

FLAG VOICE # 505
In-home Family Child Care (FCC) Initiatives

The recent Women's Retention Study and Holistic Analysis highlighted an ever-growing demand for childcare services to meet the needs of our working parents. In response, the Family Child Care (FCC) Program has expanded to offer more support to our members and dependents. The FCC program affords an opportunity for Coast Guard spouses living in Coast Guard-owned family housing to open a child care business in their home. These businesses in turn offer an additional option for safe and dependable childcare for our members. FCC providers may only be active duty spouses, however active duty, reservists, and civilians may utilize FCC providers for in-home child care.

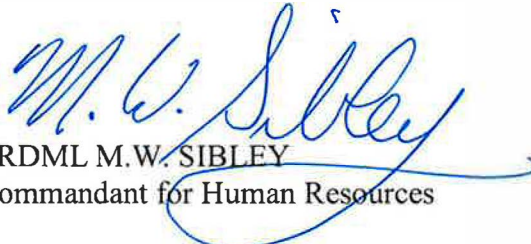
FCC has recently been expanded to include the following initiatives to provide additional support to FCC providers:

- FCC providers may request assignment to Coast Guard-owned family housing that exceeds their actual bedroom qualification by one bedroom, on a space-available basis. This opportunity is limited to FCC providers operating in Coast Guard-owned housing and does not extend to Department of Defense or government-leased homes.
- The Coast Guard Foundation (CGF) is launching a grant program to offset costs required to establish a child care business. The FCC grants have been approved for a 2-year pilot at the following locations: Base Kodiak, Training Center Cape May, Sector New York, and Training Center Petaluma. These units will receive a total of \$5,000 to distribute to five Coast Guard spouses equally (\$1,000 each). The CGF has outlined the pilot program on their website at: <https://coastguardfoundation.org/news/coast-guard-foundation-family-childcare-center-grant>. The FCC grant application process is available at: <https://coastguardfoundation.org/spousesgrant>

Additional guidance may be found in ACN 038/19 as well as on the FCC website: www.dcms.uscg.mil/worklife/child-care/family-child-care-FCC/

Questions may be directed to the following:

- FCC Program: Dr. Marta E. Denchfield, Chief, Behavioral Health Services Division at 202-475-5253 or at Marta.E.Denchfield@uscg.mil
- For the Coast Guard Foundation: Ms. Sage Williams, Program Director, at 860-535-0786 or SWilliams@coastguardfoundation.org
- FCC providers should be directed to COMDT (CG-1333) POC: Mr. James R. Jeffery at 202-475-5411 or James.R.Jeffery2@uscg.mil


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