

THRIVE

**LOCAL EDITION:
SHREVEPORT, BOSSIER & BARKSDALE AFB**



**A LOCAL GUIDE FOR OUR BARKSDALE MILITARY-CONNECTED FAMILIES
CREATED BY BOSSIER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

- 3 How to Use This Guide
- 4 Thrive Team Letter
- 5 A Letter from the Bossier Chamber of Commerce

FIVE & THRIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

- 8 Childcare
- 11 Education
- 17 Healthcare
- 20 Housing
- 22 Spouse Employment

ADDITIONAL BASE RESOURCES

- 25 Additional Resources
- 26 Military & Family Readiness Center (M&FRC) Programs
- 27 Voting, STARBASE, Library, ITT, Museum
- 28 Commissary, Exchange, Spouse Club, Thrift Store, Gym, Cinderella's Closet and Legal Aid
- 29 Gate, Visitor Center and Employee Assistance Program
- 30 AtHoc Notification System, Emergency Preparation, Sexual Assault Prevention & Response, Natural Resources
- 31 Barksdale Social Media & Website Quick Links
- 32 History of Barksdale AFB
- 33 Things You Might Not Know About Barksdale AFB
- 34 Organizational Chart- Air Force
- 35 Organizational Chart- Barksdale AFB Units
- 36 Barksdale AFB Mission
- 37 Barksdale AFB Maps

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- 39 Additional Community Resources
- 40 General Local Information, Relocation Guides, Weather Alerts and Hazards, Local News
- 41 Louisiana Military and Veteran Benefits, State Laws
- 42 Local Government Representatives and State Customs
- 43 About Louisiana

HOW TO USE THE LOCAL THRIVE GUIDE

This local Thrive Guide is designed to help you build a strong network, navigate available resources, and establish a firm foundation of support within your local community.

FIVE & THRIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

This section will help you to discover local resources related to the five key quality-of-life issues that affect military families: childcare, education, healthcare, housing and spouse employment.

ADDITIONAL BASE RESOURCES

In this section discover additional resources in and around your area including the Military and Family Readiness Center, fitness centers, legal and more! You'll also find a guide to the organizational structure of your installation and a base map.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

In this section discover additional resources within the local community.

If you are looking for national and international resources, be sure to check out the [Thrive Guide](#).

It's a timeless saying that still rings true today: home is wherever the military sends you. It is our honor and pleasure to welcome and connect you with your local Thrive Guide. We are thrilled to have you as part of the Thrive movement and even more so, to share valuable resources with you from your own local community.

This guide was designed to make you feel right at home, helping you navigate everything from childcare, education, healthcare, housing, spouse employment--and more! This local guide is inspired by the Thrive Guide and we hope you will be sure to explore more service wide resources and information at fiveandthrive.org/thrive-guide.

All incredible ideas have a beginning and we would like to extend a special thanks to Kaycee Denny and the Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce along with Sheppard Air Force Base for wondering "what if" and pioneering the first iteration of the Local Thrive Guide. Their initiative, hard work--and heart for our families-- has now paved the way for other installations across the force to do something similar, yet unique to their own community, all while ensuring that military families have the support they need--and deserve.

If you have any questions, feedback, or thoughts on how to enhance this guide, please reach out. Afterall, we are in this together.

In this together,



For the most recent version visit: [LINK](#)








This guide is intended to be used as a living digital document with active links to additional information. For questions, comments or printing guidance, please email krista@bossierchamber.com.

Bossier Chamber of Commerce

Welcome to Barksdale Air Force Base and Northwest Louisiana! Whether you're new to the area or returning, we're so glad you're here.

Moving can be tough, but you're not alone. This guide connects you to local schools, services, job opportunities, and many other resources to help you acclimate. It's all part of our commitment to support and celebrate military families like yours. Most everything is clickable!

The Bossier Chamber of Commerce and the Northwest Louisiana Military Support Foundation (NWL MSF) work year-round to make our community military-friendly and family-focused. We help bridge the gap between the base and local resources through:

-  **Career Support** – Job fairs, local employer friendly database, employer connections
-  **Welcome Events** – Info bags, orientation support, community tips
-  **Military Discounts** – Local deals just for military families
-  **Family & Child Programs** – Including Purple Star School and Month of the Military Child support
-  **Recognition & Appreciation** – Airman Awards, Holiday Cookie Drive, and Military May
-  **Advocacy** – Championing your needs at the local, state and national level
-  **THRIVE Guide** – An online digital tool to help airman and families THRIVE

Local businesses, Military Community Champions, civic leaders and community members are proud to call you neighbors and are here to support your success both— in and out of uniform.

If you need anything or have questions, reach out anytime. We're here for you!

Warm regards,

Lisa Johnson

President/CEO

318-746-0252

ljohnson@bossierchamber.com

Krista Augustson

Military Liaison & Military Spouse

318-746-0252

krista@bossierchamber.com



The Bossier Chamber of Commerce helps build a strong network of Military Community Champions by educating and engaging local businesses on how to support service members and their families—but this work wouldn't be possible without an eager, committed community ready to step up. Together, these partners create welcoming spaces, job opportunities, and family-focused support that strengthen military life. Service members and their families are encouraged to look for and connect with these Military Community Champions throughout the community, knowing they represent a shared commitment to honor and support those who serve.

[Find a list of Military Community Champions](#)



Helping military communities tackle the top five quality-of-life issues

THE FIVE

CHILDCARE | EDUCATION | HEALTHCARE | HOUSING | SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT

THE WHY

Military family quality of life has strategic implications for our military and national security as it directly impacts recruitment, readiness, and retention.

THE PLAN

Five Lines of Effort:

- ★ Advocate for Quality-of-Life Improvements
- ★ Foster Community Partnerships
- ★ Consolidate Quality-of-Life Resources in One Convenient Location
- ★ Educate Military Families, Leaders, and Community Partners on Existing Efforts and Best Practices
- ★ Promote the Exceptional Value of the Military-Connected Spouse

THE MODEL

Military Community Quality-of-Life Experience (QX)

A positive QX builds a stronger Total Force, improving readiness, recruitment, retention, and resilience. Through collaboration with military leaders, military-connected families, and community partners, our model helps create solutions that empower military members and their families to thrive.



In the trenches of our mission lies a fundamental truth – the strength and readiness of our military families are not just essential components of our societal fabric, they are critical pillars of our national security.

Marian Wilcox
**Co-founder &
 Executive Director**



FIVE & THRIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

This section will help you to discover local resources related to the five key quality-of-life issues that affect military families: childcare, education, healthcare, housing and spouse employment.

CHILDCARE

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE RESOURCES

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE CHILD AND YOUTH OFFERINGS OVERVIEW

BARKSDALE FAMILY AND CHILD YOUTH SERVICES (CYS) | 318-456-4139

Office for all programs at Barksdale which offers comprehensive support for military kids, including childcare, youth centers with activities (sports, arts, education, tech), sports leagues, and support for families.

Child Development Center (CDC) | West 318-456-2735 | East 318-456-1081

The Barksdale CDC offers full day care for children from six weeks to five years. Open from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM with two buildings next door to one another on main base called East or West. Care must be requested online at **MilitaryChildcare.com**, a Department of Defense (DoD) website, for military families seeking Child Care, School Age Care Programs, and Family Child Care (FCC) Homes. You can apply up to 1 year in advance, and you can get on a wait list at multiple CDCs so if there are two PCS options on the table, apply at both. Offer part day enrichment as well. [Military Family Types and Priority Chart](#)

Family Childcare Program (FCC) | 318-456-9688

Family Childcare is regular care of a child in the home of another family, on or off base, from ages two weeks to 12 years of age. FCC providers can also offer free child care for extended duty, deployments and PCS. Contact the FSS office by phone or email for personalized care information. Email: 2fss.barksdale.childcare@us.af.mil.

The Barksdale AFB Family Child Care Program has a variety of options to help families with special care needs. **Link to Flyer**

Webpage: Barksdale FCC Services Overview

Military Child Care (MCC)

MCC is the worldwide child care resource hub for military-connected families. Learn about all DoD funded child care options, search for and request child care where you live, and connect to other military family resources today!

Child Care Aware | 1-800-424-2246

Department of the Air Force Fee Assistance program for children ages 0-12. First, you must register with MilitaryChildCare.com. Then create an account at Child Care Aware to apply for childcare assistance.

Air Force Child & Youth Program Business Modernization System (CYPBMS)

The Parent Portal allows you to securely manage your family's profile to include program registration and payment information for all Child & Youth Programs (CYP). Air Force wide, with an easy transition from installation to installation. **Create An Account/Login**

CHILDCARE

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE RESOURCES CONT'D

Kinderspot

Are you looking to offer or rent short term care at the CDC? Download Kinderspot today! Spot holders, who create a Kinderspot account, will be able to offer week long blocks of time per child. At participating CDC's, their spot is temporarily available when their child is not attending. Prospective spot renters can create a Kinderspot account even if they do not hold a spot at the CDC. Available weeks will be visible at participating CDC's, and renters can inform the CDC admin of their desire to rent. Once they have completed paperwork at the CDC, and become a verified renter, they can book available week(s) through the app.

App Download

Youth Center | 318-456-3448

Located on main base, the Barksdale Youth Center Program consists of year round programs for children in kindergarten through high school (ages 6-18). School Age Care programs offer care before and after school, and hourly care. Transportation is provided to several local elementary schools for those enrolled in School Age Care.

