

MILITARY ACRONYM GUIDE

the basics

DOD: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

THE US GOVERNMENT AGENCY INCLUDING
ALL BRANCHES OF THE MILITARY

OPSEC: OPERATIONS SECURITY

A PROCESS TO PROTECT CRITICAL INFORMATION

POC: POINT OF CONTACT

THE PERSON YOU CONTACT ABOUT A
SPECIFIC PROGRAM OR ASSIGNMENT.

ROTC: RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS

COLLEGE PROGRAM TO TRAIN FOR A
BRANCH OF THE MILITARY

PX/BX: POST/BASE EXCHANGE

RETAIL STORE AVAILABLE ON A MILITARY BASE.
A LITTLE BIT LIKE A SMALL MALL

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military member

SM: SERVICE MEMBER

THE MILITARY MEMBER

PT: PHYSICAL TRAINING

MANDATORY EXERCISE TO KEEP SERVICE MEMBERS IN SHAPE

MOS: MILITARY OCCUPATION SPECIALTY

THE JOB/CAREER YOU HAVE IN THE MILITARY

CAC: COMMON ACCESS CARD

ID CARD FOR SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, & EMPLOYEES

MRE: MEAL READY TO EAT

HIGH CALORIE MEALS PACKAGED IN A WRAPPER AND UNIVERSALLY DESPISED

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financial

LES: LEAVE & EARNING STATEMENT

A DOCUMENT DETAILING THE SM'S PAYCHECK INCLUDING TAXES & LEAVE

BAH: BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING

ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING COSTS THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE SM'S PAYCHECK

TSP: THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN

GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED RETIREMENT SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

TRICARE

MILITARY HEALTH CARE PROGRAM FOR SERVICE MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

COLA: COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE

COMPENSATION TO OFFSET LIVING COSTS IN MORE EXPENSIVE AREA

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mis/pouse

DEPENDENT

SPOUSE OR CHILD OF A SPONSORING MILITARY MEMBER FOR PAY, BENEFITS, & RIGHTS

DEERS: DEFENSE ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY REPORTING SYSTEM

THE DATABASE YOUR INFO WILL BE HOUSED IN

PCM: PRIMARY CARE MANAGER

YOUR DOCTOR ON BASE WITH TRICARE PRIME

EFMP: EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM

PROGRAM THAT GIVES SUPPORT & RESOURCES TO FAMILY MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

MFLC: MILITARY FAMILY LIFE COUNSELOR

COUNSELOR AVAILABLE FOR FREE TO TALK THROUGH ISSUES RELATED TO MILITARY LIFE

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overseas

OCONUS: OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL US
ANYWHERE OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES

CONUS: CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES
48 CONNECTED STATES & DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

APO: ARMY POST OFFICE
POST OFFICE LOCATED ON BASE

OHA: OVERSEAS HOUSING ALLOWANCE
YOUR HOUSING ALLOWANCE WHEN
YOU'RE OVERSEAS (REPLACES BAH)

CS: COMMAND SPONSORED
DEPENDENT OFFICIALLY RESIDING AT AN OCONUS
LOCATION ON THE MILITARY'S DIME