee/teapots and hot-pots (12 cups or less) with automatic shutoff timers are authorized. Pots larger than 12 cups or without timers are authorized with AOC approval.

Toasters, hot pots without an automatic shutoff, coffee cup/candle/wax warmers, toaster ovens,

dual use microwaves/convection ovens, and individual coffee pots without timers are not authorized. Exception: potpourri warmers are authorized with **clear liquids only**.

Electrical equipment used in the dormitories to include circuit protected multi-plug power strips must be Underwriters Laboratory (UL) approved or equivalent. Three-wire extension cords may be used on a temporary basis

Items requiring AOC Approval: Each Cadet squadron is authorized one refrigerator, freezer, television, and satellite dish or cable hookup. No more than two microwaves are allowed.

Prohibited Items: Single-room air conditioning units. Individual cable, satellite, or hardwired commercial internet connections are not authorized, Two-wire extension cords are prohibited. Excessive exposed wires (e.g. personal/Squadron Wi-Fi).

Authorized items by Class Year

Memorabilia. Must conform to class-based privileges. Counted as individual items. Groups of similar items not counted as single item. C1Cs: 15 items, C2Cs 9 items; C3Cs 6 items; C4C 2 items. Some parents send

in electronic picture frames (5 by 7 size due to desk space) as gifts. Cadets can put as many pictures as they wish on their cork board = 1 item.

Anything **EXCEPT** the following is considered memorabilia:

Laptop
Monitor
Printer
CD/DVDs/Movies
Books (does not include comic books or magazines)
Images
Patches (or other flat items attached to corkboard)
Desk lamps
School supplies, writing utensils, three-hole punches, sticky notes, calendars, staplers, etc...

Must be neatly arranged or stored in a container, items meant for consumption (must be stored in a container if not packaged, such as fruit), Utensils for eating, and storage bins.

Holiday Decorations: May be displayed from end of Thanksgiving break to beginning of Winter break. Individually displayed holiday decorations must be approved by AOC in coordination with group chaplain. Small artificial holiday trees (3' or less) may be displayed in individual rooms. Holiday tree/decorative lights must not be placed where they are exposed to damage or pose a fire or tripping hazard to personnel. One electrically lit Menorah per occupied room is authorized (contact Chaplain for details on traditional ones). Requests to display decorations for other religious/cultural holidays occurring throughout the year must be requested AOC/AMT in coordination with group chaplain.

Room Inspections: Bi-weekly "casual" room inspections ensure Cadets are meeting standards while frequent (1 to 2 per month) formal room and uniform inspections are guaranteed to teach Cadets the meaning of "attention to detail." In addition, to keeping their room clean Cadets are also required to maintain a perfect uniform. They will learn the intricacies of ironing and all the different ways to keep their shoes shined every day.

Owning and Maintaining a Residence

Cadets are not allowed to own, lease, or maintain any off-base living quarters. Maintaining off-base living quarters for Cadet use includes, but is not limited to, the following circumstances:

Paying for the upkeep of a room/rental property to include all or any portion of the telephone or utility bills, rent, or periodic obligations.

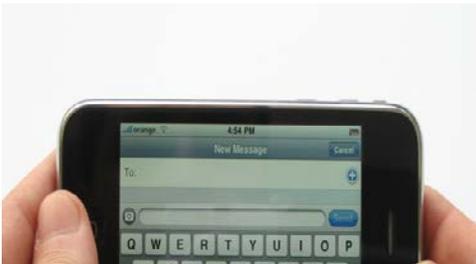
Paying parents, friends, relatives or other agents for the upkeep of the room/rental property.

Staying in the same off-base quarters when the documented owner/lease has been absent from the quarters for more than 72 hours will require that the Cadets receive written approval from their respective AOCs. This does not apply when the Cadet is on Thanksgiving, winter/spring break or summer break orders.



Cadet Personal Time. Cadets will use personal time for personal hygiene, to study, read and/or write letters, clean their dormitory room, seek necessary medical attention if needed, and/or prepare for the next day.

C4C & Media use. C4Cs will be allowed to use media responsibly. C4Cs may use media with headphones only. Speakers and game systems of any kind will not be allowed for any reason. Phones will never be confiscated from C4Cs by Cadets for any reason, unless directed to by the Permanent Party chain of command.



Falcon Alerts: This is a program that Cadets sign up for texts for weather, base exercises, or emergencies notifications. Cadets may sign up parent phone numbers as well. Get with your Cadet so they can add your cell phone number if you are interested.





Boundary Information

Cadet Boundaries Limits. Cadet limits are the boundaries within which a Cadet must remain unless authorized to exceed for extended limits, passes, temporary duty (TDY) locations, or break. Cadet Commanders, with AOC concurrence, may impose more restrictive limits on Cadets whose performance is subpar, and must document the restriction.

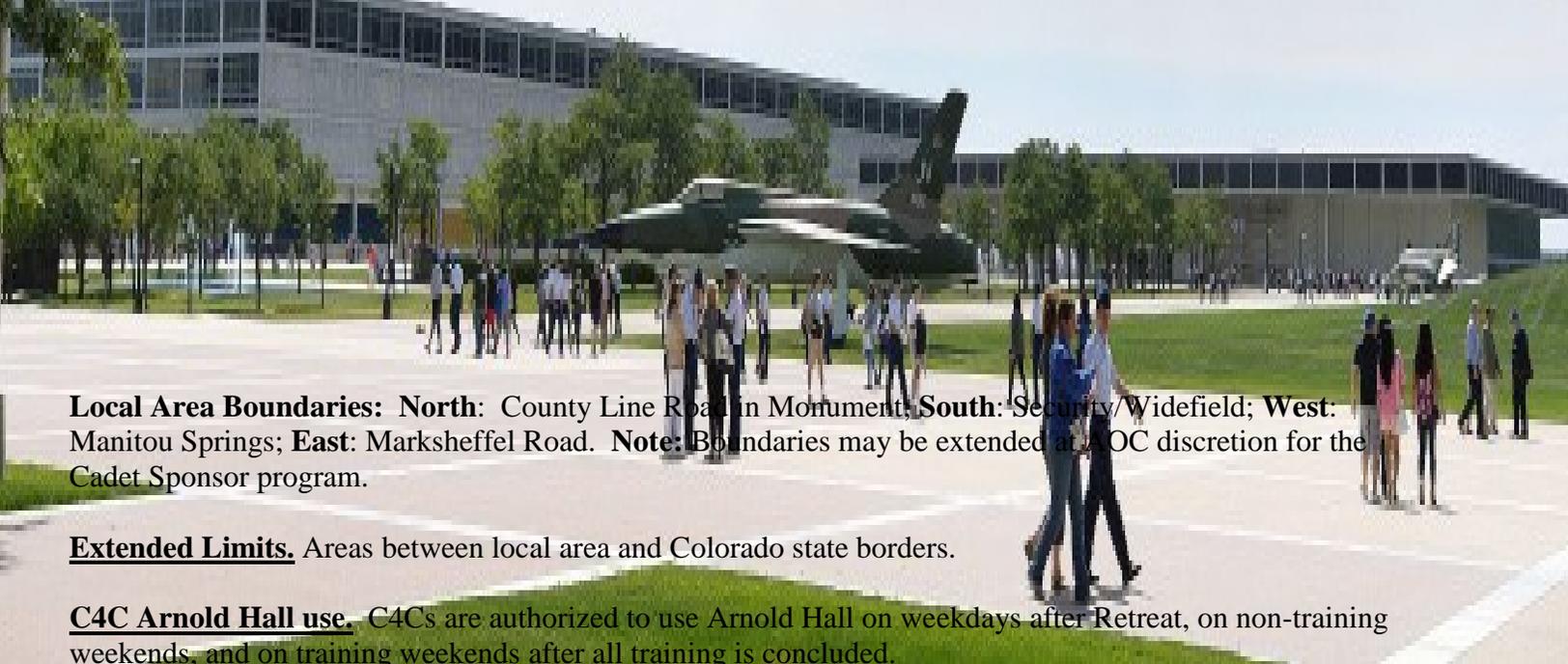
Cadet Room: Individual dormitory room, squadron printer, and nearest latrine.

Cadet Squadron Area: Limits of the squadron within the dormitory area including the squadron TV room (if authorized) and squadron activities room (SAR).

Academic Study Area: Vandenberg Hall, Fairchild Hall (including the McDermott Library), Fairchild Hall Annex, Sijan Hall, and Mitchell Hall (inside the gated area).

Cadet Duty Area: Cadet Duty Area is the Academic area of the Academy, Athletic fields, and Jack's Valley.

The Academy Reservation: The entire Academy installation is from inside the North Gate to inside the South Gate.



Local Area Boundaries: **North:** County Line Road in Monument; **South:** Security/Widefield; **West:** Manitou Springs; **East:** Marksheffel Road. **Note:** Boundaries may be extended at AOC discretion for the Cadet Sponsor program.

Extended Limits. Areas between local area and Colorado state borders.

C4C Arnold Hall use. C4Cs are authorized to use Arnold Hall on weekdays after Retreat, on non-training weekends, and on training weekends after all training is concluded.

Weekends: Generally two weekends per month are devoted to military training. Training is from Friday afternoon through early Saturday afternoon. Activities during this time include room and uniform inspections, parades, marching practice, military briefings, guest speakers, and professional military education and training.

On non-training weekends Cadets are permitted to leave the Academy if they have liberty to use. The Academy refers to liberties and authorizations as permission for Cadets to leave the Academy during off duty periods. Individual passes on Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday will depend on your Cadet's class and on their overall squadron performance. Authorizations and liberties are gradually increased by class in recognition of added maturity and responsibility.

According to the Schedule of Calls (SOCs), all Cadets will return no later than (NLT) 7:15 pm on Sundays for Roll Call. After this time, should a Cadet wish to sign out, they must use weekday sign out rules.

CADET PASS DEFINITIONS

Pass: This is the basic unit of the sign out process. A pass is used to sign out when the sign out logs are open and there are no conflicting military duties. Cadets are given a specific number of passes each semester based on their class and can be awarded additional passes through exemplary individual and collective performance.

Overnight Sign Out: An overnight sign out is any time a cadet is signed out after TAPS. A cadet is charged two passes when he/she is signed out overnight.

Weekday Sign Out: A weekday sign out is any time a cadet signs out Monday through Thursday. Week-day pass rules may also be applied to military training weekends, but sign out policy may vary based on training requirements.

Performance Pass: A performance pass is given to cadets as a reward for exemplary performance. Performance passes are awarded by the Squadron AOC/AMT, Group AOC, or Commandant and get added to a cadet's pass count for that month. They do not give cadets the ability to sign out over and above the class specific sign out policy. Example - signing out a second time during the week when a cadet is only allowed to sign out once a week.

Discretionary Passes

A discretionary pass is a special pass approved by the AOC (can be delegated to AMT), Group AOC, or Commandant usually designated for special occasions and allowances. These passes can only be used during their allotted time and are typically coordinated via staff summary sheet (SSS). *These passes are not charged to a cadet's overall account.*

NOTE: Approval of SSS to travel past Colorado state border does not imply a discretionary pass has been granted; the pass must be specifically approved.

1. **Sponsor Pass:** A sponsor pass is a specifically approved discretionary pass for cadets in good standing, for C3Cs and C4Cs. They are to only be used on Sundays and are to be used to spend time at a cadet's sponsor family's house. These are not intended for every weekend and should be reserved for de-serving cadets.

2. **Spiritual Accommodation Pass (SAP):** A SAP is a specifically approved discretionary pass for the purpose of attending an organized spiritual enrichment activity or religious service off base. This pass is allocated for the specific time required to attend the activity.

3. **Volunteer/Community Service Pass (VCS):** A VCS is a specifically approved discretionary

pass for the purpose of volunteering off base or performing community service. This pass is meant to incentivize cadet involvement in the community and is allocated only for attending a specified event.