Transportation is available in the morning and afternoon to:

- Houghton Schools: T.L. Rodes E.S. (pre-k-1), Platte E.S. (grades 2-3)
- Bossier City Schools: W.T. Lewis Elementary, & Stockwell Place Elementary

Afternoon transportation is provided to the Youth Center from South Bossier Schools:

- Suncity Elementary, Bellaire Elementary & Curtis Elementary.

Care must be requested at MilitaryChildcare.com.

The Youth Center also offers open recreation and teen programs.

Barksdale Youth Programs: 4-H, STEM, camps, homework help, Boys and Girls Club & more

Barksdale Monthly Parents Night Out | Barksdale Family and Child Youth Services | 318-456-4139

The CDC also offers parents the opportunity to have an evening out with dinner and a fun activity. For a fee, childcare is provided. Registration can be done through your [CYPBMS portal](#). For more information, call 318-456-4139 and select the menu option of the facility you're trying to reach.

New Parent Support Program (NPSP) | 318-456-6595

The New Parent Support Program (NPSP) is a free service designed to help expectant parents and families with children from birth to three years of age. The program is designed to assist parents with challenging and changing roles as mother, father, and family and promote positive parent skills and to help maintain healthy families.

CHILDCARE

SHREVEPORT & BOSSIER RESOURCES

LOCAL, PUBLICLY FUNDED PROGRAMS

Caddo (Shreveport) Smart Start | 318-603-6300 or 318 603-6468

A network of publicly funded early childhood programs serving Infants, toddlers and PreK age children. Find a comprehensive list of publicly funded early childhood programs, including many in the area that accept assistance programs. Check on MilitaryChildcare.com for participating programs. Applications for the next school year open early March. Visit the website for a number of local resources in one place.

- **Caddo Pre-K** All neighborhood schools that have kindergarten have at least one Pre-K class. However, there are no Pre-K classes in magnet schools.
- **Caddo Head Start and Early Head Start** Head Start & Early Head Start programs provide comprehensive services to support the mental, social, and emotional development of children from birth to age 5. See website for a complete list offered.
- **Early Learning Childcare** learn more about type III child care offered in Caddo (Shreveport & surrounding area).

Bossier Parish Early Childhood Ready Start Network | 318-677-3188

Find Early Learning Centers, Head Start and Early Head Start and Pre-K Programs.

Bossier Parish Schools Pre-K | Contact Holly George, Supervisor of Special Programs, call 318-549-6813 or email holly.george@bossierschools.org.

Applications open in early March for the following school year.

Youth Enrichment Program (YEP) | YEP Site Phone Numbers [click here](#)

Afterschool care for school age children in Caddo, Bossier & DeSoto Parishes

LOUISIANA RESOURCES

LOUISIANA CHILDCARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Louisiana Dept of Education | 877-453-2721 | providercertification@la.gov

To find licensed childcare providers in Louisiana, visit the Louisiana Department of Education's website for a directory, or contact directly. The state has three types of licensed facilities (Type I, II, and III) and requires providers to meet specific standards for safety, health, and educational practices, which are verified through multiple inspections.

Understanding Types of Childcare Providers in LA

Childcare Aware Louisiana Resources | 800-424-2246 | militaryinfo@childcareaware.org

Military and DoD Fee Assistance Program Information and Questions 8 AM. – 7 PM EST, Monday-Friday (hours vary by branch of service or program).

Find State Resources: Child Care, Children with Special Needs, Health & Social Services, Financial Assistance and more.

EDUCATION

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE RESOURCES

School Liaison Program (SLO) | 318-456-4098 | barksdaleschool liaison@us.af.mil

Serves as the primary resource for parents, schools, and installation commanders regarding education-related issues for military-connected students pre-k thru 12th grade. Advocates for military children at local, state, and national levels to ensure their educational needs are met. Helps families with inbound and outbound school transfers and provides information on local schools and graduation requirements. Provides information and resources to help families navigate special education services, including Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and Section 504 Plans. Assists families who choose to home school their children.

Newcomer Guide: Find your school, registration info, alternative schooling & MUCH MORE.

Barksdale SLO Website: contact info, social media links, sign up for newsletter and FAQ's.

Lucy Murguia Kramer: O: 318-456-0943 C: 318-564-5035, E: lucia.kramer@us.af.mil

Jacqueline Robertson: O: 318-456-4098 C: 318-564-9099 E: jacqueline.robertson@us.af.mil

Note: Barksdale does not have a DoD school on the installation. There are two independent school districts: Caddo (Shreveport+) & Bossier (Bossier, Benton, Haughton & Plain Dealing). Expect many schools to require uniforms, and have a week long break in fall!

SCHOOL ZONING

The base is located in the Bossier Parish School District. However, Louisiana offers military families **School of Choice** where active duty members, who are base residents with military-connected students, have the option to send their student to any school in the **Bossier Parish School District** or **Caddo School District** (up to the school's functional capacity). Parent's are responsible for transportation.

Main Base Housing (Historic & Main Base Neighborhoods) is zoned for:

- Waller Elementary (pre-k to 5), Rusheon Middle School (grades 6-8), Bossier High School (grades 9-12)

East Side Housing (Heritage Heights & Liberty Neighborhoods) is zoned for:

- T.L. Rodes Elementary (pre-k-1), Platte Elementary (grades 2-3), Princeton Elementary (grades 4-5), Haughton Middle School (grades 6-8), Haughton High School (grades 9-12)

Off Base Residents, **Find Your School**

TIP: Find and follow the school districts, individual schools on social media for good info.

EDUCATION

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE RESOURCES CONT'D

HOMESCHOOL

Homeschool on Barksdale

Facebook: Search "Barksdale Homeschool Group"

THRIVE Homeschool Guide

The Thrive Homeschool Guide represent a small offering of what is available to homeschooling families. These resources are a great place to start when beginning homeschooling, after a PCS or when looking to get connected with the homeschool community.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Barksdale Education Office | 318-456-2615

The Education Office provides educational guidance and counseling, military testing and training to Airmen, families, and retirees.

On Base Colleges

All military members, dependents, retirees, all on-base employees and off base civilians are eligible to attend on base schools. Military members have priority placements in classes.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION SUPPORT

STARBASE Louisiana | On base enrichment program focused on STEM

[See more on page 27](#)

Barksdale Library Children's Educational Resources, 3D Printer, Print documents, Hobbies & Crafts Reference Center and much more. Stop in or call 318-456-4101

BOSSIER & SHREVEPORT RESOURCES

PRESCHOOL

Preschool in Louisiana is either public or private. See the [CHILDCARE](#) section to learn about more options.

Bossier Public Schools | PreK registration starts March 1.

Caddo Public Pre-K List | Applications for the school year open March 1.

Youth Enrichment Program (YEP) | YEP Site Phone Numbers [click here](#)

Afterschool care for school age children in Caddo, Bossier & DeSoto Parishes

Families Helping Families, Region 7 | 318-226-4541

Education Specialists will help you prepare for an IEP meeting and help to understand the process.

EDUCATION

BOSSIER & SHREVEPORT RESOURCES

CADDO PARISH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Shreveport, Blanchard, Greenwood, Mooringsport, Oil City & Vivian



Caddo Parish Public Schools stand out through their focus on holistic student development: AMI KIDS ([flyer link](#)), offering extensive workforce readiness (CTE), specialized magnet programs, personalized learning (like Caddo Virtual Academy), and strong community partnerships, all while emphasizing teacher support and achieving notable gains in state testing, particularly in math, demonstrating growth beyond pre-pandemic levels.

Purple Star Schools Video

Caddo Public Schools (pre-k to 12)

Visit main site to enroll, find your bus stop, info on magnet and purple star schools, IEP etc.

Magnet Schools (k-12)

Magnet schools, offered in Shreveport, attract students from all over the district and focus on ELA, Math, Science & Art. Students must test to get into the school. The testing deadline is waived for military students and they may test if they arrive past the deadline.

Contact: Julie Scruggs at 318- 603-6504 or jscruggs@caddoschools.org.

Caddo Career & Technology Center (CCTC) (9-12) | 318-364-1950 | info@caddocareer.com

CCTC serves high school students from 10 high schools in Caddo Parish. CCTC offers 25 programs which enable students to become college and career ready.

Louisiana State University Health - Shreveport College Prep Program

The Allied Health Education and Discovery (AHEAD) Program is a free, 5-day program for Louisiana high school students interested in exploring the health career programs offered at LSU Health Shreveport's School of Health Professions and Sciences.

Ready Set Program

EDUCATION

BOSSIER & SHREVEPORT RESOURCES

BOSSIER PARISH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Haughton, Benton, Bossier City (north and south) & Plain Dealing



Bossier Parish Schools stand out for being one of Louisiana's fastest-growing districts, marked by strong academic growth, diverse program offerings (STEAM, AP, CTE), high community engagement, and a focus on character education, consistently exceeding state averages in student performance, especially in literacy and math. Their innovative approach blends rigorous academics with practical skills, community service, and technological integration, aiming to provide holistic opportunities for all students.

Comprehensive Overview of Bossier Schools

Military Family Support Info

Military Family Counselors (MFC)

Many schools in Bossier Parish offer a point of contact in each purple star school. at nearly 100%, the purple star schools provide clubs and support for students to acclimate and hit the ground running. There are 4 MFC's in Bossier Parish School district that float between the schools.

Video

Bossier Parish Schools Military Coordinator | 318-549-6813

Contact: Holly George, Supervisor of Special Programs, holly.george@bossierschools.org.

Bossier Parish Parent Education Center

Resources, guidance and support for your child where parents can be an active and engaged partner in their child's education. Student and Parent resources, parent technology resources and help, monthly parent newsletter, daily learning planner, schedule an appointment.

