



Military Family Services Program Policy
Populations Served

Effective Date: 23 August 2011

Supersedes MFSP: Parameters for Practice (2004) Populations Served

Rationale:

The central public resources devoted to the Military Family Services Program (MFSP) are intended to mitigate the unique circumstance of Canadian Forces (CF) family life, including: frequent mobility, the prolonged or frequent absence of the CF member from home due to training or operations, and the risk or reality of injury or death.

The mandated target group of the MFSP is defined to reflect the intent of the resources provided. Although the policy does not preclude the Canadian/Military Family Resource Centre (C/MFRC) from extending its services to others within the broader community,¹ funding from Director Military Family Services (DMFS) is specific to the 'populations served' as noted below.

Populations Served

Funding from DMFS supports the delivery of the MFSP to:

- Full-time CF personnel² who are married, common-law or a single parent;
- Spouses³ of full-time CF personnel;
- Children, step-children⁴ and/or other dependent relative(s)⁵ of full-time CF personnel.

In addition, the services of the MFSP are extended before, during and three years after a deployment⁶ to:

- Parents of full-time CF personnel;
- Parents, spouse, children, step-children and dependent relative(s) of impacted Reserve Force personnel; and
- Parents, spouse, children, step-children and dependent relative(s) of Non-Public Fund (NPF) and Department of National Defence (DND) civilian employees deployed with the CF on a mission outside of Canada.

And, in the event a CF member dies while serving, the MFSP is extended to the members of his or her family in perpetuity, and to other individuals of significance to the deceased as required.

¹ With concurrence of the CO, individual C/MFRCs can respond to unique local community needs by expanding the range of services and/or the populations served.

² Full-time Regular, Class B and Class C Reserve Force.

³ The term "spouse" should be broadly interpreted; CF policy recognizes both common-law and same-sex partners.

⁴ Children and step-children up to an including 18 years of age.

⁵ Dependent relative as defined by Revenue Canada in accordance with the Income Tax Act.

⁶ "Deployment" is the temporary relocation of military forces or CF personnel on a mission to an area of operations, exclusive of normal training or exercise.