Pass Allocations by Class Year

Class	Approved Sign Outs	Pass Usage Limits	Passes Allotment
C1C	Weekend Day (1 pass)	within pass allotment	15 passes/month
	Weekend Overnight (2 passes)	within pass allotment	
	Weekday to Taps (1 pass)	2 per week	
	Weekday Overnight (2 passes)	1 per month	
C2C	Weekend Day (1 pass)	within pass allotment	11 passes/month
	Weekend Overnight (2 passes)	within pass allotment	
	Weekday to Taps (1 pass)	1 per week	
	Weekday (1 pass)	within pass allotment	8 passes/month
C3C	Weekend Overnight (2 passes)	Within pass allotment	
	Weekday to Academic Call to Quarters (ACQ)	2 per semester	
	Weekend Day (1 pass)	within pass allotment	3 passes/month
C4C	Weekend Day (1 pass)	within pass allotment	3 passes/month
	Weekend Overnight (2 passes)	2 per semester	

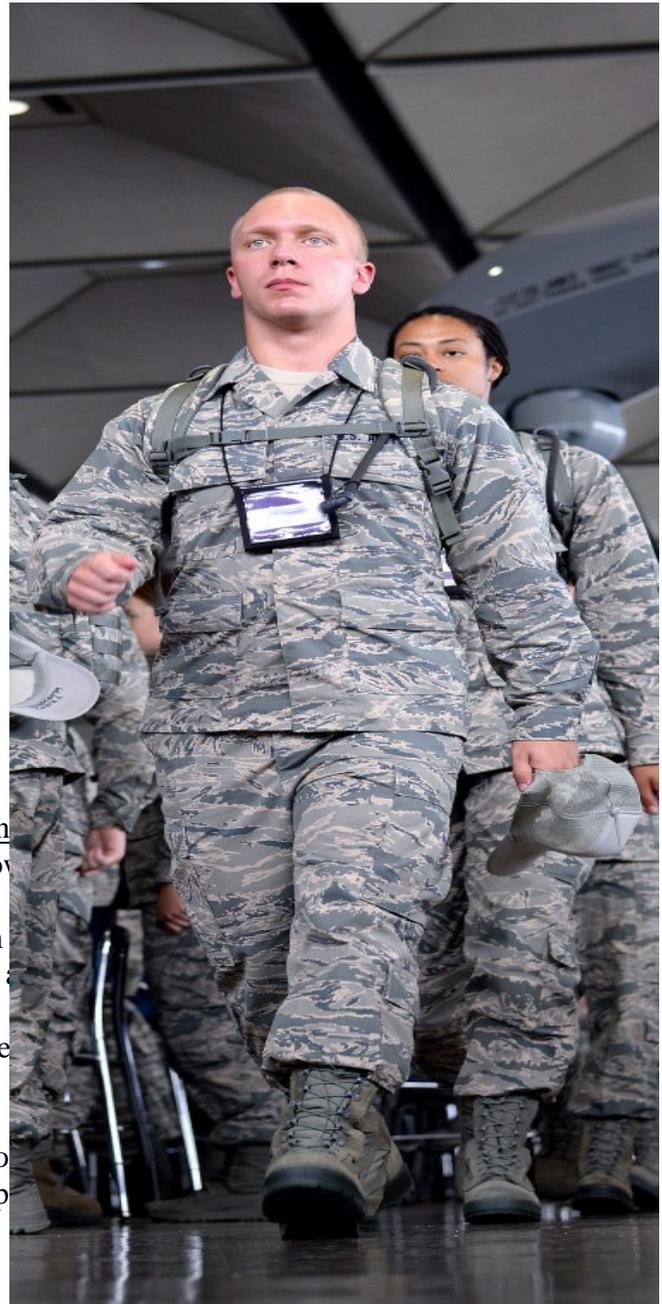
Passes are allocated for specific periods and will not carry over from one time period to the next.

C4Cs will not be allowed to utilize passes until after Parent focused academic, military, and athletic performance prior to allow

All Cadets are eligible to secure additional passes through passes can be awarded by Squadron AOCs/AMTs, Group AOCs, and

Spiritual accommodation passes for specific events will be AOC and will not count against the Cadet’s pass allocation.

Passes based on a “use or lose” system. At end of each mo performance passes will be reset to their baseline number. Merit p semester.



Merit Pass

A merit pass may be granted at the beginning of the semester in order to recognize outstanding performance by Cadets during the preceding semester. These passes are designed to recognize Outstanding Squadron Standings (OSS) and individual merit list achievement. These passes will be awarded by the Commandant. These passes are good for the entire semester in which they are issued.

Squadron Merit Pass: The top squadrons in the Operations Support Squadrons (airfield) rankings for the semester will receive the following passes for use the following semester #1 OSS will receive 10 passes and #2 through # 5 OSS will receive 5 passes.

Individual Merit: Individual Cadets will receive passes for achieving Commandant's List, Dean's List, and the Athletic Director's List.

Cadets achieving 1 List will receive 3 passes.

Cadets achieving 2 Lists will receive 6 passes.

Cadets achieving 3 Lists will receive 10 passes.



Upper Class Cap Insignia Silver Prop and Wings are worn on the flight cap after Recognition of a Cadets' fourth class year. Cadets will wear standard chrome plated prop and wings on flight caps upon recognition. Direct descendants of Army Air Corps, Women Air Force Service Pilots, or a parent who is an USAF Academy graduate are authorized to wear gold prop and wings.



Clothing Information

Clothing/Accessory Standards

Item: Present Proper Military Image	Must Be
Watch (1 only)	Conservative. Conservative examples (not all inclusive) are solid color black, brown, silver or gold. Prohibited examples are diamond-covered, neon, bright colors, and bands that exceed 1-inch width.
Bracelet (1 only)	Ankle bracelets not authorized. Conservative in design, no wider than ½ inch, gold or silver in color, and will not have inappropriate pictures or writing. Medical alert/identification bracelets are authorized; however, if worn, will be conservative. Gemstones/tennis bracelets may only be worn with mess dress uniform. Bracelets showing support for cause, philosophy, individual or group not authorized. Exception: Traditional POW/MIA/KIA bracelets, which come in colors beside silver, bronze, or gold, remain authorized.
Rings	Maximum of three rings on both hands combined. Will be worn only at base of finger. No thumb rings authorized.
Earrings	Male Cadets not authorized to wear earrings on military installation, or while in uniform or in civilian attire for official duties. Female Cadets may wear small (not to exceed 6 mm in diameter) spherical, conservative (moderate, being within limits: not excessive or extreme) round white diamond, gold, white pearl, or silver earrings as a set with any uniform combination. Only one set of earrings at a time in uniform is allowed to be worn in lower ear lobe if Cadet has multiple holes in ears.

Eyeglasses and Sunglasses	Conservative ornamentations on non-prescription sunglasses or eyeglasses, frames may be black or brown material or gold or silver wire. Brand name glasses may be worn with small logo on frames or lenses. Logo must be same color as frames or lenses. Conservative, clear, slightly tinted or photosensitive lenses are authorized. Faddish styles and mirrored lenses are prohibited.
Contact lenses	Contact lenses will be natural looking in shape and design. There will be clear in color and not change color of Cadet's natural eye color.
Gym bags	Solid dark-blue, olive drab, Air Force sage green or ABU pattern with matching stitching.
Back Packs	Black, ABU-patterned, olive drab, and Air Force sage green back packs. Small logs are authorized. Will not have ornamentation, a high-gloss, designs, or hanging/dangling objects.
Camelback	Plain solid black, olive drab, or sage green

Using Prep School Cadet Candidate Uniforms as Cadets:

Preparatory School Graduates who are accepted into the Academy can bring their ABUs, boots, and leather shoes but they will also be issued all new uniforms and items. With the exception of the utility uniform, Cadet uniform items are completely different from those issued at the Prep School.

4 Degrees Laundry Information:

Dry Cleaning and Laundry service is taken out of C4Cs monthly pay automatically. Approximately the deductions will be \$29.00 for Dry Cleaning and \$59.000 for laundry service. If 4 Degrees choose to do their own laundry with squadron permission for free in the Cadet Laundry facility they can, but the deduction will still be taken out of their pay. Upper Classman do their own laundry at the Cadet Laundry for free.



Cadet Clubs

There are more than 80 active clubs offered to develop talents and satisfy hobbies. Not only do the clubs serve to gratify one's interests, they also foster friendships, personal development and character development. Clubs fall into three categories: mission, competitive, and recreational. For a more comprehensive list, visit: <https://www.usafa.edu/Cadet-life/clubs/>.

Mission Clubs

Support: Chorale, Drum and Bugle, Falconry, Flying Team, Honor Guard, Soaring, Wings of Blue

Affinity & Culture: Hispanic/Latino, Native American Heritage Club, Way of Life

Academic/Professional: Astronomy & Physics, Cyber Warfare, Forensics, Mock Trial, Space Society

Competitive Clubs: Cycling, Women's Fast Pitch Softball, Marathon, Men's & Women's Rugby, Ski Racing, Triathlon

Recreational Clubs: Bluebards, Car Club, Chess, Equestrian, Karate, Model Engineering, Paintball

Release of Cadet Information to Parents

Unless your Cadet gives the USAF Academy specific permission to release Privacy Act information (Academic or Medical information), the Academy staff will only be able to discuss the procedures. **Your first action should always be to ask your Cadet.** As the adult and active duty member the Cadet can give permission to release Academic information and not medical or vice versa, to release both, or to restrict the release of any information. They will do this as part of in-processing, but can update later if they choose. You can contact their Air Officer Commander (AOC) with questions, but always start with your Cadet.

Family Emergencies

Feel free to contact your Cadet's AOC or AMT (enlisted superintendent) in case of family emergencies. You can also contact the Academy's Parent Liaison Toll Free at 1-877-268-3383 or (719) 333-3828, or e-mail: USAF.ParentLiaison@usafa.edu. The commanders really do try and work out emergencies as quickly as possible.

Updating Cadet/Parent Personal Information for Official Files: Only Cadets can update their personal information. Cadet personal information can be updated by a visit from the Cadet to the Office of the Registrar's Customer Service Desk in Fairchild Hall. Additionally, the Cadet Database system provides an avenue by which Cadets can update certain portions of their personal information. These include privacy act information release (academic & medical) and disclosure waivers. Please ensure your Cadet updates your contact information (to include e-mail) if there are any changes.

Parents' Weekend (PW) (30 Aug – 2 Sep 19) Website:

<https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/parents-weekend/>.

Many parents make lodging reservations a year out for PW (**Always Labor Day Weekend**). C4Cs must wear their uniforms during your visit. There is no distance exemption for wearing of the uniforms. Parents will be able to take their Cadet home with them Friday night and return them at a specific time on Saturday for the football game. Normally on Thursday afternoon there is a senior leader panel so parents can ask questions of the Academy's Senior Leaders.

On Friday of PW there will be a parade and you can meet some professors and athletic coaches during their open houses as well as an information fair in Arnold Hall. Check out the Academy's PW website because the events are normally pretty standard and it will give you an idea on how to plan your stay. Cadets are normally released until Saturday for the Football Game. Note: Cadets must sit with the other Cadets during the football game on Saturday. Cellphones and other electronic devices will not be used during any active portion of the game.

After the football game Cadets will be released to parents for the weekend and must return on Monday evening. See schedule of events to verify times on the website and more information. The normal Cadet seating area locations is L17 to L21 of the stadium.



Prep School PW Registering

PW Registration is required for Preparatory School Cadet Candidate parents. The Cadet Candidates will contact you to see if you are attending. If parents are planning on attending, the Cadet Candidate will have to get the following information to get them access to the secure part of the base: 1) Name on your Drivers' license, 2) State of issuance, and 3) Date of birth. This will be used for the Entry Access List (EAL). You can call the Prep School at (719) 333-2583 for more information. There is no Registration required for Cadet parents.

Printers or supplies during PW

Many parents bring supplies etc...during PW. Please note that some squadrons view printers as a privilege and must be earned. So parents may bring a printer, but the Cadet may have to earn the right to put it in their room. Cadets are issued a laptop. Every Squadron has a network printer for Cadet's use, but there are many Cadets sharing the squadron printer.

U.S. Air Force Birthday Ball

This is normally a mandatory event for C4Cs held each September to celebrate the Air Force's Birthday on 18 Sep and Cadets can invite a guest. Cadets must wear service dress. For guests suggest a nice party dress or a suit, dress shoes, and tie. This is not a casual dance so guests need to dress conservatively. Always check with your cadet on questions or issues.



School Break Information

Ordinary breaks are granted for Thanksgiving, winter break, spring break, and summer periods. All Cadets traveling outside the continental United States (OCONUS) will comply with CW's Cadet Foreign Travel Guide. Cadets planning foreign travel during a break period are also responsible for reading, understanding, and complying with the DoD Foreign Clearance Guide <https://www.fcg.pentagon.mil/>. Cadets traveling abroad will obtain a tourist passport and travel visa, if required. Passport and visa applications are available at any U.S. Post Office. More info on major breaks below.

Leave (vacation): Cadets and Cadet Candidates will receive approximately five days of leave each Thanksgiving, two weeks at Winter, one week during the Spring Break, and three weeks of summer break based on the training programs the Cadet will be taking. Please note that if Cadets are deficient in academics or athletics they may be required to participate in specific programs in lieu of summer leave.





Thanksgiving/Winter Break/Spring Break Information:

Thanksgiving Break (26 Nov – 1 Dec 19 for Cadets; 27 Nov 19 – 1 Dec 19 for Cadet Candidates)

The official release for Cadets for Thanksgiving is Last Military Duty (LMD). Cadets normally are able to leave after the LMD. LMD could be noon formation if the Cadet has a morning class or after an afternoon class. Check with your Cadet before purchasing any airline tickets. Cadet Candidates will be released at 9:00am. All Cadets and Cadet Candidates should land in Denver not later than 3 hours prior to Academy check-in time of 7:00pm. No set time for Colorado Springs, but at least an hour is suggested.

Winter Break:

Cadets: (16 Dec 19 – 5 Jan 20) Cadet Candidates: (14 Dec 19 – 2 Jan 20) The official release date is Monday, 16 Dec 19 for Cadets. The Cadets will normally be able to leave anytime on the release date. That being said, you need to **CHECK WITH YOUR CADET**. If your Cadet takes their last final on Wednesday, then they can leave after their final with Commander's permission (standard release is normally given). Cadet Candidates will be release at 11:00 am on 14 Dec 19.

Cadets will not be allowed to move up finals for airline tickets.

Your Cadet can go into the Cadet database and look up each of his or her classes (normally sometime in mid-September) and see when their finals are. Cadets will not be allowed to move up finals for airline tickets. The return date for Cadets is 5 Jan 20 by 7:00 pm and the return date for Cadet Candidates is 2 Jan 20 by 7:00 pm. Cadets should land in Denver not later than 3 hours prior to Academy check-in time. No set time for Colorado Springs, but at least an hour is suggested.