Bossier Parish Schools Career & Technical Education (BPSTIL) (9-12) | 318-549-6297

[BPSTIL Promo Video on YouTube](#)

Contact: Wendi Plants, CTE Coordinator | (318)286.5203 | wendi.plants@bossierschools.org

REGIONAL PRIVATE SCHOOLS

There are many private schools offered in the area that offer Montessori or religious based curriculum from pre-k to high school. [List of Shreveport & Bossier Private Schools](#)

EDUCATION

REGIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION

[Bossier Parish Community College](#) | [Louisiana State University Shreveport \(LSUS\)](#) | [Centenary \(Private\)](#) | [Southern University Shreveport](#) | [Northwestern State University Louisiana](#)
See which schools take MYCAA

LOUISIANA RESOURCES

Military Family Resources: Louisiana Department of Education

Resources and support for military families in Louisiana, the new website section offers centralized access to key information and tools designed to ease school transitions for Louisiana's more than 12,000 military-connected students. Online resource hub aimed at supporting military families to navigate the state's public education system. The resource hub includes guidance on advance school enrollment, links to school directories, information about graduation requirements, and details about special education services. It also highlights Louisiana's Purple Star Schools—a designation awarded to schools that go above and beyond to support students from military families.

Note: Louisiana allows military to enroll in advance. If you are moving to Louisiana on active duty orders, your child can register for public school before your family moves to Louisiana. Check for documents needed to enroll on DOE site, link below.

Louisiana Education Homepage

Louisiana Ranks 4th in Nation

Louisiana Virtual Charter for Military Families

HIGHER EDUCATION

Louisiana Department of Veteran Affairs | Title 29 In-State Tuition Exemption

Louisiana's in-state tuition exemption, [Title 29](#), provides educational benefits for children, spouses and surviving spouses of veterans who meet certain requirements. For living veterans, children are eligible; for veterans who are POW/MIA, spouses are eligible; and for deceased veterans, surviving spouses and children are eligible.

Louisiana Specific Tuition Benefits for Military Connected

EDUCATION



**Jason Rowland,
Superintendent of
Bossier Schools**

It is my personal privilege to extend a warm welcome to the Bossier Schools family, where we are eager to meet your family and take a personal interest in your child's academic journey and success.

We are a strong military community and you will find the same formidable bond at Bossier Schools, where 25 campuses (and counting) and honored to be Purple Star Schools of Distinction. It is our commitment to not only welcome your children with open arms so they feel connected to their new school from day one, but also provide our military families with the resources needed for a smooth transition.

We encourage you to tap into the expertise of our Military Family Manager Holly George, who understands firsthand the unique challenges you face and how to help navigate them.

At Bossier Schools, our vision is to "WIN the Day" and teach like it matters, because it does. Educators play an influential role in a child's life and it is not a responsibility we take lightly.

I am confident you will find in Bossier what so many others have; an exemplary school system and a friendly, supportive community that welcomes your family to put down roots, whether for a short while or a life time.



**Holly George, NBCT
Supervisor of
Special
Programs/Military
Family Manager**

Welcome to Bossier Parish Schools! My name is Holly George and I am Bossier School's Supervisor of Special Programs and Military Family Manager. As a former military dependent myself, it is a role I am personally proud of and can relate to, and I look forward to meeting and helping your family have a smooth transition into our school system.

Growing up in a military family, I experienced frequent movement throughout my school years. This continuous transition of relocation and separation left a lasting impression on me and has helped me navigate my life in a positive manner. Now, as a 30+ year educator, I look forward to being your school contact to help ease your family's transition when arriving at Barksdale.

Please call upon me to answer any of your questions about the transition process including registration, special education services, school zones, School of Choice or other concerns. I look forward to being a resource for you and welcoming you to Bossier Schools.

Contact Holly by email holly.george@bossierschools.org or call 318-549-6813.

HEALTHCARE

BARKSDALE RESOURCES

2ND MEDICAL GROUP CLINIC | 243 CURTISS ROAD, BAFB | 318-456-6555

KEY CONTACTS

- **Central Appointment Line** / After-Hours Care: 318-456-6555 option 3 (Flyers and Spouses)
 - Pediatric Appointments: via Central Appointment Line
- **Patient Advocate** | 318-456-6555 option 7 or 318-564-8143
 - Email: usaf.barksdale.2-mdg.mbx.patient-advocates@health.mil
- **Pharmacy** | 318-456-6555
 - Refill Pharmacy | 318-456-8348
- **Referral Management** | 318-456-6555 option 5, option 3
- **Patient Administration** | 318-456-6402
- **Health Benefits Advisor** | 318-459-6405
- **Laboratory Appointment Login** Select Louisiana>Barksdale AFB>2MGD Laboratory
- **2nd Medical Group Website**

Military & Family Life Counseling (MFLC) | 318-553-4597

Provides free short-term, non-medical counseling for service members and their families. Services are confidential and private, except for duty-to-warn situations.

Mental Health Clinic | 318-456-6600

The mental health clinic is part of the base medical group and provides a wide variety of prevention and treatment services, including drug and alcohol abuse assessment and treatment. All mental health clinics see active duty service members, and some clinics also have the capacity to provide services to dependents.

Chaplain Corps (Counseling) | 318-456-2111

Call 318-456-2111 for Chapel 1, located in historic housing, on main base.

For emergencies, after business hours/weekends, call command post ask for Chaplain at 318-456-2151.

[BAM Facebook](#)

[BAFB Chapel Website](#)

[BAFB Chapel Facebook](#)

The Military Crisis Line is a toll-free, confidential resource that connects Service members in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring responders.

Service members, including members of the National Guard and Reserves, along with their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online at www.MilitaryCrisisLine.net, or send a text message to 838255 to receive free, confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

HEALTHCARE

BARKSDALE RESOURCES CONT'D

Family Advocacy Program (FAP) | 318-456-6595

Family Advocacy Program (FAP) personnel provide a continuum of services designed to build community health and resilience and promote family, community, and mission readiness by reducing domestic abuse and child maltreatment. Services are available for military members and eligible beneficiaries. FAP offers family assessments, case management, safety, and intervention planning. Additional services include, individual/couples therapy, new parent support services, and anger management.

Exceptional Family Member Program Medical | (EFMP) | 318-456-1736

The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) is designed to provide support to military family members with special needs. EFMP is a mandatory enrollment program that protects federal entitlements and military benefits of special needs family members.

Patient Advocate | 318-564-8143

Located at the medical treatment facility, the Patient Advocate handles concerns and complaints from military families about their care or about the medical staff.

Barksdale Patient Advocate

Patient and Family Partnership Council (PFPC) | 318-564-8143

Are you interested in helping the Barksdale Medical Group improve your patient experience? Consider joining the Patient and Family Partnership Council (PFPC).

Barksdale AFB *does not* provide emergency or urgent medical care services in any medical facility. To reach emergency response services dial 911 wherever you are.

If you are experiencing a life-threatening medical situation (including mental health emergencies), call 911 immediately. Emergency care services treat life-threatening medical issues such as threats to your life, limbs, sight, or safety.

Active duty do not need prior authorization for the emergency room, only Urgent Care.

HEALTHCARE

SHREVEPORT & BOSSIER RESOURCES

TRICARE Authorized Emergency Rooms

Find a Medical Facility in Shreveport or Bossier: TriWest Provider Directory

Tricare All Provider Directory; Installation and local area

REGIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICES: MAJOR HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

Shreveport-Bossier has several 24/7 emergency rooms for serious conditions, all equipped for severe issues like heart attacks, strokes, and major trauma.

- **Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport:** The region's only Level I Trauma Center, equipped for the most severe injuries, open 24/7.
 - Address: 1541 Kings Hwy, Shreveport, LA 71103. Phone: 318-626-0000
- **CHRISTUS Highland Medical Center:** Offers 24/7 emergency care for all ages, with rapid cardiac care and pediatric services.
 - Address: 1453 E Bert Kouns Ind'l Loop, Shreveport, LA 71105. Phone: 318-681-5543
- **CHRISTUS Bossier Emergency Hospital:** A dedicated emergency micro-hospital in Bossier City, open 24/7.
 - Address: 2531 Viking Dr, Bossier City, LA 71111. Phone: 318- 681-7000
- **Willis-Knighton Health System:** Provides extensive coverage with multiple ERs, including WK Pierremont, aiming for quick access across the area.
 - Willis Knighton North: 2600 Greenwood Road, Shreveport, LA 71103.
 - 318-212-4500 or 318-212-4510
 - Willis Knighton South: 2510 Bert Kouns Industrial Loop, Shreveport, LA 71118.
 - 318-212-5500 or 318-212-5510
 - Willis Knighton Bossier: 2400 Hospital Drive, Bossier City, LA 71111.
 - 318-212-7500 or 318-212-7510
 - Willis Knighton Pierremont: 8001 Youree Drive, Shreveport, LA 71115.
 - 318-212-3500 or 318-212-3510

Emergency care means care for an illness or injury that threatens your life, limb, sight, or safety. If you reasonably believe you have an emergency, always call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

LOUISIANA RESOURCES

Louisiana Military Installations - Contact Information

HOUSING

BARKSDALE RESOURCES

Your first contact should be the military housing office (MHO) to learn of the housing options available to you at the time of your move.

Barksdale Military Housing Office | 318-456-4791

The Military Housing Office (MHO) provides housing referral and relocation support to all eligible military members and their families. The Housing Early Assistance Tool (HEAT) streamlines the process for service members to get information about on and off base housing and to begin the process of applying for Privatized Family Housing.

