



Your *Family* Care Plan



Child Care Support in Challenging Situations



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The Family Care Plan is designed to ensure that you have a plan in place to care for your family in the event of an emergency callout, planned deployment or unforeseen situation.

FAMILY CARE PLAN (FCP)

The FCP is not a legally binding contract, but rather an exchange of information between your family and the Commanding Officer.

To establish your FCP, you **MUST** complete the FCP form as per DOAD 5044-1A. We encourage your family to work together to create your individual FCP and update it regularly.

While the FCP is protected in accordance with the *Privacy Act*, families may voluntarily share it with their local Military Family Resource Centres (MFRCs) by checking the box on the form so that MFRCs are prepared to provide assistance as quickly as possible in times of emergency.

You should:

- Review, amend and submit your FCP (DAOD 5044-1A) to your unit regularly, and specifically when:
 - You initially report to a new unit;
 - Your family situation changes;
 - Before you deploy.
- Share your plan with the caregivers identified in the FCP as well as your local MFRC, so that they are prepared to assist your family as quickly as possible in times of emergency.

FAMILY CARE ASSISTANCE (FCA)

FCA is designed to assist CAF single parents and service couples by offsetting increases in the normal costs for child care or attendant care when service requires you to be absent from home for 24 hours or longer.

Eligibility:

FCA is available if:

- For service reasons, you are absent for 24 hours or more from your place of duty or from your family home;
- You have a dependant who is either:
 - Younger than 18 years of age; or
 - 18 years of age or older but requires assistance due to a physical or mental disability and is not receiving a pension;
- You:
 - Do not have a spouse or common-law partner; or
 - Have a spouse or common-law partner who is also a CAF member and who is away from their place of duty for service reasons.

Funding:

- You are entitled to be reimbursed for either the daily amount established by Treasury Board or the difference between the amount paid for dependant care during the absence and the amount normally paid for care, whichever is the lesser amount.
- Additional terms and conditions apply - see reference below for details.

You should:

- Submit your claim (DND 2269) through your unit orderly room; and
- Include receipts for the amount paid with the
 - Name and address of the caregiver; and
 - Dates of employment.

Reference:

Compensation and Benefit Instruction
(CBI) 209.335 – Family Care Assistance

CHILD CARE SUPPORT IN CHALLENGING SITUATIONS

At times, situations may arise when your FCP fails. Additional child care support is available through MFRCs in times of emergencies, military absences, illnesses, injuries or in the event of a death.

EMERGENCY CHILD CARE SERVICES (ECS)

ECS can help your family meet unexpected child care needs that are a direct result of service requirements. MFRCs are available to support you during short-term crises and until longer-term child care arrangements can be made.

Eligibility:

MFRCs are authorized to fund up to 72 continuous hours of ECS under the following circumstances:

- When you are away on duty or other military-related tasking and your spouse or usual caregiver is unavailable due to illness or family emergency;
- When you are required to report for duty on short notice and your spouse or usual caregiver is unavailable; or
- When your child is ill and your family is unable to access your usual child care arrangement at a time when your presence at work is critical to the military operation.

Funding:

Funding is available for up to 72 hours of ECS for your family in the circumstances outlined above. In exceptional circumstances, additional funding may be available on a sliding scale of subsidization. Your MFRC can provide full details.

You should:

- Have an FCP in place in the event of an emergency or planned deployment; and
- Update your FCP regularly and share it with your local MFRC, so they are better able to provide ECS support quickly.

EMERGENCY RESPITE CHILD CARE SERVICES (ERCS)

ERCS can provide respite to support your family's health and well-being while you are away on duty. The services offered through your local MFRC can help your family relieve some of the stress related to child care.

Eligibility:

MFRCs are authorized to fund up to 72 hours of ERCS for your family, should they need a period of respite for continued good health and well-being during your absence due to a military-related tasking.

Funding:

Funding is available for up to 72 hours of ERCS for your family in the circumstances outlined above. In exceptional circumstances, additional funding may be available on a sliding scale of subsidization. Your MFRC can provide full details.

You should:

- Have an FCP in place in the event of an absence due to a military-related tasking;
- Ensure that your family is connected with the MFRC to take advantage of ERCS services.



CASUALTY SUPPORT CHILD CARE SERVICES (CSCC)

Through CSCC services, MFRCs provide additional child care services to support the families of CAF personnel who are ill, injured, or have died while serving.

Eligibility:

MFRCs are authorized to fund up to 168 hours of CSCC under any of the following circumstances:

- To facilitate family attendance and participation at medical, mental health or social support service appointments that will help in the CAF member's recuperation;
- To provide family respite;
- To allow family participation in repatriation services (e.g. Trenton, Landstuhl);
- To support the family throughout the funeral and bereavement process.

Funding:

Funding is available for up to 168 hours of CSCC for your family in the circumstances outlined above. Your MFRC can provide full details.

You should:

- Have an FCP in place in the event of an emergency; and
- Ensure that your family is connected with the MFRC and can access CSCC services if required.

For more information about the Family Care Plan, eligibility, funding, reference documents and options for CAF families, visit the Parents and Caregivers section of www.familyforce.ca or your local MFRC.





Military Families
Strength Behind
the **Uniform**

Canadian Armed Forces Family Covenant

We recognize the important role families play in enabling the operational effectiveness of the Canadian Armed Forces and we acknowledge the unique nature of military life. We honour the inherent resilience of families and we pay tribute to the sacrifices of families made in support of Canada.

We pledge to work in partnership with the families and the communities in which they live.

We commit to enhancing military life.



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