Spring Break

Spring Break for Cadets is 20 – 29 Mar 20. Cadets normally are able to leave after their LMD with a return by 7:00 pm on 29 Mar 20. Cadent Candidates will be released on 21 Mar 20 and return on 29 Mar 20 by 7:00 pm. Cadets should land in Denver not later than 3 hours prior to Academy check-in time. No set time for Colorado Springs, but at least an hour is suggested.

Vacation Travel

Ensure you plan early for vacations like cruises or resorts. Especially in Mexico. There are some restrictions for active duty to these areas. Your Cadet must check with the Cadet Wing's Antiterrorism Officer to ensure they do what is required and are approved to go by Cadet Wing leadership. Ensure your Cadet has enough time to go through proper approval processes for these trips.

Commercial transportation & Uniform Wear

Upper-class and recognized C4Cs may wear civilian clothes. Unrecognized C4Cs and upper-class Cadets who have lost civilian clothing privileges will wear service dress when traveling within the Continental United States (CONUS), Alaska, and Hawaii. C4Cs are authorized to wear civilian clothing while at the break location. C4Cs will wear civilian clothing when traveling outside CONUS, Alaska, and Hawaii. Shuttle Info will be sent out through Parent Clubs when released and be posted on the Official Academy's Parent Webpage. **Travel home for breaks is paid by the Cadet and not the Academy.**

Please see Transportation page in this guide on Page 49 for Airport Shuttle and Taxi information.

Separate Rations while on breaks: Since your Cadet will not be eating in Mitchell Hall while on break, they will fill out a form before they leave to give them extra money for separate rations. Parents don't do anything. Cadets will see the payment in their paychecks the following paycheck normally.

Cadet Return delays (weather etc.): Cadets can call their AOC/AMT to let them know they are delayed due to weather etc... If they can't reach one of them, then they call the COS Regional Command Post Colorado Springs (COS) Regional Command Post at 719-333-2633 and ask to be connected to their Squadron AOC/AMT or CQ desk.



Aviation, Airmanship, and Space Programs



A very large part of the Academy experience involves flying, unmanned aerial systems, and space courses. Many Cadets volunteer to enroll in a soaring course, where they can pilot a glider and have the chance to fly solo.

Your Cadet also has an opportunity to take an elective course in free-fall parachuting, complete five free-fall parachute jumps and receive their military jump wings. Cadets who volunteer for the elective space course learn about current Air Force space mission areas with hands-on experience and the opportunity to upgrade to a certified ground station operator for the Academy's own satellite, FalconSAT. Additionally, Cadets can explore one of the newest areas of Air Force operations by planning and piloting unmanned aerial systems over the Academy reservation.

Other aviation courses offered vary, ranging from a course on Air Force Combat Operations to courses designed to prepare graduates to excel at Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training (SUPT). USAFA even offers select Cadets a chance to serve as Cadet Aviation Instructors, where they gain invaluable leadership experience both in the air and on the ground. Cadets at the Academy who demonstrate high levels of ability in airmanship programs can compete at the intercollegiate level. All of the Cadet Aviation teams are nationally recognized and perennially earn top honors. These teams also conduct demonstrations at public events, nationally and internationally.



Cadet Drum and Bugle Corps

Since 1971, the Academy Cadet Drum and Bugle Corps, nicknamed the “Flight of Sound,” has entertained more than 100 million people nationwide with exciting performances. The Corps is a live combination of military precision and music; performing an average of 100 times per year, they are known as the Academy’s Cadet Ambassadors of musical excellence.

The mission of the Corps is two-fold: support Cadet Wing events and public relations. The Corps performs at Academy home and away football games, as well as travels for parades. Past parade appearances include Presidential Inaugurations, the New York City Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, Mardi Gras in New Orleans, and the Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena, California. In addition, the Corps has traveled to Aspen and Keystone ski resorts here in Colorado to perform at various functions while enjoying skiing opportunities.

Fourth-class Cadets are permitted and encouraged to participate in the Drum and Bugle Corps. Cadets will be allowed to travel with the Corps to football games and performances away from the Academy. Auditions for the Corps will be held immediately following BCT.

If you’re Cadet has ever played any musical instrument, even if it was a few years ago and they stopped, the Corps can use them! Reading music is the Corps’ biggest desire. The brass section consists of trumpet, F mellophone (French horn), baritone (trombone), euphonium (tuba) and bugles. The drum line includes snares, tenors, bass drums, and cymbals. Woodwind/string players are also welcome as the transition to a brass or percussion instrument can be fairly quick. Everyone may audition/interview and will be given instruction.

If your Cadet is interested in the Corps, ensure they fill out the Drum and Bugle Corps form on their Admissions Portal and if they have one of the instruments above, bring it with them to the Academy. For questions, please contact the D&B director, Scott Crump, at drum.bugle@usafa.edu.

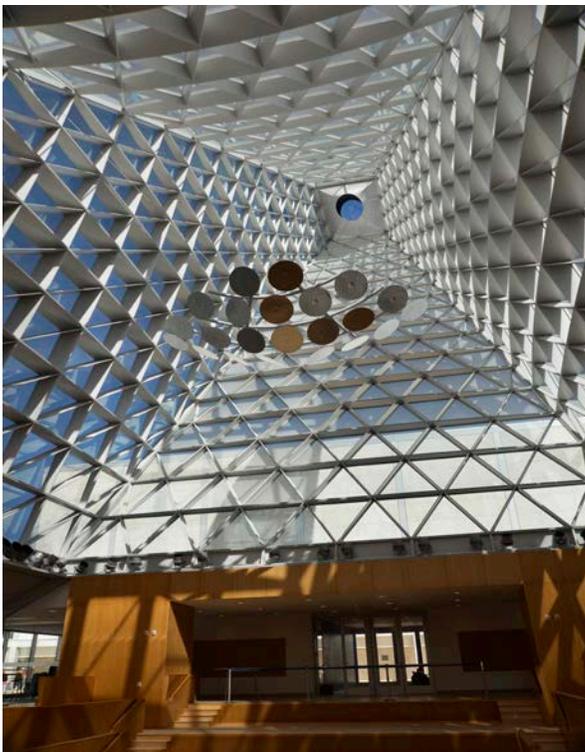
The Center for Character and Leadership Development (CCLD)



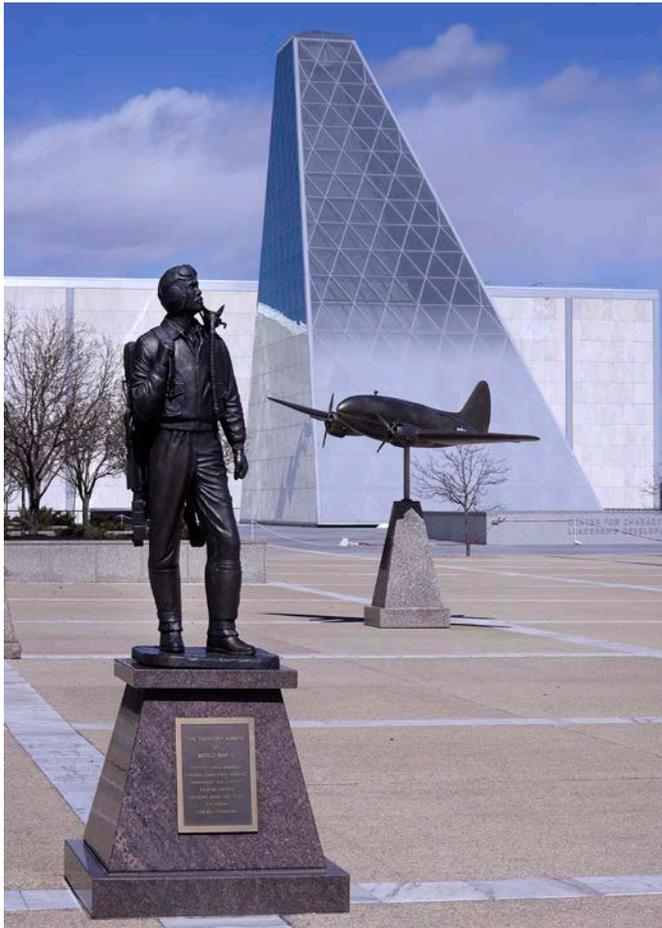
The USAF Academy defines character as: “One’s moral compass; the sum of those qualities of moral excellence which move a person to do the right thing despite pressures to the contrary.” In addition, we define a “Leader of Character” as one who (1) Lives honorably; consistently practicing the virtues embodied by the Core Values, (2) Lifts others to their best possible selves, and (3) Elevates performance toward a common and noble purpose.

Therefore, the Mission of the Center for Character and Leadership Development is to help create an environment where people want to relentlessly pursue the identity of a Leader of Character. To this end, the Center is organized into four divisions.

Honor Division: Staff supports the Cadet Wing in upholding the Honor Code through education of the Honor System. 182 Cadet Honor Representatives within the Cadet Wing administer the Honor System. The Honor Code simply states “We will not lie, steal, or cheat, nor tolerate among us anyone who does.” while the Oath includes, “furthermore, I resolve to do my duty and to live honorably, (so help me God).” This is the foundation of the Academy experience. The goal of the Honor Code and Oath, CCLD, and the Academy is for Cadets to pursue a path of living honorably. Living under the Honor Code demands complete integrity in word and deed. Cadets are accountable to themselves and each other. They are expected to report any Honor Code violation. The Honor Code is a minimum standard expected of Cadets.



Cadet Character Development Division: Provides multiple opportunities for Cadets to practice the habits of honorable living and to strengthen their commitment to personal integrity. The Directorate conducts seminars and provides a systematic approach to developing leadership and character qualities on personal, interpersonal, team, and organizational levels. The developmental experiences that focus on



character and leadership call Cadets to own their attitude and effort, as well as their commitments, duty, and their role in the development process. The Center offers intentional and engaging events that assess, challenge, and support Cadet development. Finally, we seek to create opportunities for Cadets to practice in an attempt to create habits of honorable thoughts and actions.

All fourth-class Cadets attend a personal reflection and leadership development program session, called FORCE, which focuses on developing the virtues and skills of good followership. The other three classes have similar seminars that focus on interpersonal relationships, team leadership, organizational leadership, and ethical decision-making. These seminars offer Cadets an opportunity to reflect on their own character journey, their goals, and the broad set of character challenges often encountered in the course of active duty service.

This division also runs experiential learning exercises and activities on the Adventure Based Learning (ABL) course. This popular course includes both high- and low-ropes course obstacles, to include the 50-foot “Alpine Tower” climbing obstacle. These exercises help Cadets and staff gain greater personal commitment to the principles of character and leadership through a powerful hands-on experience.

Additionally, the Cadet Character Development Directorate offers a variety of forums for Cadets to pursue their own character and leadership development by offering a variety of exceptional symposia, forums, and other character building events. Finally, this directorate facilitates Cadet Service learning (community service) programs, alternative spring break opportunities, and veteran/heritage events.

Research, Integration and Assessment Division: Is the catalyst and strategic vector for character and leadership development at the USAF Academy. This division conducts research on the most effective methods for developing character and leadership in the Cadets and also assesses the current character development programs at the Academy to ensure the Academy is meeting its mission of developing leaders of character. It produces rigorous and thought-provoking publications in the area of character and leadership, to include the nationally recognized Journal of Character and Leadership Integration.

Operations and Outreach Division: Provides focus on the alignment of CCLD efforts within the Center, across the Academy and beyond. This focus on strategic partnerships and efficiencies enhances the reach and impact of CCLD initiatives, and brings external perspectives and best practices to our processes and programs. One particular area of outreach is to our Cadet community, to ensure they have the

opportunity to engage in character and leadership activities – for example the National Character and Leadership Symposium - that support their development and connect with their commitments.

In summary, character and leadership development will be a crucial, all-encompassing part of your Cadet’s Academy experience. From the time they enter until graduation, Cadets can expect to see various character and leadership development programs in every aspect of their life with the ultimate goal of imbuing them with the inner desire to develop themselves and others as leaders of character.

Financial Information



Uniforms	\$4,175
Servicemans’ Group Life	\$ 348
Fees (Athletic, Allied Arts)	\$ 180
Textbooks/Media/KAFA/BCT	\$1,987
Computer (hardware,	\$2,276
Personal Services (barber, laundry, tailor, linen, dry cleaning)	\$1,788
Estimated Expenses	\$10,754
Estimated Income (\$1087.80	\$13,053

Class 2023 Projected Expenses July 2019 – June 2020

See the USAFA Parent Webpage for cadet expense sheets & Financial Information:

www.usafa.edu/parents/cadet-financial-information

The totals are an estimate based on last year’s costs. Contact the USAF Academy Financial Service Office at 719-333-6994 or 6982 for questions concerning Cadet Pay. Once the expenses have been finalized for 2019-2020 it will be added to the Official Academy Parent Webpage under Cadet Financial Information.



Personal checking and Share Draft Accounts

Cadets (to include 17 year olds) must initially open a checking account (free with your direct deposit) at Armed Forces Bank on the Academy by going to www.afbank.com/openrecruit. The bank is located in the Cadet area. The signature card will be found online on the Admissions Portal. Complete and sign the signature card and mail it, along with a copy of your Cadet's photo ID to: Armed Forces Bank, P.O. Box 10, USAF Academy 80840, Attn: Cadet Bank. Armed Forces Bank is the only bank located in the Cadet area (Sijan Hall) and is fully staffed for Cadets. ATMs are also located in both Vandenberg and Sijan Hall dormitories. For additional banking information or questions contact Armed Forces Bank: phone (719) 208-8780, (719) 208-9870 or e-mail: usafaCadetbank@dfckc.com. Parents can be added by signature card after Parents Weekend so they can make deposits to Cadet's account. The Cadet may change their direct deposit to a bank of their choice after their pay account is established using the Cadet Payroll on-line capabilities.