Email: 2CES.CEIH.BaseHousingElement@us.af.mil

BAH Calculator

Barksdale Family Homes, Hunt Military Communities | 318- 536-1244

Learn more about the neighborhoods at Barksdale AFB, including their amenities, view floor plans and photos. Email: barksdale@huntcompanies.com

Current Residents, call 318-395-6689

Floor Plans:

- Heritage Heights: Mixed floor plans (2–4 bedroom), built in the '80s and '90s.
- Liberty Heights: Newer 3- and 4-bedroom homes, completed in 2011.
- Main Base Housing
- Main Base Housing (historic homes)

See a map of the neighborhoods

Privatized Housing Resident Advocate

Mr. Joshua Cormier, call 318-456-6386 or email joshua.cormier.4@us.af.mil

East Reservation Game Warden Video: Best Kept Secret!

East Reservation Housing is located several miles from Barksdale's main base, typically about a 10–15 minute drive depending on the gate used and traffic. The area is more spread out and quieter than main-base housing, offering a neighborhood-style setting with larger green spaces and easier parking. Families often appreciate the lower traffic, playgrounds, walking areas, and quick access to outdoor recreation spots. Because it sits off the main installation, residents should plan for commuting time to base services such as the BX, commissary, and medical clinic. It's a good option for those who want more space and a less congested environment while still staying connected to the base community.

HOUSING

SHREVEPORT & BOSSIER RESOURCES

Navigate **Shreveport** or **Bossier Benton Haughton** Areas
Choose **Shreveport Neighborhoods**

HOMES.mil

Search for local area rentals through this rental database, which is exclusive for the military. This database is accessible to all property managers after proper registration.

Local Apartments and Homes for Rent

You can search for local apartments using websites like [Zillow](#) or [Apartments.com](#)

Military by Owner

AHRN Barksdale Rentals

To ensure a prompt response for questions regarding rental listings, call the property manager/landlord contact directly for all inquiries on additional listing details and to schedule a viewing. Review Best Practices for basic guidelines.

LOUISIANA RESOURCES

Individual Income Tax Filing Requirements for Military Servicemembers and Spouses

Louisiana Extension of Service Member Civil Relief Act Protections (SCRA)

[§312 Limits on creditor interest rates](#) and [§422 Enforcement of Servicemembers Civil Relief Act](#).

Note: Because the protections under SCRA can sometimes be complicated, Airman are urged to seek the assistance of their installation legal office for SCRA-[related matters go to legal info](#)

In Louisiana, it is **unlawful to discriminate based on military status**:

Relative to discrimination based on military status; to prohibit discrimination in public schools; to prohibit discrimination in employment; to prohibit discrimination in public buildings; to prohibit discrimination in facilities to which the public is invited; to prohibit discrimination in the sale or rental of housing; to provide definitions; and to provide for related matters.

VA Backed Home Loans

SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT

BARKSDALE RESOURCES

Military & Family Readiness Center (M&FRC) | 318-456-8400

The Barksdale AFB Military & Family Readiness Center (M&FRC) support military, civilians, and family members in achieving short and long-term employment, by referring for education/training, and obtaining career goals in the private and public sectors.

Services include:

- Classes and individual consultation on career planning and personal development, resume writing, interviewing skills and all other phases of the job search process.
- Resource centers, access to computers, laser printers, information on careers, jobs, job search skills, local job listings in both the public and private sectors.
- Individual career counseling and planning, career assessments.
- Provides workshops and 1-on-1 appointments to assist with the federal hiring.

Employment work shop calendar: call to register: 318-456-8400

- Private Industry (0900-1200) 2026: 19 Feb, 23 Apr, 11 Jun, 27 Aug
- Federal Employment (0800-1200) 2026: 22 Jan, 26 Mar, 28 May, 23 Jul, 17 Sep

Hiring Our Heroes (HOH): U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

- **Employers committed to hiring Military Spouses through HOH**

IBM SkillsBuild – upskill in minutes & Skilled Trades Academy

Federal Employment Resources: [What to include on your resume](#) & [Resume Page Limits](#)
Check this link online events for federal employment;

For more relevant events, you can filter to “military spouse” and “office of personnel management” events

Military OneSource: Military Spouse Employment Partnership Network

Find local (or national employers) registered as a Military Spouse Employer and MANY more resources. The Department of Defense digital portal for spouse employment support. Contact the MFRC to get the weekly **MSEP Partner and SECO announcements flyer**, a weekly summary of job friendly employers both local and remote roles.



JOB OPENINGS ON BASE

- **Caregivers and Caring providers needed at CDC and youth center on Barksdale.**
- **Non Appropriated Fund (NAF) Job Openings**
- **Hunt Housing Employment**
- **Army & Air Force Exchange Services (AAFES)** Contact Tiesha Howard: 318-741-3255
- **USA JOBS**, all openings on or near Barksdale AFB
- **Air Force Civilian Careers**

SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT

SHREVEPORT & BARKSDALE RESOURCES

City of Shreveport Jobs

City of Bossier City Jobs

State Jobs in Caddo or Bossier

Bossier Chamber of Commerce Members | Military Friendly Businesses

Shreveport Chamber of Commerce Job Board

Military One Source Spouse Education and Career Opportunities

Find local (or national employers) registered as a Military Spouse Employer Partner (MSEP).

NW LA Annual Veterans Job Fair: Military Spouses are invited to attend for content and employers tailored to them on March 3 and 4th 2026. [See more and register](#)

LOUISIANA WORKS

Find Immediate Employment, Job Fairs & Veteran Services (includes spouses)

Use the *American Job Centers* as your job search hub: submit resumes & applications, follow up on leads, and contact employers. Meet with a representative to create an employment or career advancement plan, or get guidance for starting a new career. Get guidance to help match you to a career. Also offers Youth Career Services.

Bossier Office: Bossier & Caddo American Job Center | 318-741-7360

Shreveport Office: Caddo American Job Center | 318-676-7788 or 318-676-7748

Contact: Veronica L. Bell, Local Veteran Employment Representative (LVER).

Veronica specializes in connecting veterans, and eligible military spouses, with job opportunities and supportive services. Email, vbell@lwc.la.gov, or visit her at Caddo American Job Center, 2121 Fairfield Ave., Ste. 100 Shreveport, Louisiana 71104.

The Coordinating and Development Cooperation, a division of LA Works, helps military spouse find work if they have recently PCS'd, become unemployed or are underemployed. [Check if you qualify!](#) List of **HOT JOBS** in region 7.

Workforce ArkLaTex | 318-631-4242 | <https://work4manpower.com/>

Jean Simpson Personnel Services | 318-869-3494

Gig, Temp, Part Time, Full Time roles, contact for 1-1 appointment. Testing Required.



Local, Military Friendly Employers*

Christus Health

Willis Knighton Health

Always Best Care

CVS Health

GDIT

LSUS Health

Louisiana State University-

Shreveport

Regions Bank

NW LA Human Services

Oschner Health

Bossier Schools

Caddo Schools

The ARC Caddo-Bossier

Barksdale Federal Credit

Union

Bossier Parish Comm College

C.A.R.R. Riggs & Ingram

Live! Casino Resort

Margaritaville

Laredo Technical

Shreveport Coca Cola

Cyber Innovation Center

*Not a complete list, there are many great options in NW LA.

Email

krista@bossierchamber.com

for more help or networking.

SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT

LOUISIANA RESOURCES

Transfer a Professional License

To transfer a professional license to Louisiana as a military spouse, you must submit military orders and documentation to the specific Louisiana licensing board, which will review your qualifications and issue a license if the requirements are met. Louisiana uses state-level reciprocity, which is enhanced by the federal [Military Spouse Licensing Relief Act \(MSLRA\)](#), to expedite licensing for qualified military spouses in similar occupations.

Transfer a Teaching License

Search for your License and State

Louisiana Law for Military Spouses

§3652. Professional and occupational licenses; renewal fees waived; educational requirements.

Small Business Support

The SBA provides military spouses with the same flexible resources available to veteran entrepreneurs. Explore videos and virtual events to learn how SBA can support every step of your small business journey. The Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) program is designed to provide entrepreneurial development services to service members, veterans, National Guard and Reserve members, military spouses, and family members interested in starting or growing a small business

For more information, visit **VBOC Louisiana** and select, or contact, your designated office:

- Veterans Business Outreach Center at Mississippi State University
 - Coverage: Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi
 - Address: 60 Technology Blvd., Suite 105C, Starkville, MS 39759
 - Website: www.vboc.msstate.edu
 - Telephone: 662-325-4990
 - Email: vboc@business.msstate.edu

Participating Skill Bridge Employers

Check which employers are in skill bridge, for exiting service members.

ADDITIONAL INSTALLATION RESOURCES

In this section discover additional resources in and around your area including the Military and Family Readiness Center, fitness centers, legal and more! You'll also find a guide to the organizational structure of your installation and a base map.

ADDITIONAL BASE RESOURCES

MILITARY & FAMILY READINESS CENTER (M&FRC) PROGRAMS | (318) 456-8400

A full list of programs and upcoming event calendar can be found on the [MFRC website](#)

Note:

- Childcare can be provided at some events.
- Spouses are encouraged to attend Right Start! Hosted once a month, the briefing provides invaluable information, and the information fair is an excellent place to ask questions about medical services, local schools, higher education, off-base activities, spouse employment, volunteer opportunities, and much more.
- Call the M&FRC to coordinate or learn more.

307TH BOMB WING M&FRC | OFFICE: 318-456-1807 | MOBILE: 318-286-2478

Additional resources are available for reservists. You can reach out to the MFRC office, or Mr. DeVillier.

