

ID Card Benefits

Include:

- **Unlimited Access to PX/BX Facilities**
- **Unlimited Access to AAFES Catalog Sales**
- **Commissary Access**
- **Access to Post/Base Facilities**
- **Use of Base/Post Services.**
- **Special Military Discounts**
- **Sense of belonging**

Virgin Islands Family Assistance Center

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National Guard
Family Assistance



Produced by Virgin Islands National Guard
State Family Program Office

Reserve Component Family Member ID Card



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1. What is a Reserve Component Family Member ID Card?

A reserve component family member ID card is a military identification card for families of National Guard and Reserve Members. All military services have identification cards for active duty service members and their families. The ID Card provides proof that family members are eligible to receive benefits. Identification cards are also available to reserve component family members. This identification card is called a DD Form 1173-1. Active component families, to include Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) families, use the active component family member identification Card, a DD Form 1173.

2. Why should our family members have ID cards?

There are many military benefits, entitlements and discounts available to military families. Reserve component family members are also entitled to quite a few, though not all of these benefits.

A. Military posts and bases throughout the U.S. offer recreational, social, sporting and guest house facilities that are available to reserve component families on a space available basis. In order to utilize the military facilities, you must have a military family ID card. In fact, some bases and posts are closed to people without proper military identification.

When traveling across the U.S. an ID card can offer cost saving opportunities to family members at bowling alleys, restaurants, officer and enlisted clubs, swimming pools, golf courses, tennis courts and camping areas. Post and bases often have rental equipment, such as boats, camping trailers, bikes, skis, etc. for a much lower cost than could be obtained elsewhere in the area. The military travel agency can book flights, hotels, rental cars and tours often at additional savings.

B. Many commercial enterprises and hotels offer discount rates to military families in order to attract military families to their businesses. The next time you call to ask about rates, ask if they offer a military discount. Be prepared to show your military family ID card to get the lower rate when you arrive.

C. If there was a national emergency and the President called upon the National Guard to assist, the National Guard would be activated. This means that National Guard members would leave their civilian occupations and become active duty, or full time members of the military. If this happened, family members would be entitled to a whole realm of family benefits. These benefits include healthcare, legal assistance and emergency relief programs. Family Assistance Centers would be established at many sites across the state in order to help families. New active duty family member ID cards (DD Form 1173) would be issued as needed. By having a reserve component family member ID card before activation occurs, you would be one step ahead.

D. An added advantage to having your family member ID card is to feel a real sense of belonging to an organization committed to preserving the freedoms enjoyed by all in this country. Military families contribute just as much as their service member. The actual process of having your ID card made during a unit family day can also be an opportunity for your family to visit military facilities and meet other families.

3. Who is eligible for a Reserve Component Family Member ID Card?

A service member's spouse, children, stepchildren and adopted children are eligible for family ID card. Children must be between the ages of 10 and 21, unless they are a full time student, in which case they are eligible until age 23.

4. How does our family obtain a Reserve Component Family Member ID Card?

Family Members can obtain their ID cards by contacting their local unit. Sometimes the unit will make an appointment to have your family come in and have their photographs taken and often the unit will schedule a family day during which many families will have their ID card done at one time. Please be sure to contact the unit first before coming in to have your card made as they do not always have equipment or personnel readily available to make your ID cards.

5. Who can I contact to answer my additional questions about ID cards?

You should contact the unit first with your questions, they will generally seek information from their higher headquarters or will consult their references.

If all else fails, family members may contact the State Family Program Director, Ms. Linda M. Todman at (340) 712-8022 (Office) or (340) 332-3752 (Cell).