Military Pay

Both Cadets and Cadet Candidates (C/C's) will be paid a salary while attending the Academy. C/C will be paid at a monthly rate of 35 percent of the basic pay of a commissioned officer in the pay grade of O-1 with less than 2 years of service unless they are already serving in the Air Force they will be paid the equivalent of their respective pay grade as long as they have no break in service.



Scholarship and/or Educational Investment Funds

Cadets can turn in checks for the class of 2023 after **18 August**. Other classes can be turned in at any time. The checks should be made payable to US Treasury with a memo stating the student's full name and social security number. Mail checks to: HQ USAFA/FMF, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 2200, USAF Academy CO 80840-5035. Cadet Pay's phone number is (719) 333-6994 if you have specific questions.

Scholarships

Agencies should issue scholarship proceeds directly to the Cadet or C/C. When a scholarship agency is unable to make payment directly to the Cadet or C/C, the scholarship may be accepted for credit to the Cadet's or C/C's pay account provided there are no restrictions on the scholarship and the check is payable to the US Treasury. Restrictions are any condition or limitation an agency places on the use of their scholarship funds. Restrictions examples: "must be used for tuition, room and/or board," "student is required to maintain a specific GPA," "scholarship funds will be paid back if Cadet or C/C disenrolls," etc.

Scholarships silent on restrictions will be treated as non-restrictive and accepted. Once a scholarship is accepted it never refunded to the agency granting the scholarship, even if the Cadet or C/C disenrolls. Be sure to include a memo with the Cadet's or C/C's full name and social security number or write them on the check.

Educational 529s/EE bonds

CHECK WITH YOUR STATE FIRST FOR THE 529s as each state is different. Cadet Pay can't accept checks or bonds direct from investment business. Cadets/parents must cash the checks /bonds first and then write a personal check using the instructions as listed above under Scholarships. This can be used for student costs here at the Academy such as books and laptop.

Please have the check made payable to: "US TREASURY" and then mail the check to:

HQ USAFA/FMF
2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 2200
USAF Academy, CO 80840-5035

Cadet Pay/Advance of Pay

Cadets earn an estimated \$1087 per month in pay. This is to cover a majority of school related expenses. Since most expenses are incurred within the first eight months (uniforms, computer, textbooks, etc.) Cadets receive an advance of pay (interest free government loan) to cover these mandatory expenses. The advance is automatically collected back within two years by payroll deduction. Parents can use scholarships and 529 accounts to pay back the advance loan for eligible items.

Cadets who separate before the advance is repaid are expected to return uniform and equipment items acceptable for resale to repay as much of the advance loan as possible. The remaining debt balance will become taxable income. The debt itself is forgiven.



Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)

According to USAFA Instruction 65-101 paragraph 8 – 8.1. Cadets are not eligible to participate in TSP. 37 USC 211 allows members to participate in TSP IAW 5 USC 8440e. In 5 USC 8440e, members of the uniformed services may participate in TSP when "base pay" is payable under 37 USC 204. Cadets receive "base pay" under 37 USC 203 and therefore ineligible to participate in TSP. When Cadets are commissioned they can participate.

Retirement Pay Program for Graduates

As per the Uniformed Services Blended Retirement System FAQ; “The BRS went into effect on January 1, 2018. New Service members, who join the Uniformed Services for the first time on or after January 1, 2018, will be enrolled automatically in BRS. All members who were serving as of December 31, 2017, were grandfathered under the legacy retirement system. No member who was serving on, or prior to, December 31, 2017, will be automatically switched to the BRS. Though they are grandfathered under the legacy retirement system, active component service members who had fewer than 12 years as of December 31, 2017, and National Guard and Reserve service members in a paid status, who had accrued fewer than 4,320 retirement points as of December 31, 2017, may choose to opt into the BRS. The opt-in window for BRS is from January 1, 2018, to December 31, 2018.”

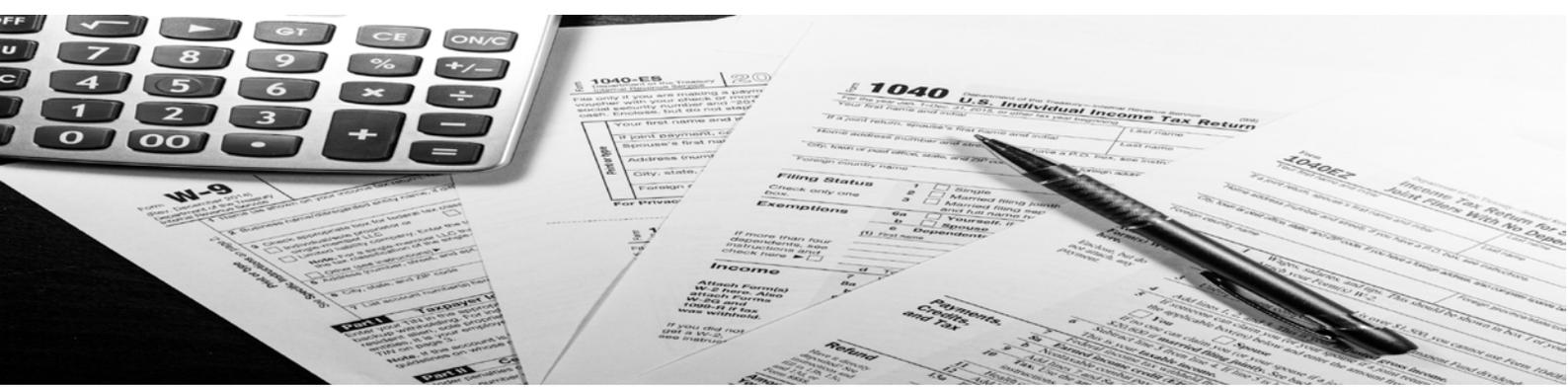
How does this apply to Cadets? “Cadets and midshipmen who were attending a service academy as of December 31, 2017, are grandfathered under the legacy retirement system and will have the option to opt into BRS upon commissioning. ROTC cadets and midshipmen have the same option as long as they signed their ‘contract’ on or prior to **December 31, 2017**. Cadets and midshipmen that are grandfathered under the legacy retirement system, upon commissioning (or being placed in a pay status) in 2018 will have the remainder of calendar year 2018 to choose to opt into BRS (or, if not placed in paid status until December 2018, they will have at least 30 days). Those cadets and midshipmen that are grandfathered under the legacy retirement system who are not commissioned (or placed in an active pay status) until after 2018 will have 30 days to decide whether or not they want to opt into BRS. Each individual service member has a deadline, which is **30 days after their first day of duty following commissioning**. Cadets and midshipmen who enter a service academy, and ROTC cadets and midshipmen who sign their ‘contract’ on or after January 1, 2018, will automatically be covered by BRS upon commissioning with no option to opt-in.”

You can find more information on the Blended Retirement at the below link:

BRS Link: <https://militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement/>

- Scroll down and select FAQ

For the Class of 2019, 2020 & 2021 Graduates will have the option of the old retirement system (serve 20 years and receive 50% of base pay) or the Blended Retirement System (BRS) which is similar to a 401k program. Preparatory Students who enlisted prior to 31 Dec 17 will have the option as well. Starting with the Class of 2021 there will be only the BRS system available and automatically updated for the graduates.



Obtaining W-2s and Tax Information

Cadets can go online to MYPAY to download their W-2s for taxes. This access takes a CAC Card so parents cannot access the system for the Cadet.

Cadet Taxes

Most Cadets don't have many deductions and file an EZ form. USAFA has volunteers that can do their taxes for free to ensure they have used all the deductions they are entitled to and are done on an appointment basis. Income Tax assistance will be available through USAFA/JA, located in Harmon Hall, telephone 719-333-3940. If your Cadets (C4Cs) need proof of attendance for Parents to claim part of the year, the Cadet needs to go online to USAFA Registrar's website and request a letter. Then the Cadet can pick up the letter from the Registrar's Office (Fairchild Hall). See below for more information on Federal Income Tax.

Federal Income Tax

This section will furnish them with that information from the standpoint of both the Cadet's tax return and parents return for 2019. This information is based on the tax law and current rulings of treasury officials. However, it is informative only and should not be considered as necessarily reflecting the official position of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Tax Withholding

Federal and State tax withholding will be started at the filing status of single with one exemption. The state of legal residence will be automatically input based on the home of record on file for the student. Cadets may change their state for tax withholding at any time by completing a State of Legal Residence Declaration in the Cadet Pay office, located in Vandenberg Hall, room 3C24. All Cadets at the Academy are required to file their own income tax returns. As a fourth-class Cadet entering the Academy in June, they will earn during approximately \$6,887, which the Cadet must report as income from the Air Force.

Once your student becomes a Cadet at the Academy, **they are considered a member of the active military**, and are no longer your dependent for support. Cadets are considered supported by the Air Force or by yourself. (See IRS Publication 17). However, since an entering fourth-class Cadet your Cadet were probably your dependent for half of the year before they entered the Academy, so they may possibly be claimed as your dependent on your return for that year. In order to claim your Cadet as an income tax exemption you must have contributed more than half of your Cadet's total support for the year. "More than half of support" refers to dollar value, and not to the length of time support was given.

Following the steps below will help determine whether the "more than half of support" test is met. NOTE: Effective 1 January 1987, if your Cadet can be claimed as a dependent on the tax return of another taxpayer, then the Cadet may not claim themselves as a personal exemption on their tax return. Thus, if a Cadet is claimed on a parents' return, they may not claim themselves as an exemption when they file their own return for that year. After the fourth-class year when parents may no longer claim their Cadet as a dependent on their return, Cadets may claim themselves as an exemption when they file their own tax return.

Compute the value of support contributed by the Cadet's parent or guardian in 2019. Compute the value of support contributed by the Cadet and parents or guardians and others (include support provided by the USAF). Compare parents' or guardians' share of the total with that provided by the Cadet, the Air Force, or others. If the parents' or guardians' share is more than 50 percent of a Cadet's total support, they meet the support test and can take the dependency exemption. In determining how much parents or guardians contributed to a Cadet's support, a parent or guardian may include the cost of clothing, medical and dental care, education, medical insurance premiums, transportation, entertainment, Christmas presents, etc., for a Cadet. If a Cadet lived at home during the first six months of the year then In-Processed into the Academy, a proportionate amount of the family food bill and utilities, fair rental value of lodging furnished, etc., may also be included. Educational expenses might include cost of tuition, books, board, and lodging, school supplies, and transportation to and from school if a Cadet attended college, preparatory school, or high school prior to entering the Air Force Academy.

In computing the value of support furnished a Cadet from sources other than a parent or guardian, both taxed and untaxed amounts must be included. A Cadet's taxable pay must, of course, be included. In addition, the fair value of the food, lodging, medical care, education, and other services furnished a Cadet by the Air Force must also be included even though their value is not taxed as income to the Cadet.

The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that an appointment to the Air Force Academy is not a scholarship. Thus, the Cadet must include value of the education as support from sources other than the parents or guardians.

The amount of support contributed by the Cadet for one semester of education, food, lodging, Cadet Pay, etc., is \$32,385. Compare this figure to the amount of support provided by the parents. If the parents' figure is higher, then the parents can claim the Cadet as a dependent on their income tax return and the Cadet cannot claim a personal exemption. If the \$32,385 figure is larger than the amount provided by the parents, then the Cadet will claim a personal exemption on his or her income tax return, and the parents cannot claim the Cadet as a dependent on their income tax return.

TAX Questions: Income tax assistance will be available to Cadets through USAFA/JA, located in Harmon Hall, telephone 719-333-3940.

Social Security Benefits

Cadets attending USAFA are excluded from receiving Social Security benefits. Current Social Security regulations state, "Cadets and Midshipmen of the service academies are in the same situation as military personnel attending schools operated by the Armed Forces such as officer candidate schools,

electronic schools, etc. They are considered to be on active duty in the armed forces while they are attending the academies and are, therefore, employees of the United States. They are entitled to basic pay at a monthly rate specified by law and are required to complete the courses of instruction at the Academies.” If a Cadet is a recipient of Social Security Benefits, the Cadet must notify your local Social Security Office that they have accepted appointment to the USAFA and will be entering.



MEDICAL INFORMATION

Cadet Clinic phone: (719) 333-5081

Hours of operation:

Mon - Fri 7:00 am - 7pm

Weekends & Holidays 12:00 - 5:00 pm

**Tricare referral is: (719) 524-2273
(for at home or off base)**

Local Medical Emergencies

After hours if a Cadet is hurt risking Life or limb they can call 911 and the contractor ambulance (Rocky Mountain Ambulance service) to take them to the nearest hospital or Emergency Room in Colorado Springs.

Serious Cadet Illness/Surgery at USAFA

AOCs may authorize Cadets who are on bed rest to be in local area with a parent or legal guardian, or assigned sponsor family. AOCs may allow “pre-surgical” Cadets the same privileges.

At Home Emergencies

Either while waiting for service (if they can) or shortly after Cadets need to call Tricare, (719) 524-2273, and get an official referral to the emergency room they went to and let their AOC/AMT know.

Major Surgery at USAFA

AOCs can allow Cadets to stay with Parents who come for their Cadet’s surgery to help with recovery. Allows get AOCs approval before planning travel plans.