Contact: Frank P. DeVillier, Director, Military & Family Readiness 307th Bomb Wing

Commander's Key Support Program (CKSP) | (318) 456-8400

Key Support Liaisons (KSLs) are enthusiastic volunteers in your spouse's unit, appointed by the Commander to help connect and support Air Force families. They serve as a friendly link between unit leadership and families, offering helpful information and peer-to-peer support. If you're not sure who your KSL is, the Military & Family Readiness Center will be happy to connect you! Call for a list of upcoming meetings, M&FRC: (318) 456-8400

Note: Make sure the unit you are affiliated with has your info if you'd like to be on the social roster, don't miss on the chance to stay connected!

Heart Link | (318) 456-8400

Heart Link is a fun, welcoming spouse orientation program designed to strengthen military families and boost mission readiness. Meet fellow spouses, enjoy an information fair, and discover the many benefits and services that can help you thrive as a military spouse.

Offered quarterly, call for upcoming dates and join the fun!

2026 Dates: March 5th & August 25th from 9am to 1pm.

Hearts Apart | (318) 456-8400

This program provides events for families who have a member currently deployed, returned home in the past 30 days or preparing to go in the next 30 days. These events are provided at no cost to families. Please contact the M&FRC for upcoming events.

ADDITIONAL BASE RESOURCES

Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) | (318) 456-8400

You may access many voting-related questions and answers on the FVAP website or call the M&FRC. 24-hours voting assistance is available from the AF TFSC at Toll Free 1-800-525-0102.

STARBASE Louisiana | 318-529-3521 | office@starbasela.org | See [FLYERS Page 45-46](#)
827 Twining Dr building 4238, Barksdale AFB

DoD STARBASE Louisiana inspires all students and ignites a passion for learning through collaborative STEM experiences to empower the innovators of tomorrow. Afterschool middle school programs, homeschool programs, summer camps and more! Follow them on Facebook!

Barksdale Base Library | 318- 456-4182 | 2FSS.FSDL.Library@us.af.mil

Online catalog LINK. Lots of great programs! Follow them on social media or stop in to the building at 744 Douhet Dr.

Global Strike Museum | 318-456-2840

The museum is open to the public. Guests can expect an immersive experience—walking among massive bombers in the air park and exploring indoor galleries dedicated to the rich heritage of the 2nd Bomb Wing, Strategic Air Command (SAC), Air Force Global Strike Command, 8th Air Force, historic missions, and key moments in U.S. aviation history. Visitors can explore a large outdoor aircraft park featuring iconic platforms such as multiple B-52s, an SR-71 Blackbird, and even a Vulcan bomber. Inside, exhibits cover a wide range of aviation and military history.

Tickets and Travel, ITT | 318.456.1866 or itt.barksdale@gmail.com

The ITT office helps you save money and plan fun experiences while you're stationed here. They offer discounts on local entertainment like Mudbugs games, regional attractions, and travel to destinations across the U.S. They can also help you plan cultural experiences—from Cajun and Creole food tours to festivals, cruises, Disney parks, and local events. Stop by, call, or check their website to make the most of your time and budget.

The Shreveport and Bossier Military Affairs Council (MAC) also works to provide military and their families discounts to local attractions. Watch for events throughout the year on the [Barksdale Life Facebook page](#) for upcoming events.

SrA Bryan Bell Fitness Center | (318) 456-4135 | srabellfitnesscenter@gmail.com

Cinderella's Closet | cinderellasclosetbafb@gmail.com

Is a place for any military dependent, regardless of rank, to "rent" a dress, free of charge.

ADDITIONAL BASE RESOURCES

Commissary | 318-456-8263 Ext 3425 | 1265 Twining Drive

The commissary is the military grocery store. Base commissaries are operated by Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) at installations stateside and around the world. Active duty and retired, Reserve and Guard (on orders), and family members with proper military ID can purchase food and other items at cost with no sales tax. Commissaries are required by law to sell items at prices set only high enough to recover item cost, with no profit or overhead factored into item price. Because the commissary charges you what it costs them, prices will vary from commissary to commissary, depending on local costs. You will see a 5% surcharge covers the operational costs – cashier's salaries, electricity, etc. Check the [website](#) for click2go account, coupons, recipes, sales flyers, employment and more by location.

Click2Go curb side pick up orders are open 24/7, up to 6 days ahead.

Barksdale AFB Exchange | 318-752-9227

Save money by shopping at your installation's exchange. Shop tax-free, military-exclusive prices, and shop online, report card rewards for military kids, sweepstakes and more.

There is not a vet clinic on Barksdale but there are many wonderful veterinarian clinics in the area. Look up a Louisiana Veterinary Medicine License [here](#).

Spouse's Club & Thrift Shop

There is currently no spouse club or Thrift shop. To start any club, contact the Private Organizations Office at 318-456-3154. Spouse clubs typically support military families through volunteerism, social events, and charitable activities for all retiree, enlisted, and officer spouses. You may visit or donate to the [Airman's Attic](#), or local thrift stores.

Barksdale AFB Legal Office | 334 Davis Ave W, Barksdale AFB | 318-456-2562

The legal office offers walk-in services for notaries and powers of attorney. The drafting of wills and advice on personal civil legal matters are by appointment only. Legal professionals can advise on matters such as financial affairs; family law to include marriage or divorce; immigration; Service Members Civil Relief Act (SCRA laws); and wills. Attorneys, however, cannot give advice on behalf of a third-party, criminal proceedings, or grievances made against the government or affiliates. More Information on Wills

U.S. Air Force Legal Assistance

An additional resource for military members, this website offers valuable information on a wide range of common legal issues. It also allows you to complete power-of-attorney worksheets at home, speeding up your visit to the legal office. Be sure to record the 8-digit ticket number accurately so staff can quickly retrieve your worksheet.

ADDITIONAL BASE RESOURCES

GATE INFO

Shreveport Gate (West): Open 24 hrs, 7 days a week. The main gate to the base and closest gate to Shreveport. The visitor center is located here as well. Guests **MUST** have a real id to get onto base. See visitor center info below.

(North) Bossier City Gate: Easiest way to access the Barksdale Lodging office for those who are in need of temporary lodging.

Bodcau Gate: East Reservation gate to accommodate east-side residents. For those residing in either of the two housing areas located on the east reservation and for those who live the subdivisions to the north of the base in Haughton.

Industrial Gate (East): For commercial vehicles entering and exiting base for services to residents or organizations. All commercial vehicles **MUST** enter and exit through the East Gate during their hours of operation. Residents will need to meet their visitor at the gate and sign them onto base (movers, tow truck, carpet cleaning).

Visitor Center | (318) 456-4984

The visitor center is located near the Shreveport (west) Gate. BAFB requires REAL ID for all visitor passes and base access. [See link for more details on other acceptable forms of ID.](#)

Note: When Visitor Center is closed, the Shreveport (west) gate guard building will write visitor passes. Please contact 318-456-3587 with any questions.

Employee Assistance Program (Civilian Employees) | 1-866-580-9078

ADDITIONAL BASE RESOURCES

Local AtHoc Mass Notification System

The AtHoc Installation Warning System is an internet- based program that sends out mass alerts during critical occurrences. Individuals can receive notifications such as severe weather, delays, closures and other emergencies to their computer, phone and email. Service member can register themselves, or their family members, for the alerts.

Readiness NCO | Military & Family Readiness Center

The FEMA App is your personalized disaster resource, so you feel empowered and ready to take charge of any disaster life throws your way. Download today on iOS or Android.

- Plan. The FEMA App can help you learn basic preparedness strategies like how to create a family emergency communication plan, what to pack in your emergency kit, and what to do immediately after a disaster.
- Protect. With the FEMA App, you can receive real-time weather and emergency alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five locations nationwide. It can also help you find a nearby shelter if you need to evacuate to a safe space.
- Recover. The FEMA App gives you the tools you need to recover after a disaster. Find out if your location is eligible for FEMA assistance, find Disaster Recovery Center locations, and get answers to your most pressing questions.

Click on the links below for more information:

- Military One Source “Emergency Family Assistance”
- Preparing Your Families For Emergencies
- AFPC’s Crisis Support Page for additional education/available resources

Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Office | 318-456-SARC (7272) (24/7)

The SAPR offices provides assistance, advocacy, support, and empowerment to those who have experienced sexual assault and harassment and to prevent sexual violence in our community through education and intervention. For an overview, the history and more contact information, visit [Barksdale AFB SAPR webpage](#).

