

# Former Spouse Determination for ID Cards

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**Introduction** This guide provides the procedures for determining eligibility for a former spouse to receive an ID card with entitlements. Former Spouse Determination can **ONLY** be issued by a branch of Service Project Officer, **NOT** SSM or VO users.

**WARNING: Former spouses only have a 90 day window from the date of divorce to enroll in TRICARE benefits. Once that window has passed, they'll have to wait until the next open season (which could be up to a year).**

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**Definition** The definition of a former spouse is someone who is divorced from a member (Reserve, Active Duty or Retiree). It is **NOT** a widow. A widow stays on a sponsor's record indefinitely. It is not someone who is legally separated. A legally separated spouse stays on the sponsor's record, renewing one year at a time.

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**Reference** (a) [32 CFR 161.19 – Benefits for Former Spouses](#)  
(b) [Air Force Instruction 36-3026 IP, Volume 1](#)

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**IMPORTANT** Benefits terminate the day of divorce, even though the ID card may not have expired. Only the member's branch of service designated office can determine the **INITIAL** eligibility for a DoD former spouse. Once a determination is in DEERS/RAPIDS from a valid source (see contact info below), all renewals can be completed at any site.

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**Required Documentation** The following documents **MUST** be in the Documentation Tab in DEERS/RAPIDS:

- Marriage Certificate
- Divorce Decree
- One of the following (DD-214, Statement of Service, Point Statement)
- [CG Form 2020C](#) (for Coast Guard only)
- Social Security Card
- Valid Photo ID
- Former Spouse Determination (can **ONLY** be issued by branch of service project office, **NOT** SSM or VO users)

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## Former Spouse Determination for ID Cards, Continued

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**Procedures**      When a former spouse arrives at your site, follow these steps:

<b>Step</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1</b>	Ask the former spouse if they have any documentation authorizing former spouse entitlements from a valid project office. If they do, proceed to issue them the ID card.
<b>2</b>	If they do not have a former spouse determination, pull them up using their (former spouse) social security number.
<b>3</b>	If their profile appears, look in the documentation tab for a determination.
<b>4</b>	If a determination exists, issue the ID card.
<b>5</b>	If no profile appears or there is no determination document, have the former spouse contact the Service Project Officer for the branch of Service
<b>Note:</b>	If they are Coast Guard former spouses, and they have brought all documentation (except the determination), scan and email the documents to <a href="mailto:Tina.A.Martin@uscg.mil">Tina.A.Martin@uscg.mil</a> . Once complete, contact Tina Martin at (785) 339-3441 to see how long it will take for a determination.

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**Contact Info for Each Branch**      See below.

<b>If member was</b>	<b>Call</b>
Coast Guard	(785) 339-3441
NOAA	(301) 713-0850 ext 158
PHS	(240) 453-6038
Army (Active & Reserve)	(888) 276-9472
Army National Guard	(866) 810-9183
Air Force (Active Duty, Reserve & Retired)	(800) 525-0102
Air National Guard	(800) 525-0102
Navy (Active Duty, Reserve & Retired)	(901) 874-3362
Marine Corps (Active, Reserve & Retired)	(800) 336-4649

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