Medical Care for United States Air Force Academy Cadets



While assigned to the Academy as an active student they are entitled by law (Authority is 10.U.S.C. 1074, 6201-6203; 31 U.S.C. 1535) to the following military medical care:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1) Direct outpatient Care | 4) Emergency Care |
| 2) Aeromedical Evacuation | 5) Immunizations |
| 3) Dental Care
(includes hearing aids) | 6) Prosthetic Devices |

Cadets must have approval/authorization to receive care in the civilian community and Urgent Care Clinics. Routine care is not covered. The care and treatment of injuries/diseases that existed prior to departure on leave are not considered emergencies. Whenever Cadets require routine medical care, they can use the nearest US. Military Medical Treatment Facility available (Army, Navy, or Air Force). For assistance in finding a military hospital near your home, call 1-877-988-9378 or visit website: <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/>.

Cadets requiring Emergent/Urgent care in the civilian community, have to utilize the local Emergency Room or contact the Cadet Clinic (719-333-5180). An On-Call provider is always available through the automated system (524-2273 or 526-2273) for after hours and weekend authorizations. After hours Cadets will be directed to our answering service and they will contact the provider on-call. If it's after hours or a Cadet is unsure if they need to see a doctor, call the TRICARE's Nurse Advice Line by calling 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273) and choose Option 1, 24 hours per day seven days per week. Failure to receive authorization could result in a Point of Service charge where the Cadet/Cadet Candidate is responsible for the bill. If this occurs the Cadet/Cadet candidate could submit the claim through their parents' medical insurance if they are still a covered beneficiary.

For emergency situations (risk of loss of limb, limb, or eyesight) Cadets should go to the nearest emergency room for care (or call an ambulance if the situation supports it). As soon as the medical situation has been stabilized, the Cadet should report the visit to the Cadet/Flight Medicine Clinic (719-333-5180) and Benefit Support Office (719-333-5281, for insurance purposes). The Cadet should identify himself or herself as an active duty member and provide their name, social security number, squadron and their Air Force Academy mailing address. If a civilian provider/facility is used, direct them to mail all claims to:

TRICARE
West Region Claims
P.O. Box 7064
Camden, SC 29020

Cadets must report the use of civilian care to the Academy Cadet Clinic, Commercial (719) 333-5183, DSN 333-5183. They must also contact our Benefit Support Office (719-333-5281) for benefit questions and insurance claim issues. If you receive bills from a civilian hospital, bring them immediately to the TRICARE Service Center, located in the main lobby of the 10th Medical Group. If a Cadet paid for medication or hospital bills, keep all receipts and any other documentation that shows proof of payment.

For emergency dental care in the civilian community to eliminate or prevent undue pain and suffering, Cadets must call the Cadet Dental Clinic (719-333-5190) for pre-authorization. Cadets should use the nearest military medical treatment facility for non-emergent dental care.

Contact Lenses

Tricare Insurance Company does **NOT** cover contact lenses. However, if your Cadet takes a paper prescription or the paperwork that came with the contacts, they will load the prescription into the Cadet's medical records and the clinic will then be able to renew the prescription for contacts, but the Cadet will have to purchase them. Even though Tricare doesn't cover contacts the base Optometry clinic does the renewals for the freshman as a service.

Dental Coverage for Cadets

Each Cadet will get a cleaning each year. Wisdom teeth may cause lost academic time and possible delays in pilot qualification for Cadets. Correction of all dental defects and removal of wisdom teeth, when indicated, before arriving at the Academy will maximize their dental health, prevent lost academic time, minimize any dental conditions affecting pilot qualifications and go a long way toward ensuring a Cadet's success as an Air Force Cadet.

Permanent Retainers: Allowed at the Academy to include during Basic Cadet Training.

Civilian Dentist Usage for Routine Care

Cadets get an annual cleaning at the USAFA Dental Clinic. However, routine dental treatment as a Cadet (and while on Active Duty) is an entitlement and there is no cost for this dental benefit. Yes a Cadet may use civilian dentist, but if a Cadet decides to get treatment by a civilian dentist USAFA will need to document any treatment received at your dentist's office to assure their military dental record is a true reflection of the Cadet's oral condition and is up to date.

Keep in mind it is the Cadet's responsibility for the cost of the treatment rendered by the civilian dentist. The military **WILL NOT** reimburse any expenses that are incurred. Suggest Appointees get their Wisdom teeth pulled before they come to the Academy so they don't lose any Academic time. A Cadet Clinic provider must see Cadets the next duty day from their return to the USAF Academy if medical treatment was received while away from the Academy.



Proof of Cadet Health Insurance

The link will provide you with the phone number and information on how Parents can receive proof of medical coverage. Suggest calling the Beneficiary Line highlighted below for urgent requests.

<http://www.tricare.mil/Plans/Eligibility/DEERS/milConnect/Proof.aspx>

Requests for Proof of Insurance Certificates

Requests for certificates may be made in writing, via fax, or by phone.

Written (mailed or faxed) requests for a certificate must include:

1. Sponsor's name and Social Security number or Department of Defense Benefits Number
2. Name of person for whom the certificate is requested
3. Reason for the request
4. Name and address to whom and where the certificate should be sent
5. Signature of the requester
- 6.

Mail written requests to:
Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office (DSO)
Attn: Certificate of Creditable Coverage
400 Gigling Road Seaside, CA 93955-6771

Fax requests to 1-831-655-8317.

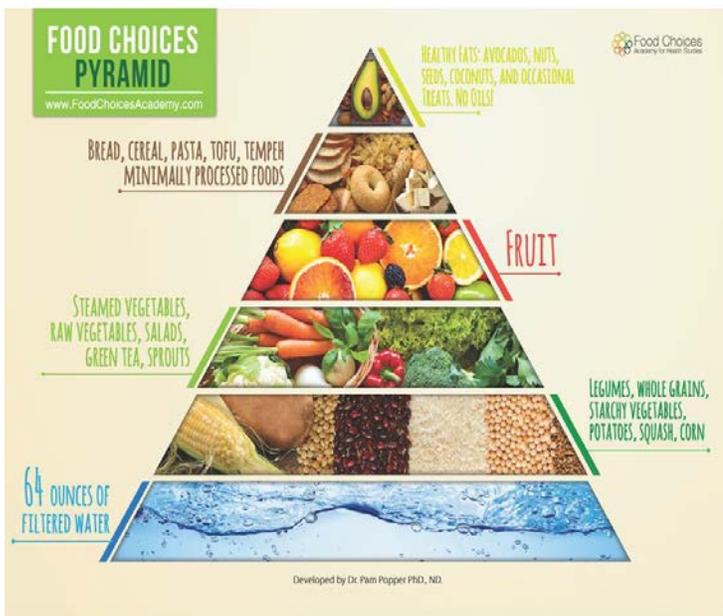
Cadets can call the DSO Beneficiary Line directly at 1-800-538-9552 to request or check the status of their certificate. The DSO will review each request. Certificates can take up to three weeks to process. However, if Cadets request is urgent, they can request that processing be expedited and your certificate can be faxed directly to a particular number.

On base TRICARE Point of Contact is Glenda Phillips Glenda.phillips@us.af.mil. Phone: (719) 333-5281 (USFA TRICARE for Cadets)

Each year there are lots of questions regarding medical coverage. The main question being: should I maintain my Cadet on my family health insurance plan once they are at the Academy? The other being, what happens when a Cadet gets sick away from the AFA while traveling or is home on break?

Parents/guardians are encouraged to maintain health insurance coverage for their son/daughter in the event that they are disenrolled from the USAF Academy or develop catastrophic illnesses (e.g. liver transplant, potential heart transplant...). On average 40 Cadets are medically disqualified and the Air Force has no financial obligation once the Cadet is disenrolled from the Academy (medically or otherwise). Your son/daughter may qualify for Veterans Administration (VA) outpatient/inpatient care which they will determine.

If you need additional information about your Cadet's medical coverage, please contact the Benefit Support Office at (719) 333-5281. We look forward to caring for your son/daughter at the 10th Medical Group.



Diet and Food Packages

The Cadet Dining Facility provides a diet tailored to the strenuous BCT conditioning program. Cadet's well-being are monitored by a registered dietitian, and nutrition counseling is readily available.

Each day, three well-balanced meals will be served by Mitchell Hall, the Cadet dining facility. Nutrition screening and counseling is provided to Cadet's requiring personal attention. During the academic year, the dining facility offers light and vegetarian menus, and accommodates the Muslim faith during Ramadan and Jewish faith during Passover.

If a Cadet anticipates dietary problems due to religious reasons, Cadets are advised to call the Cadet Chaplains Office at 719-333-2636. For further dietary questions or concerns, please call the Cadet Dining Facility at 719-333-3663.

Miscellaneous Information:

Marriage and Paternity/Maternity Certification

As a Cadet, they will have to certify upon In-Processing that they are not married and have no children. Please be aware that if they do marry or become a parent as a Cadet they will be subject to disenrollment. In addition, if they marry or become a parent as a Cadet and it is not made known to Air Force authorities until after graduation, they may be subject to disciplinary administrative action as an officer.

Cadet Vehicles

Maintaining and operating a privately owned vehicle (POV) are significant USAFA privileges. A Cadet is maintaining a vehicle if he or she is the primary user of the vehicle, has possession, is making payments on or insuring the vehicle, even if the vehicle is registered to a parent, guardian or sponsor. The chain of command may curtail, suspend, or limit a Cadet's use of a POV for administrative or disciplinary reasons.

Maintaining a POV. C1Cs and eligible C2Cs may maintain a single POV at USAFA or elsewhere. Joint tenancy (ownership) is not allowed (e.g., party vans or club vehicles). C3Cs or C4Cs will not maintain a vehicle at USAFA, but may maintain a vehicle at their Home of Record provided it does not cause financial hardships or interfere with their ability to perform duties as a Cadet. Cadets who are not eligible to maintain a vehicle will not have another Cadet maintain a vehicle for them. EXCEPTION: Group AOCs or higher may approve additional ownership on a case by case basis, for C1Cs and eligible C2Cs (e.g. the Cadet Car Club).

Eligibility Criteria for Second-class Cadets (C2Cs) for a vehicle. C2Cs must achieve a minimum 2.3 cumulative Military Performance Average (MPA), Grade Point Average (GPA) and Physical Education Average (PEA) to be eligible to maintain a POV at USAFA. AOCs may grant exceptions to this requirement on a case-by-case basis provided the Cadet is not on probation and is making progress toward meeting the minimum MPA, GPA, and PEA. AOCs may restrict use of POVs anytime cumulative averages drop below 2.3 during the second-class year.

Vehicle Registration Process. Cadet vehicles must be registered to include affixing decals within 5 duty days of being on USAFA and submit the following documentation to his or her AOC/AMT.

1. Military ID card.
2. AFCW Form 42, signed by the AOC or AMT.
3. Current state registration certificate (not vehicle's title certificate).

Temporary Registration. Cadet vehicles with a temporary state registration will still receive a Cadet registration tag upon registering their vehicles. Cadets will update their state registration information in database by informing their AOC/AMT on/or before temporary state registration expiration date.

Proof of insurance. Cadets owning or maintaining motor vehicles must be properly insured. Minimum insurance requirements for registration in the state of Colorado are: bodily injury/liability—each person, \$25,000; bodily injury/liability—each accident, \$50,000; property damage liability, \$15,000 per occurrence. Proof of insurance verified prior to registration, and maintained in vehicle at all times while vehicle is owned/operated. Cadets who own, maintain, or operate vehicles covered by parents' insurance should verify coverage. Certain states permit "military service" clauses in parents' policy, which may terminate coverage on insured individual once they enter military service.

Proof of Maintaining (if required) vehicle. If a Cadet is “maintaining” a vehicle and is not considered the “owner” or listed on title, a notarized letter from the owner or a power of attorney is required to register the vehicle.

Rental Vehicles

Cadets may operate commercial rental vehicles during authorized passes and/or break periods. Rental vehicles will be parked in the authorized Cadet lots. Last name of the renting Cadet must be displayed on the driver side dash while in the Cadet area.

Borrowed Vehicles. Cadets will not rent or loan vehicles to other Cadets with the intent of making a profit. Cadets who lend vehicles will ensure the borrower is authorized to drive and is



their driver's license, 2) authorization to own or maintain the vehicle, 3) copy of registration in their name or a Special Power of Attorney for a vehicle that allows Cadet Candidate to operate the vehicle, and the Prep School POV authorization form.

Proof of Insurance for C/Cs. C/Cs owning and maintaining motor vehicles must be properly insured. Minimum insurance requirements for registration in the state of Colorado are: bodily injury/liability—each person, \$25,000; bodily injury/liability each accident, \$50,000; property damage liability, \$15,000 per occurrence. Proof of insurance verified prior to registration, and maintained in the vehicle at all times while vehicle is owned/operated. CCs who own, maintain, or operate vehicles covered by parents insurance should verify coverage. Certain states permit “military service” clauses in parents policy, which may terminate coverage on insured individual once they enter military service. If under parent's policy, CCs must provide a letter from the insurance company stating proof of coverage.

C/C Parking. C/C owned/maintained vehicles will be parked in the Milazzo parking lot on the east side of the campus only. Vehicles parked outside of this designated location will be ticketed and/or towed and privileges may be restricted.

Teller Machines

There are ATMs for both the Armed Forces Bank and Air Academy Federal Credit Union within the Cadet Area. Teller Machines are also in the Community Center area for the Cadet Candidates.

Emergency Contact Form POC

Your Cadet will fill out a form on I-Day, but if you have any questions you can call the Cadet Personnel office at 719-333-3244.