Confidential Reporting: [Safehelpline.org](https://www.safehelpline.org)

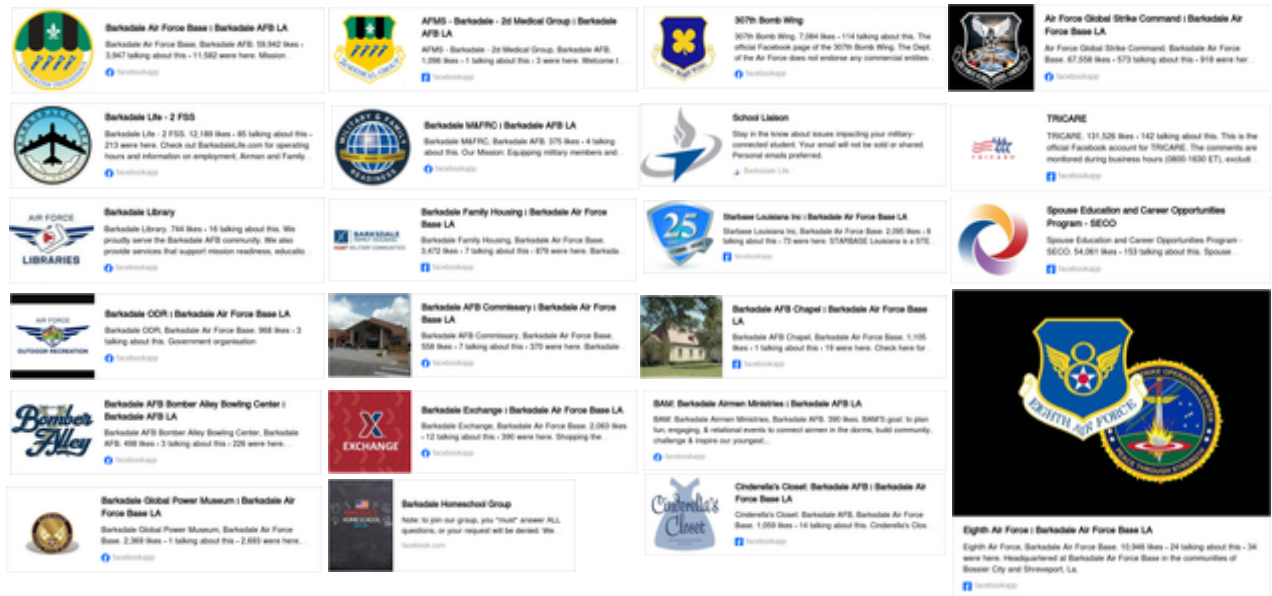
Barksdale SAPR Hotline: 318-456-SARC (7272)

DoD Safe Helpline (24/7): 877-995-5247

Barksdale Natural Resources | 318-456-3353

Active Duty, DoD Civilians, Retirees, National Guard, Reservists, and their sponsored guests can hunt or fish the vast East Reservation: 18,000 acres with hillsides, hardwood bottoms, bayous, and swamps and Lakes & Ponds: Flag Lake, Austin Pond, Harmon Lake, Moon Lake, Red Horse Pond. Local catches includes: Bass, crappie, catfish, etc.. Hunter safety and license required, provided at Barksdale Natural Resources.

ADDITIONAL BASE RESOURCES

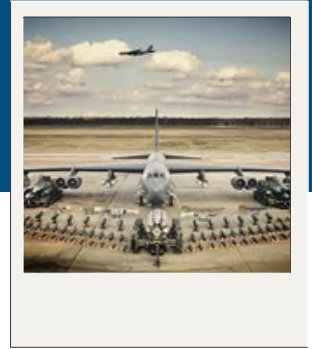


BARKSDALE BOOKMARK WORTHY WEBSITES

- MFRC Website | Many great programs and resources available for spouses and families.
- Base Facilities | Phone numbers and hours of all facilities on base.
- Barksdale Bulletin | Events and FSS info posted here often.
- Agencies and Programs Overview List
- Religious Service Schedule

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE

HISTORY OF BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE



The story of Barksdale Air Force Base began in 1924, when Shreveport residents first expressed interest in hosting a military airfield. Their efforts involved years of proposals and negotiations, and although the initial plan was rejected, persistence paid off. On December 5, 1928, a site in Bossier Parish was selected from 80 candidates. The City of Shreveport undertook the enormous task of purchasing the property, acquiring more than 800 parcels for \$1.5 million, annexing the land, and finally donating it to the federal government. In return, the government assumed responsibility for constructing the new installation.

Construction of Barksdale Field began in 1931, guided by an elegant Beaux-Arts radial site plan and an architectural vision rooted in the French Colonial Revival style. The base's early buildings featured terra-cotta and stucco exteriors, red-tile roofs, French windows, and wrought-iron accents—designs inspired by the region's heritage and local materials. The original plan included quarters for 200 officers, barracks for 1,500 enlisted men, administrative buildings, a gymnasium, a YMCA, a chapel, and hangars large enough to support more than 100 aircraft. Landscape architects called for live oaks along Barksdale Boulevard and native species along adjoining streets, giving the new base a distinctive Southern character.

Barksdale Field was formally established in 1932 and dedicated on February 2, 1933. It was named in honor of Lieutenant Eugene Hoy Barksdale (1896–1926), a distinguished World War I aviator who flew with the British Royal Flying Corps before serving with the American Expeditionary Forces. After the war, he became a U.S. test pilot and tragically lost his life in 1926 during a flight-test accident. Before the base was built, the land had been dominated by cotton plantations, making the installation's development a dramatic transformation of the local landscape. In 1948, with the creation of the United States Air Force, Barksdale Field was officially redesignated Barksdale Air Force Base.

One of the installation's most notable areas is its historic residential district. Constructed between 1930 and 1941, the neighborhood includes single family homes and duplexes originally built for members of the 3rd Attack Group. This French Colonial Revival district was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. Damage from the severe winter storms of 2021 led to the demolition of several deteriorated units. Despite these losses, many of the historic homes remain today.

Across the runway, the base's eastern side once housed a separate and highly secretive installation known as Bossier Base. Opened in 1951, it operated independently from Barksdale AFB and was administered by the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project under the Atomic Energy Commission. The facility served as one of only six U.S. stockpile sites for nuclear-weapon components, a fact kept classified until congressional testimony in 1957. As Cold War tensions eased, the mission at Bossier Base diminished, and the facility was officially closed in 1970. Most of its structures were later demolished, though a historical marker—placed in 2015—preserves its legacy. The area is now incorporated into Barksdale's East Reservation.

Nearly a century after its founding, Barksdale continues to stand at the center of U.S. airpower, blending a rich architectural and cultural heritage with a vital modern mission.

[Bossier Library Article](#) [Historical Barksdale Housing](#)

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE

THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT BARKSDALE AFB

It's older than the U.S. Air Force. Barksdale Field opened in 1933, 15 years before the Air Force became its own military branch in 1948.

The Barksdale Historic District is the largest historic district in north Louisiana and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It includes over 300 buildings constructed between 1931 and 1941, showcasing a variety of early 20th-century architectural styles like French Colonial Revival.

The base's original architecture—tile roofs, stucco walls, wrought-iron balconies—gives parts of Barksdale the feel of a "little French village."

The live oaks that line Barksdale Boulevard, and other streets, were planted in the 1930's. The original base housing was built to be fireproof and even earthquake resistant, which was extremely unusual for Louisiana construction in the early 1930s.

The base is home to a massive natural wildlife area: Barksdale's reservation includes more than 18,000 acres of forest, wetlands, and lakes, one of the largest natural habitats on any Air Force installation, supporting deer, bald eagles, wild hogs, and even alligators.



Barksdale maintains one of the longest runways in the Air Force: Its main runway is 11,000 feet long!

Barksdale once served as a stage for Hollywood: The base and B-52 bombers appear in several films and TV productions, including "By Dawn's Early Light" (1990) and documentaries about nuclear deterrence.

President George W. Bush used Barksdale as a secure location on 9/11: Air Force One landed at Barksdale on the day of the attacks, where the president addressed the nation.

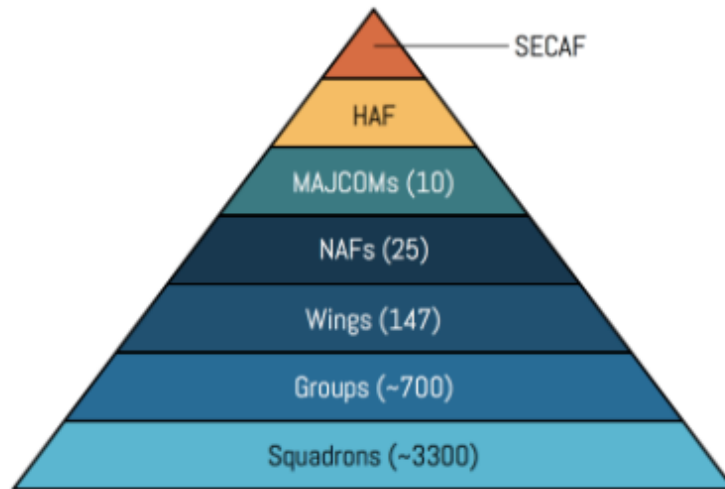
Barksdale is home to the oldest bomb wing in the Air Force: The 2nd Bomb Wing dates back to World War I and still flies the B-52H Stratofortress.

It became the headquarters for nuclear operations in 2009: Barksdale is home to Air Force Global Strike Command, which oversees the majority of the U.S. nuclear arsenal and all Air Force long-range bombers.

The 307th is the only Air Force Reserve unit flying the B-52H Stratofortress, and they also run the Formal Training Unit (FTU)—that means they train new B-52 crews right on Barksdale AFB.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

AIR FORCE



The Department of the Air Force is led the **Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF)**, located at the Pentagon.

Headquarters Air Force (HAF), is also based out of the Pentagon, led by the highest-ranking military officer in the Department of the Air Force, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force (CSAF).

The SECAF and CSAF lead the Air Force in working on service-wide issues.

There are eleven **Major Commands (MAJCOMs)** responsible for organizing, training, and equipping Air Force forces. MAJCOMs are structured by *function* or *geography* and are typically led by three- or four-star generals.

- The functional MAJCOMs are: Air Combat Command; Air Education and Training Command; Air Force Global Strike Command; Air Force Materiel Command; Air Force Reserve Command; Air Force Space Command; Air Force Special Operations Command; and Air Force Mobility Command.
- The geographic MAJCOMs are: Pacific Air Forces; United States Air Forces Central Command; and United States Air Forces in Europe–Air Forces Africa.

There are twenty-five **Numbered Air Forces (NAFs)**, which serve as tactical echelons providing operational leadership and oversight of assigned units. NAFs are usually organized by geographic area and are primarily activated during wartime; in peacetime, they typically maintain a small headquarters staff focused on planning and readiness. NAF commanders are generally two- or three-star generals.