Updating Cadet and Parent Personal Information

Only Cadets can update their personal information. Cadet and parent personal information can be updated by a visit from the Cadet to the Office of the Registrar's Customer Service Desk in Fairchild Hall. Additionally, the Cadet Database System provides an avenue by which Cadets can update certain portions of their personal information. These include: parents privacy act information (academic & medical) and disclosure waivers, graduation name pronunciations (at the appropriate time).

Personal Property Insurance

Occasionally, Cadets do lose personal property. Although we don't require insurance to cover this type of loss, for your Cadet's own protection, personal property insurance is highly recommended, especially once they enter the academic year. During the computer issue process your Cadet will have the option to choose from a limited number of vendors who provide personal property insurance for college students.

Shipment of Cadet Household Goods

Cadets/Graduates must contact the JPPSO office at (719) 333-3007. Below is the weight allowed per category:

- 350 lbs - International students/Cadets
- 10,000 lbs - Unmarried 2nd Lt
- 12,000 lbs - Married 2nd Lt (spouse on orders)

Newspaper News Release (also known as Hometown News releases for local Newspapers)

Your Cadet (not parents) can go to the following link and put in a Hometown News Release for their achievements here at the Academy. The Cadet has to release their Privacy Act Information for the article to be used. Please note that you must have an active duty ID to use this program. It is up to the newspaper to publish or not to publish the news article.

Hometown News Release link: <https://jhns.release.dma.mil/public>

Serviceman's Group Life Insurance (SGLI)

Your Cadet will be signed up for the SGLI automatically for \$400,000. If your Cadet wishes to lower the coverage then they will need to stop by Cadet Personnel in Vandenberg Hall. Cadet Personnel Office is located at 2360 Vandenberg Dr., Suite 3C24 (above the "C" store). Please see the below website we use to assist with myths and rumors about SGLI - to include how SGLI works.

SGLI Web Site:

<http://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/sgli.asp>



Cadet Chapel Programs

Worship

The Wing Chaplain's office offers weekly worship opportunities to include, but not limited to, Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Islamic, and Buddhist faiths. An All Faiths room is available for meditation and prayer. Throughout BCT there are worship opportunities available on Friday and Sunday. For worship services and times, or if there is a worship opportunity you'd like to be active in that is not listed, contact the Cadet Chapel office at 719-333-2636.

Special Programs in Religious Education (SPIRE)

Each Monday evening a variety of religious education classes are offered by the chapel staff and lay-led associate ministries. Classes combine study and discussion with fellowship activities. SPIRE is open to all Cadets.

Choirs

There are five choirs sponsored by the Wing Chaplain's office—Catholic Cadet Choir, Protestant Cadet Choir, Cadet Gospel Ensemble, Latter Day Saints Cadet Choir, and the Protestant Cadet Worship Team. The primary mission of the chapel choirs is to provide choral music at worship services and to represent the Academy in local and national appearances.

Cadet Interfaith Council

Each major faith group has two Cadets on the Cadet Interfaith Council. This council assists the Wing Chaplains office in meeting the Cadet's religious accommodation requests as well as in planning inclusive programs fostering a healthier religious climate at the Academy. The members of this council provide invaluable feedback and recommendations to the Wing Chaplains office in order to provide pastoral care and religious formation opportunities for Cadets. In addition, the Cadet Interfaith Council brings Cadets together in interfaith community service as well as increased dialogue and interfaith discussions to continue improving the religious climate at the Academy.

Weekend Retreats

Off-campus retreats and weekend conferences are a very important part of the Cadet Chapel's program. The Four Degree Retreat is an opportunity to reflect upon their BCT experience and their hopes and plans for the future.

Counseling and Ministry of Presence

During BCT, Cadets will see Religious Support Teams (chaplains and chaplain assistants) throughout all their activities. During the academic year, chaplains are readily accessible and available for counseling. Each of the four groups has an assigned Religious Support Team to support your Cadet's mission. Cadets have the right to see their Group Chaplain or any chaplain that meets their faith concern at any time. Additionally, Cadets can meet with their chaplain to use them as a sounding board for life's issues in general or seek their guidance on how to navigate Air Force life.

The chaplains are here to ensure every Cadet is afforded the opportunity to freely exercise his or her religious beliefs. Each chaplain ministers not only to the religious needs of Cadets who identify with their denomination or faith group, but also to every Cadet who seeks assistance with the free exercise of religion, with personal problems, with difficulties of faith, or with any kind of issue that needs confidential discussion. **Chaplain counselees enjoy total and absolute confidentiality—nothing discussed behind closed doors may be released without the consent of the counselee. This is a privilege that only applies to counseling with chaplains, and to no other counseling services in the military.**



Cadet Help

A variety of organizations are readily accessible for Cadets to get help when they need it. In most instances, Cadets need to initiate contact with the following organizations. In some cases, Cadets will be directed to seek guidance. Parents can find out more information on Helping Agencies at the Academy Website link: <https://www.usafa.edu/helping-agencies/>.

Peak Performance Center: (719) 333-2107 Administrative Director: Lt. Col. D. Franklin Swayne Location: Sijan Hall, Room 2A13

The Peak Performance Center is committed to promoting the dignity, respect, and well-being of each Cadet. The center facilitates the development and inspiration of future leaders by maximizing personal potential and preventing and working through interpersonal conflicts. Cadets who use our center are viewed as vital partners in a growth-oriented, future-focused process intended to enhance their effectiveness in personal and professional endeavors.

The center seeks to remove barriers to optimal academic and behavioral functioning and to enhance professional development across the Cadet Wing through a range of services: clinical counseling services, outreach and educational training, and organizational assistance toward individual and/or institutional enhancement. Counseling is offered for anxiety and fears, assertiveness, depression, eating problems, family problems, grief and loss, relationships, self-image/self-confidence and stress, and substance abuse prevention. The Center also offers biofeedback training for performance enhancement in the area of sports, academics, and combat training.

The Peak Performance Center has been granted full accreditation since September 1991 by the International Association of Counseling Services. The counselors are all master's or doctoral level mental health providers and/or Certified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors.

Cadet Clinic: The Cadet clinic provides health care for Cadets. (719) 333-5180

Chaplains: The Cadet Chaplain's office provides counseling and spiritual advice. (719) 333-2636

Airman and Family Readiness Flight – Financial Counseling: (719) 333-3444

Financial counseling is available by appointment Monday through Thursday during normal duty hours (0730-1630).

Sexual Assault Hotline: (719) 333-7272, The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program provides 24/7 confidential response to all reports of sexual assault (regardless of when they occurred) and promotes assistance and support for victims of sexual assault to promote personal and academic growth. Contact the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) for all reports of sexual assault.

Student Academic Services: (719) 333-9841, Student Academic Services provides a variety of assistance, including academic counseling, study strategies and time management, reading enhancement, scholarship programs, writing assistance, and evening tutoring in technical and quantitative subjects.



Cadet Sponsor Program (719) 333-2727, Cadet.sponsor@usafa.edu.

The sponsor program provides Cadets with exposure to military family life and positive adult role models. Cadets are automatically assigned a sponsor family during Cadet Training. This is a really good program. It is a home away from home where your Cadet can get away from the campus and relax. Many sponsor families keep their Cadets for their whole four (five years for Prep Schoolers) and become lifelong friends. Many are active duty or retired military and they can help your Cadet settle in and answer questions they may have. This is great for Cadets with no military background. The sponsor families **volunteer** to help your Cadet and all the costs incurred are paid for by the sponsor families so try and remember them when you can.

If you have a friend/family in the local area who wishes Cadets, then both the Cadet & the sponsor family must request each other through the Cadet Sponsor office. Sponsor families must live within a 50-mile radius of the Academy. If a sponsor family is in the process of relocating to the area, they must provide a permanent address before the Cadet Sponsor office can proceed with the application.

Prep School Sponsor Family Program

The Preparatory School has a separate Sponsor Family. Cadet Candidates and sponsor families can email: PrepInfo@usafa.edu to request a specific sponsor.

Sponsor Families Access to the Academy

Sponsor Families have access to the base only during visiting hours unless they have a DoD issued Identification (ID). Sponsor families who do not already have an approved government approved ID can get issued a Defense Biometric Identification card (DBIDS) card to be able to pick up their Cadet at any time required by working with the Cadet Sponsor Office, Cadet.sponsor@usafa.edu , (719) 333-2727. This is only for non-military, non-DoD affiliated families. Maximum of 2 DBIDS badges and must be over 28 years old and attend a sponsor training session within 3 years.





THE ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES AND THE USAFA ENDOWMENT

Association of Graduates (AOG)

The AOG is the alumni association for the Air Force Academy. The AOG has a website worthy of periodic perusal for information about the Academy and the graduate community: <http://www.usafa.org/>. Parents can become members of the AOG while your son or daughter is a Cadet. Each member, whether a graduate, parent, or friend of the Academy, helps maintain and expand current programs as well as develop new ones. Call the AOG at (719) 472-0300 if you have any questions. This is a Voluntary option.

1. Freshman parents can become members by going to the below link as a Club Member. Please note there is a monthly charge to become a member and WEBGUY is not part of the Academy Cadet Media or Public Affairs office (which is at no cost and can be accessed by internet also), but the AOG does take lots of pictures. Check out the site. WEBGUY is separate than the office of Parent Liaison; however we work closely together. The AOG has Cadet and Family memberships. Please see the link below for more information.

<http://www.usafawebguy.com/aog-usafa-class-club>

2. Other class year parents can obtain regular memberships by signing up at the following website.

<http://www.usafa.org/Membership>

AOG Chapters

You will find it important to connect with your local graduate chapter, as they have the experience and Academy insight necessary to support you and your Cadet through the Academy experience. As a graduate chapter, they also have the responsibility of supporting Academy heritage and, together with all those involved in developing our future leaders, ensuring the next generation is equipped and ready to join the Long Blue Line. Ways to connect include, but are not limited to:

- Appointee Send-off Parties
- Air Force Falcon Football Game Watch Parties
- Away Game Tailgates
- Founders Day Celebrations
-

In some cases, when Cadets engage in organized travel for academic, athletic, or recreational purposes, the organizer will reach out to the graduate chapter in the destination area to provide meals, lodging, or opportunities for social functions. Being connected to the graduate chapter will allow you to be part of these types of communications and planning.

Support your local chapter. For more information, visit: www2.usafa.org/groups/chapters



Founders Day Celebrations

The Air Force Academy and the Association of Graduates host a celebration of the Air Force Academy's founding every April. Each year, an increasing number of graduate chapters choose to host their own Founders Day celebration to commemorate the founding of the institution we all hold so dear. We encourage these gatherings and send representatives of our Senior Staff, when we can, to support the ongoing recognition of the role the Academy has played in our country since its establishment.

For more information on these and other events across the country, visit the AOG website link: www.usafa.org/event.



USAFA Endowment Fund Information

Each Fall, parents may receive a call from the USAFA Endowment and are asked to become Sabre Society level donors to the Air Force Academy Fund. Over the last three years, parents have contributed more than \$2.5 million to the Air Force Academy Fund. The USAFA Endowment's Air Force Academy Fund is an annual, unrestricted fund that enables the Endowment and the Association of Graduates to fulfill their missions in support of the Academy. The primary purpose of the Air Force Academy Fund is to provide private, unrestricted funds in support of a variety of Cadet and graduate programs, capital projects and key Academy priorities as identified by the Superintendent.

Throughout the year, a variety of methods are used to raise these funds. If you have questions about these calls or experience any problems, please feel free to contact the USAFA Endowment at (719) 472-0300.

Parent & Family Giving

Making the Cadet Experience Exceptional

Congratulations! It's an honor to have a son, daughter or relative serving as a Cadet at the United States Air Force Academy. It's that pride in family and devotion to service that prompts many to ask:

“What can I do to help support my Cadet and the Academy along the way?”

Serving You & Your Cadet

Parent & Family Giving was established by the USAFA Endowment to help you play a transformative role in the success of your Cadet through active volunteerism and philanthropy. Serving you through our office on the grounds of the Air Force Academy, we have an inside view of administrative priorities, campus activities and the day-to-day lives of the Cadets.

Get Involved. Stay Engaged! Parent & Family Giving can help you connect with other Academy parents, get involved in Academy events and act as an ambassador for the Academy and Cadets.

Target Your Interests

Giving by parents and families has always played an important role in enhancing the margin of excellence at the Academy. When you give to the newly established Parents & Family Fund, you are able to support several Academy initiatives, including:

- Excellence Fund (athletics)
- Fund for Character and Leadership Programs
- Dean's Fund (academics)
- Commandant's Fund (Cadet activities)
- Superintendent's Discretionary Fund

Join the Elite 54th Squadron!

Gifts of \$1,000 or more qualify your family for membership in the 54th Squadron – a unique honor open only to the families of current and past Cadets. Involvement in the 54th Squadron also opens a door to special leadership opportunities within the squadron's Parents Leadership Council.

Take the First Step

Connect with Parent & Family Giving today: www.usafa.org/pfg • 719.472.2056.

RANDO Fund

The Rando Fund is named in honor of C1C Dennis P. Rando, one of several Cadets in the 1990s who perished before graduating. When an honor guard of his classmates had to pay travel expenses to his memorial service from their own pockets, a group of Massachusetts parents founded the Rando Fund. Since 1997 the Rando Fund has raised private support to provide the means for Cadets travel to represent the Academy at services of their fallen colleagues. In 2012 the USAFA Endowment assumed the collection and management of such gifts, with no change to the Rando Fund mission. This fund is also used for Cadets in need financially for other reasons.