Within each NAF are wings, groups, and squadrons, with wings located worldwide. **Wings** are commanded by brigadier generals or colonels and typically consist of four **groups**: Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Medical. Groups are usually led by colonels.

Squadrons are the core units of the Air Force, with about 3,300 in total. They are usually led by lieutenant colonels, though some are commanded by majors or captains, and range in size from fewer than 10 to over 600 personnel. Squadrons are highly specialized by mission, such as flying, maintenance, medical, intelligence, security forces, and mission support. While support units rarely deploy as a whole, operational flying squadrons are more likely to deploy intact.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

BARKSDALE AFB



Air Force Global Strike Command

Type: Major Command (MAJCOM)
Part of: United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM or STRATCOM)

Mission: Airmen ALWAYS ready to provide long-range precision strike ... anytime, anywhere!

Nickname: "America's Shield"
Motto: "Certare Vel Mori (Compete or Die)"

Commander: Gen Stephen L. Davis
Deputy Commander: Lt Gen Jason R. Armagost
Command Chief: CCM Shawn M. Aiello



2nd Bomb Wing

Type: Wing
Part of: Air Force Global Strike Command (MAJCOM), Eighth Air Force (NAF)

Mission: Airmen ALWAYS ready to provide long-range precision strike ... anytime, anywhere!

Nickname: "The Mighty Deuce"
Motto: Libertatem Defendimus (Latin for 'We Defend Liberty')

Commander: Col Christopher G. Cain
Deputy Commander: Col Jessica R. Critcher
Command Chief: CMSgt Joshua A. Matias

Eighth Airforce

Type: Numbered Air Force (NAF)
Part of: Air Force Global Strike Command (MAJCOM)

Mission: Fly, fight, and win...airpower anytime, anywhere.

Nickname: "The Mighty Eighth"
Motto: "Peace Through Strength"

Commander: Maj Gen Ty W. Neuman
Mobilization Assistant to the Commander: Brig Gen Michael M. Moeding
Deputy Commander: Col Daniel M. Alford
Command Chief: CCM Brandon M. Wolfgang



307th Bomb Wing

Type: Wing
Part of: Air Force Reserve Command (MAJCOM), Tenth Air Force (NAF)

Mission: To provide combat-ready Airmen and B-52H Stratofortress aircraft for a wide range of operations.

Nickname: "Long Rangers"
Motto: "Mors de Long" (Death from Afar)

Commander: Col David M. Martinez
Deputy Commander: Col Aaron Hedrick
Command Chief: CMSgt Jonathon Alejandro



BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE

MISSION

Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGS) is charged with developing and providing combat-ready forces for nuclear deterrence and global strike operations ... Safe - Secure – Effective... to support the President of the United States and combatant commanders.



The Eighth Airforce, nicknamed "**Mighty Eighth**" (**8th AF**) is a warfighting headquarters constantly ready to deploy global air power and command an air operation wherever needed.



The **2nd Bomb Wing (2 BW)** is the host unit at Barksdale Air Force Base, responsible for managing the base's operations related to its B-52 bomber fleet. It oversees all aircraft maintenance, weapons loading, and training, supporting thousands of flying hours and sorties each year. As the cornerstone of the base, 2 BW ensures the readiness of personnel and resources while supporting national defense missions worldwide.



The **307th Bomb Wing** is an Air Force Reserve unit flying the B-52 and is the only bomb wing to operate two platforms (B-52 and detached B-1). It also has the only nuclear-certified squadron in the Air Force Reserve Command. The 307th BW is responsible for flying and maintaining 20 B-52 Stratofortress aircraft and provides all initial and requalification training for B-52 aircrew across the entire Air Force.



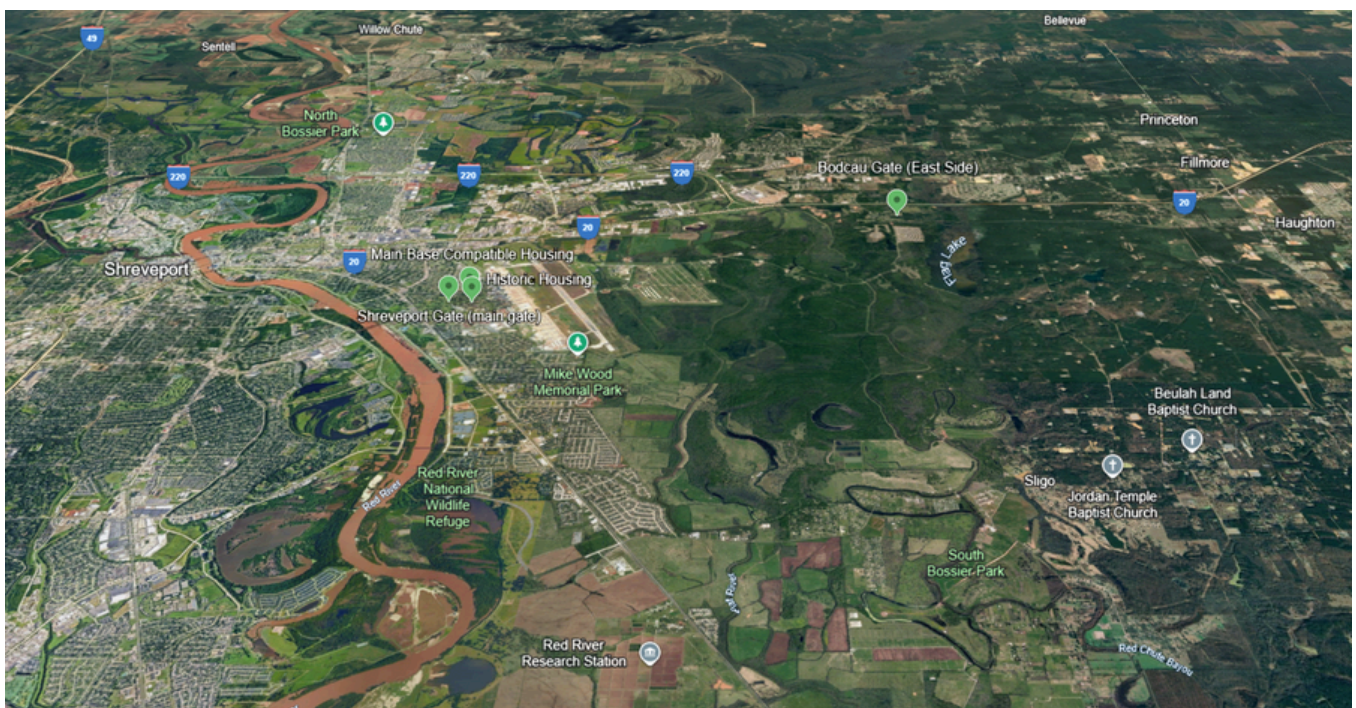
Barksdale AFB is also home to 31 associate units, including Det. 2, 57th Wing (B-52 Weapons School), the 49th Test Squadron (bomber operational testing), and the 548th Combat Training Squadron (Air Warrior II).

INSTALLATION MAP



Barksdale AFB, in 3D, showing main base to the west (Shreveport Gate) and the east reservation near Bodcau gate. North Facing.

- East Reservation is zoned for schools in Haughton. Main base is zoned for schools in Bossier, just north of the base.



Barksdale AFB, in 3D, in relation to Shreveport, North Bossier and South Bossier areas. North Facing.

INSTALLATION MAP



Main Base Neighborhoods



East Reservation Neighborhoods and Bodcau Gate

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

In this section discover additional resources within the local community.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Visit Shreveport Bossier - things to do plus much more!

Bossier Chamber of Commerce

- **Local discounts** [here](#)

Bossier, things to do | highlights in the region

Bossier, Parks and Rec | adult and youth rec and sports programs

Bossier City History

Shreveport Chamber of Commerce

Shreveport Public Assembly & Recreation (SPAR) information on 63 parks, 16 recreation centers, 5 swimming pools, 46 Playgrounds and more!

Downtown Shreveport Events

Shreveport Convention Center

RELOCATION GUIDES

- Military One Source Installation Booklet
- Barksdale AFB Newcomer Guide
- NW LA Military Support Foundation | Welcome to Barksdale! Info

LOCAL WEATHER AND HAZARDS

- NOAA Local Weather: Shreveport Office: <https://www.weather.gov/shv>
- Local Weather Alerts: NOAA: <https://www.weather.gov/nwr/>
- <https://www.ready.gov/alerts>
- Local Hazards to be aware: Bossier City Website

For the best local news in Shreveport-Bossier, major TV affiliates like [KTBS 3 \(ABC\)](#) and [KSLA News 12 \(CBS\)](#) offer comprehensive coverage.

Find local tickets and discounts on [vettickets.com](#)

Create an account and get access to over 3,400 ticket options all over the globe, and right here in Shreveport-Bossier.