To make a tax deductible donation to the RANDO Fund, you may choose one of two ways to donate. For a donation using a credit card, go to the Endowment's Rando Fund link: <https://giving.usafa.org/give/rando>

You may also send a check made payable to: USAFA Endowment with "**Rando Fund**" printed on the check memo line to:

USAFA Endowment
3116 Academy Drive, Suite 200
USAF Academy, CO 80840-4475

Note: Please be sure to include a note indicating the Rando Fund as the intended recipient of your donation, along with your or your organization's name and address. This will enable the Endowment to send a letter of acknowledgement and ensure that your donation goes to Rando Fund.

Appendix

IMPORTANT PHONENUMBERS

Please refer all phone calls to the appropriate office.

Area code is (719)

Office	Link:	Phone
Admissions Office http://www.academyadmissions.com/		(800) 443-9266
Airman & Family Readiness Flight		333-3444/3445
Arnold Hall		333-2710
Aero Club		333-4423/4542
Aeronautics/DFAN		333-4010
Air Academy Federal Credit Union		593-8600
Armed Forces Bank		472-1090
Arts & Crafts Center		333-4579
Association of Graduates (AOG)		472-0300
Astronautics/DFAS		333-4110
Athletic Ticket Office & Information Center afa.tickets@airforceathletics.org		(800) 666-8723
Auto Shop		333-4752
Barber Shop Cadet (Sijan Hall)		333-4625
Beauty/Barber Shop Cadet (Vandenberg Hall)		333-4563
Behavioral Science & Leadership		333-2514
Biology/DFB		333-2720
Bowling Center		333-4709
Cadet Book Store (Vandenberg Hall)		472-6100
Cadet Chapel Tourism & Events		333-4515
Cadet Clinic		
Cadet Medicine Clinic		333-5180
Immunization Clinic		333-5080 opt 5, opt 5 again
Flight Medicine		333-5080
Optometry Clinic		333-5189
Cadet Refills		333-5198
Patient Record		333-5187
Cadet Dental Clinic		333-5192
Dental Oral Surgery (main hospital)		333-5076
Dermatology Clinic		333-5291
Cadet Drum & Bugle Corp		333-0436
Cadet Command Center/ Cadet Wing Operations Center (Emergencies only)		333-2910

Cadet Entertainment	333-4497
Cadet Gift Shop (Visitor Center)	333-3921
Cadet Gift Shop (Field House)	333-2484
Cadet Issue (ABU Boots/Uniforms)	333-3218
Cadet Media	333-4644
Cadet Outdoor Recreation	333-4602
Cadet Pay	333-6994
Cadet pay & Scholarship Check	333-6982
Travel Reimbursement Questions	333-4298
Cadet Personnel	333-3244
Cadet Post Office	472-1198
Cadet Sponsor Program Office	333-2727
Cadet Treats "Petals and Blooms" Link: http://petalsnblooms.com/	472-8589
Cadet Wing Media Link: http://www.usafasupport.com/Cadet-media.html	333-4644
Cadet Staff Group 1	333-4390
Cadet Staff Group 2	333-4572
Cadet Staff Group 3	333-4312
Cadet Staff Group 4	333-4681
Cadet Scheduling	333-9216
Cadet Transcripts	333-2106
Cadet Chapel Info	333-2636
Chaplain's Office	333-4694
Chaplains and Programs	333-2636
Chemistry/DFC	333-2960
Civil Air Patrol	333-0602
Civil & Environmental Engineering/DFCE	333-3150
Computer Science/DFCS	333-3590
Computing Services (computers,)	333-3994
Dining Facility (Preppies)	333-9831
Economics & Geography/DFEG	333-3562
Electrical & Computer Engineering/DFEC	333-3590

Engineering Mechanics/DFEM	333-3190
English and Fine Arts/DFENG	333-2531
Equestrian Center	333-2019
Falcon Club (Officer & Enlisted Club)	472-8639
Falcon Foundation	333-4253/8192
FAMCAMP Camp Ground	333-4977
Farish Camp Ground	333-4096
Framing & Engraving Shop	687-9098
Foreign Language/DFF	333-4579
Golf Course Reservations	333-3820
HAPS Lounge	333-2606
History/DFH	333-3908
Intramural Program	333-3230
JPPSO (shipping household goods)	333-2766
KAFA 97.7 Radio Station	333-5232
Language Learning Center	333-3007
Laser Eye Clinic	333-9646
Law/DFL	333-2103
Law Enforcement Desk (non-emergency)	333-2000
Library	333-3680
Life Touch photos POC: Sherri Peloso	800-426-9533 x 128 or ext 241
Lodging "Rampart Lodge"	1-800-426-9533 x 128, 472-1940
Mathematical Science/DFMS	333-4470
Mental Health Center	333-5177
Mitchell Hall (Cadet Dining Facility)	333-4989
Orthopedics	333-5041/5042
Outdoor Recreation/Supply (Vandenberg)	333-333-4602
Parent Liaison usafa.parentliaison@usafa.edu	1-877-268-3383; 333-3828

Pass and Registration (South Gate)	333-0443
	333-2107
Peaks Performance Center	
PE Department	333-2798
Philosophy	333-4070
Physics/DFP	333-3510
Picnic Areas	333-4753
Political Science/DFPS	333-2270
USAFA Preparatory School e-mail: PrepInfo@usafa.edu website: https://www.usafa.edu/prep-school/	333-2583
Registrar's Office	333-3970
Security Clearance Office	333-8999/9036
Sexual Assault Hotline	333-7272
Starbucks (10 FSS) in Arnold Hall	472-7930
Ticket & Tours "Colorado R & R Travel" ITT	333-7367/7816 888-445-5559
Travel (Official) - Boersma Travel	ext. 724
USAFA Endowment	472-0300



The Academy Graduation Checklist

BEFORE GRADUATION

It is never too early to start planning for this event!

- Involve your Cadet with all of your plans, from the beginning, for the time you and your group of family and friends are in Colorado Springs.

Tip: Use last year's graduation information, if the current graduation page is not yet available. The information will be fairly similar from year to year. The Graduation Date will be set with the Academic Calendar is approved for that year.

- Book flight and lodging for Graduation Week (area hotels fill up quickly; sometimes up to a year in advance)

Tip: When you book your hotel, get the rate in writing and keep it with your other travel documents.

- Book a location for your post-graduation party

- Order official graduation announcements and diploma frame from CB Graduation Announcements (www.cbgrad.com)

- Order graduation invitations and send them as soon as possible, so your guests can make travel arrangements

- Purchase a graduation gift for your Cadet and a "thank you" gift for your Cadet's sponsor family

- Ensure when your Cadet orders graduation tickets, they add a few extra for unexpected guests.

- Arrive early to commissioning to ensure you get a seat.

Tip: Whoever is removing the Cadet boards from your Cadet's shoulders will return them to the Cadet, as they will need them the next morning for the graduation ceremony.

GRADUATION DAY

Dress comfortably and casually! You will be outside in the direct sun most of the morning, so leave the suits and dresses for the commissioning ceremonies. *Tip: Dress in layers and bring comfortable shoes for all parades and the big day.*

Dehydration and altitude sickness can ruin your time in Colorado Springs, so it's best to stay hydrated to stave off illness.

Leaving graduation is a LONG process – up to an hour – so, plan accordingly.

AFTER GRADUATION

Your Cadet will usually get 60 days off before they go to their first duty station. If they plan to travel, especially abroad, be sure to help them plan their trip early—as soon as January.

USAFA Cadet Squadron Contact Information

Area Code: (719)

<u>Group 1</u>		<u>Group 2</u>	
	CS 1		CS 11
	Mighty Mach One CQ: 333-4534 AOC: 333-4543		Reb Eleven CQ: 333-581 AOC: 333-4539
	CS 2		CS 12
	Delta Tau Deuce CQ: 333-4533 AOC: 333-4537		Dirty Dozen CQ: 333-4448 AOC: 333-4608
	CS 3		CS 13
	Cerberus Three CQ: 333-4640 AOC: 333-4548		Bulldawgs CQ: 333-4757 AOC: 333-4758
	CS 4		CS 14
	Fightin' Fourth CQ: 333-4612 AOC: 333-4541		Cobras CQ: 333-4759 AOC: 333-4767
	CS 5		CS 15
	Wolfpack CQ: 333-4535 AOC: 333-4524		War Eagles CQ: 333-4491 AOC: 333-4550
	CS 6		CS 16
	Raging Bull Six CQ: 333-4551 AOC: 333-4532		Proud Chicken CQ: 333-4675 AOC: 333-4768
	CS 7		CS 17
	Shadow Seven CQ: 333-4492 AOC: 333-4518		Stalag 17 CQ: 333-4501 AOC: 333-4785



CS 8
Eagle Eight
CQ: 333-4491
AOC: 333-4550



CS 9
Viking Nine
CQ: 333-4491
AOC: 333-4550



CS 10
Tiger Ten
CQ: 333-4491
AOC: 333-4550



CS 18
Knightriders
CQ: 333-4777
AOC: 333-4768



CS 19
Wolverines
CQ: 333-4741
AOC: 333-4751



CS 20
Tough Twenty Trolls
CQ: 333-4491
AOC: 333-4550

3rd Group



CS 21
Blackjacks
CQ: 333-4666
AOC: 333-4556



CS 22
Raptors
CQ: 333-4659
AOC: 333-4594



CS 23
Branstormers
CQ: 333-4529
AOC: 333-4457



CS 24
Phantoms
CQ: 333-4447
AOC: 333-4559



4th



Group



CS 31
Grim Reapers
CQ: 333-3050
AOC: 333-4474



CS 32
Roadrunners
CQ: 333-3052
AOC: 333-4451



CS 33
Ratz
CQ: 333-4300
AOC: 333-4604



CS 34
Loose Hawgs
CQ: 333-4304
AOC: 333-3444



CS 25
 Rock Hard Redeye
 CQ: 333-4695
 AOC: 333-4798



CS 35
 Huge Wild Weasels
 CQ: 333-4311
 AOC: 333-3406



CS 26
 Barons
 CQ: 333-6842
 AOC: 333-4766



CS 36
 Proud Pink
 CQ: 333-4306
 AOC: 333-0337



CS 27
 Thunderbirds
 CQ: 333-4660
 AOC: 333-4424



CS 37
 Animalistic Sky
 Raiders
 CQ: 333-0667
 AOC: 333-0337



CS 28
 Blackbirds
 CQ: 333-4748
 AOC: 333-4408



CS 38
 All Stars
 CQ: 333-0668
 AOC: 333-0338



CS 29
 Black Panthers
 CQ: 333-4717
 AOC: 333-4488



CS 39
 Jedi Knights
 CQ: 333-0669
 AOC: 333-0339



CS 30
 Knights
 CQ: 333-4711
 AOC: 333-4465



CS 40
 Warhawks
 CQ: 333-0670
 AOC: 333-0340



Helpful Websites

USAFA Official Webpage: <https://www.usafa.edu/>

USAFA Parent Webpage:
<https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>

Cadet Acronyms Listing:
https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/Acronym_List.pdf

USAFA Graduation Webpage:
<https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/graduation/>

USAFA Parent Weekend Webpage:
<https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/parents-weekend/>

Important Date Listing:
https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/Important_Dates.pdf

Cadet Survivor Guide: 10th Force Support Squadron has a helpful guide on things the unit has to support the Cadets. It is online at the following Link. Look under Cadet Life and look for the Cadet Survival Guide.
<https://www.usafasupport.com/Cadet-survival-guide.html>.

Cadet Wing Media: (719) 333-4644, e-mail:
cwmedia@usafa.edu;
<http://www.usafasupport.com/Cadet-media.html>

Coaches (e-mail)
<http://www.goairforcefalcons.com/school-bio/afa-head-coaches.html>

Life Touch photos: <http://lifetouch.com/>

Mitchell Hall Dining Facility: Director: (719) 333-4989 <http://www.usafasupport.com/mitchell-hall.html>

Academic Calendar website:
<https://www.usafa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/>

Curriculum Handbook (which also outlines what summer programs are available for Cadets in what year): <http://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/CHB.pdf>

Cadet Clubs (just a listing of clubs and POCs, not a schedule of where they may be):
<https://www.usafa.edu/Cadet-life/clubs/>

Admissions: (parents can help us recruit future Cadets):
1-800-443-9266; rr_admissions@usafa.edu;
<http://www.academyadmissions.com/>

Sports Schedules:
<http://www.goairforcefalcons.com/calendar/events/>

Arnold Hall Website:
<http://www.usafasupport.com/arnold-hall.html>

Base Cadet Treats (Flower Shop) 719-472-8589,
petalsnblooms.com

Cadet Outdoor Recreation: (719) 333-4602,
<http://www.usafasupport.com/vandenberg-orc.html>

Common Acronym Listing:
https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/Acronym_List.pdf

Gift Cards order phone numbers: Cadet Store (Base Exchange) (472-1953); 10 FSS (Outdoor Recreation, Starbucks): (719) 472-7930

Association of Graduates: (719) 472-0300;
<https://www.usafa.org/AOG>

USAFA Endowment: (719) 472-0300;
<https://www.usafa.org/endowment>

FLIKR (photos)
https://www.flickr.com/photos/af_academy/albums/

PREP SCHOOL CONTACT

Below is Contact information for Prep School C/C parents question

Prep School for questions: Phone: (719) 333-2583

Prep School Sponsor Family Program:
<https://www.usafa.edu/prep-school/prep-school-sponsor-program/>

INFORMATION

email: PrepInfo@usafa.edu;

Website: <https://www.usafa.edu/prep-school/>

Prep School FACEBOOK page:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=usafa%20prep%20school>



Acceptance Day for C4Cs!

Cadet Rank Insignia

First-Class Cadet



Team Captain Examples



Cadet Honor Committee



Team captain designated by lightning bolt over any insignia.

Second-Class Cadet



Third-Class Cadet



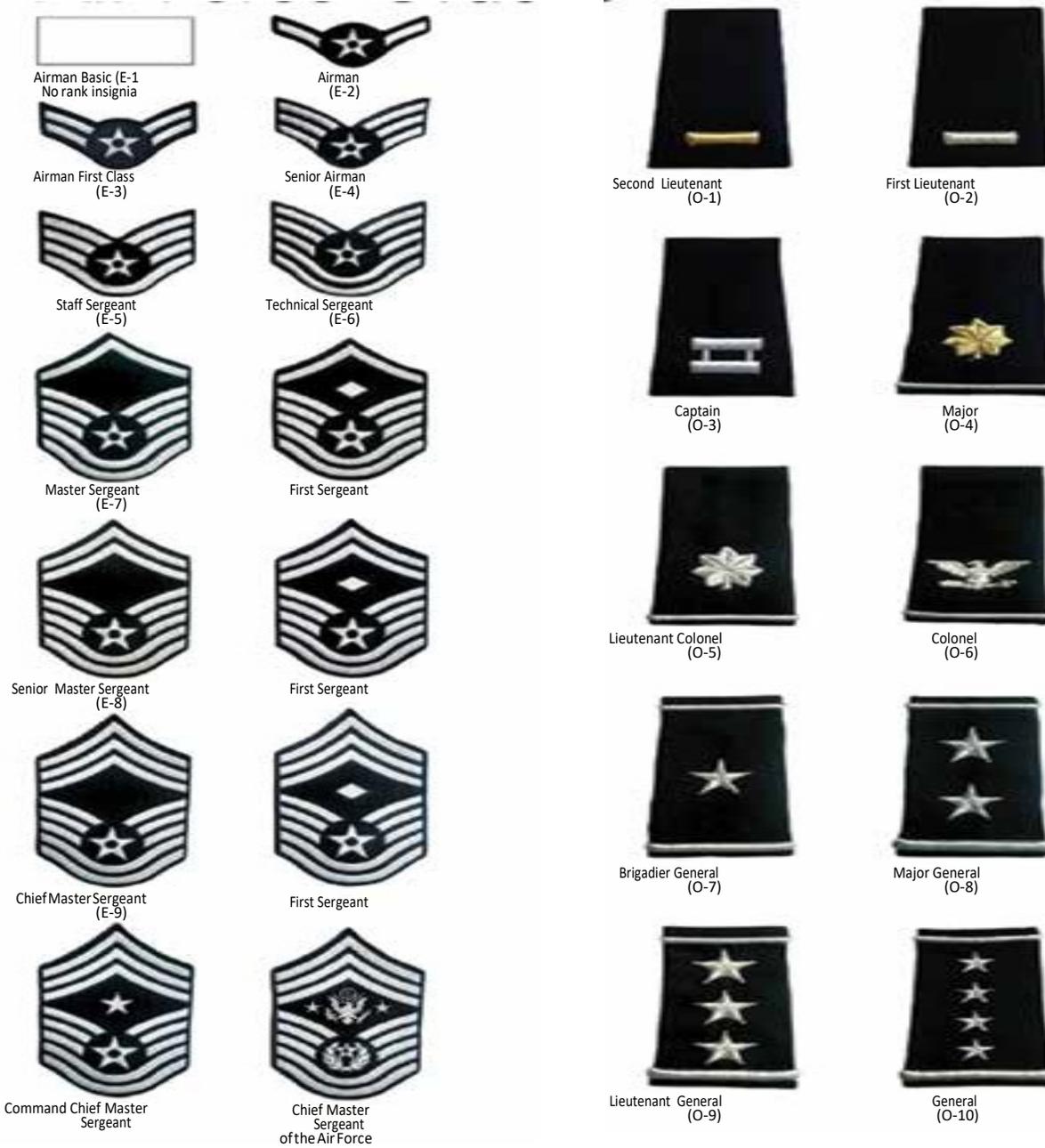
Fourth-Class Cadets



Upper Class Cap Insignia

Silver Prop and Wings are worn on the flight cap after the near-completion of Cadets' fourth-class year. Cadets who are direct descendants of members of the Army Air Corps, Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs), or USAFA graduates who honorably served are authorized to wear the Gold Prop and Wings.

Air Force Rank and Insignia



Enlisted

Officer



USAFA Preparatory School Mission

To motivate, prepare, and evaluate selected candidates in an educational, military, moral, and physical environment to perform successfully and enhance diversity at the Academy.

Phone: (719) 333-7737

Your Prep's Chain of Command

Commander-in Chief	Commandant
Secretary of Defense	Vice Commandant
Secretary of the Air Force	Director of Operations
USAF Chief of Staff	Military Training Officer
USAFA Superintendent	Academy Military Trainer
Commander, USAFA Prep School	Your Cadet Candidate



Cadet Candidate Rank Structure Group Staff



Squadron Staff

Title	Rank	Insignia
CC	C/C Maj	3 diamonds
Director of Ops	C/C Capt	2 diamonds
First Sergeant	C/C MSgt	3 circles
Flight CC	C/C 1Lt	1 diamond
Element Leader	C/C TSgt	2 circles
Stan/Eval Officer	C/C 1Lt	1 diamond
D&C NCO	C/C SSgt	1 diamond

CC = Commander
 Stan/Eval = Standards & Evaluation
 D&C = Drill & Ceremonies

Performance Ropes

Commander's List	Gold Rope
Vice Commander's List	Navy Blue/Silver Rope
Dean's List	Silver Rope
Military Excellence	Navy Blue
Athletic Excellence	Black Rope
Chaplains	White Rope



Prep School Privilege Program

C/Cs are subject to a Phased Privileges Program. Passes for off-base travel and other privileges such as civilian clothing, vehicle privileges, and use of electronic devices (gaming, TV, music) are earned through individual and group performances.

Parent Access to C/Cs

The Preparatory School is in the secure part of the Air Force Academy grounds. Therefore visitors must plan their visit accordingly. Your C/C must get you a pass unless you have a military ID. During PW your cadet will get the required information from you to get you on the Entry Access List (EAL) to have full access to the Academy grounds.

Prep School Civilian Clothes Policy

C/C are not authorized to wear civilian clothing for the first few months at the Prep School. Later in the academic year, C/Cs who earn privileges through performance are authorized to wear civilian clothing. CC Director of Ops First Sergeant Honor Officer Stan/Eval Officer D&C Officer.

Acronyms/terms Commonly Used at Prep School

ACQ	Academic Call to Quarter
AFI.....	Air Force Instruction
BMT.....	Basic Military Training
CAMIS.....	Cadet Administrative/Management Info System
CCRI.....	Cadet Candidate Room Inspection
CC.....	Commander
C/C.....	Cadet Candidate
COC.....	Chain of Command
CQ.....	Charge of Quarters
DO.....	Director of Operations
FMD.....	First Military Duty
FSS.....	Force Support Squadron
HQ.....	Headquarters (Building 5220)
MTO.....	Military Training officer
PLC.....	Prep School Character Department
PLD.....	Prep School Academic Department
PLI.....	Preparatory School Instruction
PLT.....	Prep School Military Training
PT.....	Physical Training
PTU.....	Physical Training Uniform
TAPS.....	End of Day/Lights Out
UOD.....	Uniform of the Day

Prep School Academics.

The Prep School's academic program is tailored to prepare Cadet Candidates (C/Cs) for the rigorous curriculum they will face, with the ultimate goal of becoming a Cadet at the United States Air Force Academy.

The Prep School academic curriculum is delivered over four academic quarters in a 10-month program, and is designed to lay the groundwork for success in required Academy classes, with a focus on English, Math (College Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus & Applications in science and Engineering) and Science (Chemistry). All C/Cs take four classes per quarter—two math, one science, and one English.

Opportunities exist in the spring quarters for high-performing C/Cs to take advanced courses in Physics, English and Math at the Academy alongside fourth-class Cadets. C/Cs who qualify for slots in these limited honors-level courses have the opportunity to earn transcript credit at the Academy while attending the Prep School.

Prep School local area.

When not on official leave, C/Cs are required to remain within a 150-mile radius of the Academy. Official leave periods, during which C/Cs can travel outside that radius (Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring Break). Additional leave time that would cause a C/C to miss academic or other military duties is only granted in exceptional circumstances.



Husky Club

The Association of Graduates (AOG) has a Club for club for Prep School Families. You can follow your Cadet Candidate through their Prep School journey from Basic Military Training through Graduation. You can join WebGuy by going to <https://usafawebguy.com/>.

Husky Club Members receive:

- Full Access to WebGuy
- Dedicated Prep Portal with blogs and photo galleries
- Free Downloads of videos and high resolution photos
- 15% shopping discount at the AOG Gift Shop

WebGuy coverage includes

- BMT
- Birthday Dinners
- Parents' Weekend
- Prep Athletics
- Parades
- Spire
- Military training events and ceremonies
- Graduation

Preparatory School Map



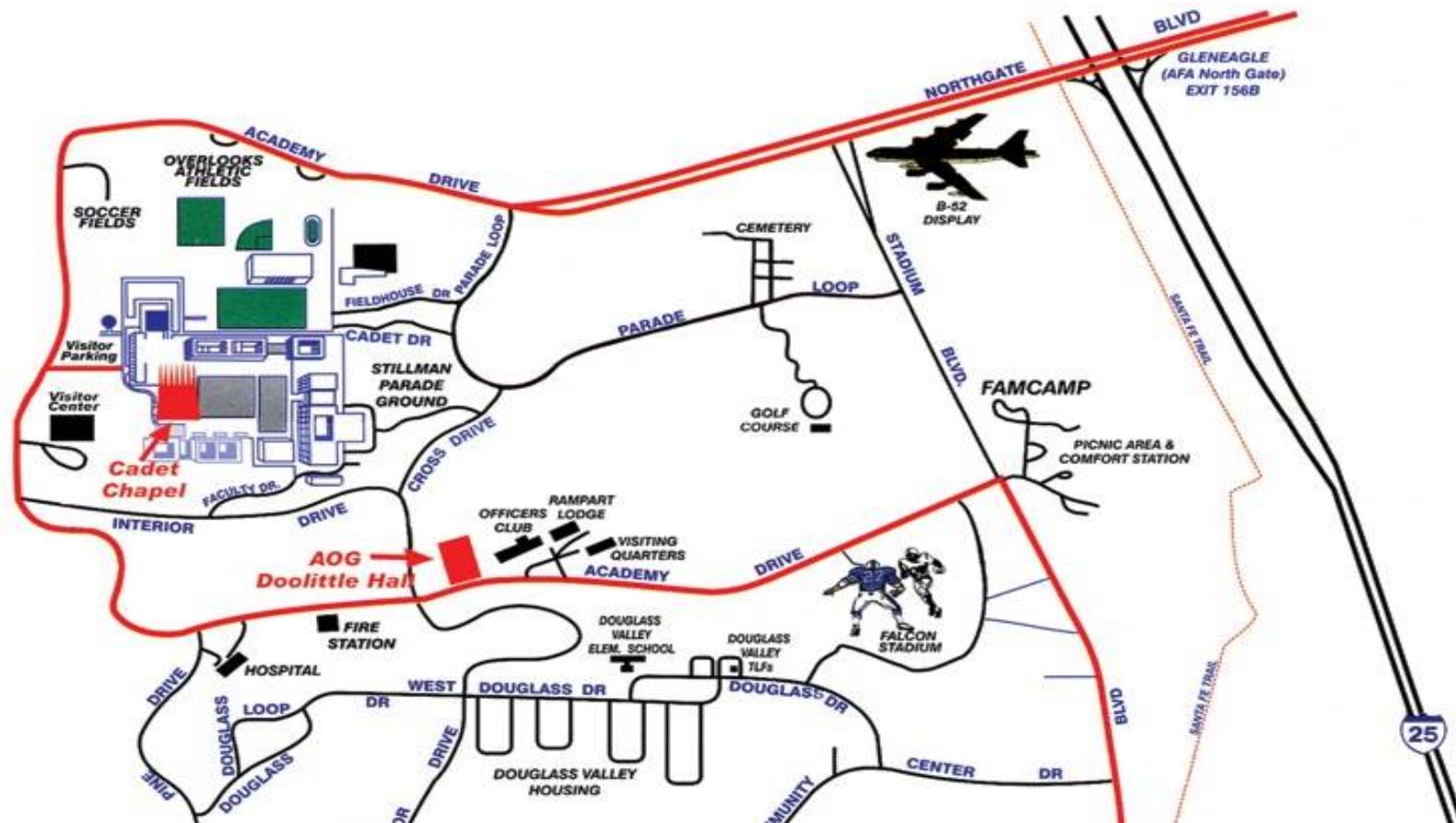


MARCOA
715.571.1234

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Colorado Springs, CO 80906
Phone: 719.571.1234
www.marcoamedia.com
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COLORADO SPRINGS AREA



USAFA Academy Map
Open to the public:
 Visitor Center
 Arnold Hall
 Field House
 Chapel