Shreveport Bossier Military Affairs Council (MAC)

Supports those who serve while they are in the Shreveport/Bossier area. Provide scholarships (for active and reservists), hosts Celebrate Barksdale picnic (October), help to send airman home during the holidays and Roots for Boots and the bi-annual Airshow (coming 2027). **See all programs**

Email: ExecutiveDirector@sbmilitaryaffairs.com

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

LOUISIANA MILITARY LAWS AND VETERANS BENEFITS

- **Military and Veteran Benefits** - summary of state military and veteran benefits
- **Hunting and Fishing** - special licenses and permits
- **Louisiana State Parks** - special military rates
- **Louisiana Military Family Assistance Fund (MFA)**
 - The MFA provides financial assistance to Louisiana veterans and members of the Louisiana National Guard or Reserves who meet eligibility requirements. The MFA Board can approve assistance in an amount up to \$10,000 for one need-based claim in a 12-month period.
- **Louisiana Commercial Driver License (CDL) Military Skills Test Waiver**
- **State Tuition**
 - [see link](#) for more information on military tuition benefits.
 - Nonresident service members serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces who are stationed in Louisiana, and their dependents, are authorized residency for tuition purposes at Louisiana public colleges and universities.
- **Automobile Liability Insurance Premium Discount - Military Personnel**
 - Louisiana offers a 25% auto insurance discount for active-duty military, reservists, and National Guard members based in the state. This discount was expanded by a 2024 law to also include retired military and veterans with a 50% or greater disability rating. To get the discount, you must apply with your insurer by submitting the required documentation, such as military orders or a commander's letter.
- **Motor Vehicle Sale Tax Exemption**
 - Military personnel are exempt from payment of use tax on motor vehicles imported into Louisiana while on active duty, providing they have proof that sales tax was previously paid on their vehicle in one of the 50 states. In addition, a photocopy of their military ID and orders, or a statement from their commanding officer, verifying they are active duty military personnel is required.
 - Registration: Active-duty military and their spouses are exempt from needing Louisiana registration if their out-of-state registration and license plates are current and valid.
- **Driver License Issuance - Class of Licenses and Age Requirements**
- **Issue of Drivers License - Road Skills Tests**

SEARCH LOUISIANA LAWS

VOTING | SECRETARY OF STATE

- Voting in Louisiana
- Election Information

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Local and State Representatives

Caddo Parish is in Louisiana's 4th Congressional District.

Government Directory

Louisiana Representative

- Speaker Mike Johnson, District – 4 (R) Speaker of the House of Representatives
State Office: 2550 Hospital Dr., Ste. 248 Bossier City, LA 71111
Phone: (318) 840-0309

Louisiana Senators

- Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R) of Baton Rouge, Year elected: 2015
Shreveport Office: 401 Market St., Ste. 1018 Shreveport, LA 71101
Phone: (318) 798-3215
- John Kennedy (R) of Madisonville, Year elected: 2017
Shreveport Office: 401 Market St., Ste. 1050 Shreveport, LA 71101
Phone: (318) 670-5192

UNIQUE CUSTOMS

- Louisiana Folklore
- Explore Louisiana
- Cultural Traditions that may surprise you
- Mardi Gras

The fleur-de-lis, a stylized lily, reflects Louisiana's rich French heritage and enduring spirit. It symbolizes loyalty, resilience, and pride, appearing throughout the state's culture, history, and community.

Pronounced FLUR-duh-LEE





Welcome to Louisiana!

Louisiana, often called the “Pelican State,” is a place of vibrant culture, rich history, and natural beauty. From the lively streets of New Orleans with its jazz, cuisine, and festivals, to the serene bayous and wetlands that showcase the state’s unique ecosystems, Louisiana offers a lifestyle full of flavor, music, and community. Known for its warm hospitality, diverse heritage, and distinctive traditions, the state is a welcoming home for both families and individuals seeking a blend of Southern charm and modern amenities.

Living in Northwest Louisiana: Barksdale AFB and the Surrounding Community

Barksdale Air Force Base is located in Bossier City, part of the Shreveport-Bossier metropolitan area in Northwest Louisiana. The surrounding cities of Bossier City and Shreveport offer a welcoming small-city feel with the conveniences of urban living. Residents enjoy a variety of cultural attractions such as museums, theaters, and live music venues, as well as annual festivals that celebrate the region’s heritage. For outdoor enthusiasts, the area is rich in parks, lakes, and trails, providing plenty of opportunities for boating, fishing, and hiking.

Cost of living in Northwest Louisiana is generally affordable compared to national averages, making it easier for families and individuals to enjoy comfortable housing, good schools, and accessible healthcare.

The local cuisine reflects Louisiana’s renowned flavors, from Creole and Cajun dishes to classic Southern comfort food. Overall, living near Barksdale AFB provides a supportive military environment, a close-knit community, and a balance of work, recreation, and cultural experiences—all set against the backdrop of Louisiana’s unique charm and warmth.

State Info

Louisiana, reflecting its French heritage, is the only U.S. state with parishes instead of counties, one of just two states not divided into counties (the other is Alaska).

The **brown pelican** became Louisiana's official bird on July 27, 1966. It nests from South Carolina to Brazil. Pelicans are famous for their large bill, the lower portion of which has a pouch which may be greatly extended.

The large creamy-white bloom of the **magnolia** tree was designated the state flower in 1900 because of the abundance of trees throughout the state. The magnolia is an evergreen and the flower is usually fragrant. After the six to twelve petals of the flower have fallen away the large cone shaped fruit of the magnolia is exposed.

The official flag of Louisiana consists of a solid blue field, a pelican feeding its young, containing the motto of the state, “**Union, Justice and Confidence**”. It was adopted by an Act of the Legislature in 1912.

Louisiana’s official state flower is the **magnolia blossom**, adopted in 1900 for its beauty, fragrance, and its symbolism of the state’s strength and cultural heritage. The specific variety honored is the Southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*). In addition, Louisiana recognizes the Louisiana iris (*Iris giganticaerulea*) as its state wildflower.





Expanded Child Care

The Barksdale AFB Family Child Care program participates in several ECC options. These are designed to assist families with special child care needs.

Supplemental Child Care (SCC)

Augments a member's existing child care by providing care during official duty hours at the beginning/end of a 12+ consecutive hour shift that falls "outside of" the primary child care arrangement for children 6 weeks to 12 years of age.

Deployment Care

Offers free child care for children ages 12 and under of Active Duty, National Guard & Reserve members assigned to an AF or Joint Base AF-led installation. Services used before, during and/or after member's assignment in support of contingency operations. *Remote Care now available.

Extended Duty Care (EDC)

Provides child care to parents who have unexpected shift changes, such as working late, work on weekends or other child care emergencies at no additional cost to the parent.

Subsidy Care

Provides child care to parents that have full-time care children up to age 3, special needs and swing/midnight shift.

Home Community Care (HCC)

Provides free care for Guard and Reserve members (all branches) for primary Unit Training Assembly weekends.

PCS Care

Allows 20 hours of free child care for parents of ALL branches of service that are arriving to, or leaving, an AF base installation. *Provided by the Air Force Aid Society. Vouchers at the Airman & Family Readiness Center.

Wounded Warrior Care

Provides free child care for families of Wounded Warriors who have short-term care needs.

Bereavement Care

Offers free care for families who have an immediate family fallen military member.

Emergency Medical Care

Provides child care for families experiencing medical issues with immediate family member(s).

For more information, call (318) 456-9688 or
email 2FSS.Barksdale.Childcare@us.af.mil

Veteran's S.T.E.A.M. Initiative

Project Overview

The Veterans STEAM Initiative is a semester-long project designed to connect military-dependent students with local veterans through meaningful storytelling, design, and hands-on STEM creativity. Students interview a veteran, transform their story into a visual or physical representation, and honor them at a community showcase.



Purpose & Goals

- Strengthen intergenerational connections between students and veterans
- Preserve veteran stories through student-created digital and physical artifacts
- Promote empathy, communication, and civic responsibility
- Develop STEAM skills through design, engineering, and technology tools
- Create a lasting tribute honoring veterans at BAFB through a static display

Student Experience

Students will:

- Conduct a guided interview with a pre-selected veteran
- Analyze and translate the veteran's story into a meaningful representation
- Use advanced STEAM tools including:
 - Digital illustration software
 - Laser etching & cutting equipment
 - 3D modeling & 3D printing
- Present their final project to the veteran and their family during a formal showcase event

Community Partners

- Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home (primary interview partner)
- Barksdale Air Force Base (showcase and potential permanent display site)
- Local veteran organizations and community supporters

Impact

The Veterans STEAM Initiative gives students a powerful opportunity to honor those who served while creating purposeful, skill-building STEAM projects. It strengthens community ties, inspires appreciation for military service, and empowers students to use STEM to tell human stories.

Mission HydroHarvest

[go back to pg 27](#)

Hands-On. Real-World. Future-Ready STEM.

Project Overview

STARBASE Louisiana is establishing a small greenhouse and aquaponics system to provide year-round, hands-on STEM learning for military-dependent students (grades 6–12). The system is fully enclosed, environmentally safe, and designed for long-term project-based learning in sustainability, agriculture, and engineering.

Core Components

- Fish: Catfish (hardy, safe, contained)
- Raft-Growing: Lettuce (cool seasons) & Basil (warm seasons)
- Additional Greenhouse Crops: Tomatoes, Squash, Zucchini.
- System Type: AP-1 Aquaponics System + 10' x 12' greenhouse

Educational Impact:

Students gain real STEM experience through:

- Sustainable agriculture & water-cycle systems
- Environmental monitoring and data analysis
- Engineering design, testing, and system troubleshooting
- Long-term inquiry projects aligned to NGSS and DoD STEM goals
- Collaboration, teamwork, and real-world problem solving

Long-Term Program Goals

This project is designed to grow far beyond the greenhouse:

- Create a BAFB Student-Run Farmers' Market
- Integrate Airmen as Mentors & Support Partners
- Build STEM Pathways in Sustainability & Agriculture

Impact

Mission: HydroHarvest expands Advanced Programs by creating a living laboratory that enhances STEM learning, deepens BAFB engagement, and prepares students for future STEM careers through authentic, hands-on experiences.



Created by: Krista Augustson, Military Liaison, Bossier Chamber of Commerce
Current as of January 13, 2026

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