

THE READINESS REPORT

FOR INDIVIDUAL RESERVISTS

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LEADERSHIP



*Col. Kelli B. Smiley
Commander*



*Chief Master Sergeant Billie M. Baber
Group Superintendent*



*Master Sgt. Christopher J. Gracey
First Sergeant*

ABOUT HQ RIO

The Headquarters Individual Reservist Readiness and Integration Organization (HQ RIO) is located at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado. Its mission is to seamlessly integrate wartime-ready Individual Reserve forces to meet Air Force and Combatant Commander requirements.

HQ RIO standardizes the processes for the Individual Reserve program. The IR force is comprised of Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMAs), who are accountable to the Air Force Reserve Command and assigned to funded, active-component positions, and Participating Individual Ready Reservists (PIRRs), who participate for points towards retirement only. There are more than 2,700 enlisted members and more than 4,500 officers in the IR. IMAs and PIRR support more than 50 major commands, combatant commanders and government agencies.

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www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/hqrio/Detachments.aspx



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RIO Connect App



Watch the "What is the Individual Reserve" video on YouTube:
<https://youtu.be/r0bMSNnYhUE>.

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NEWS BRIEFS

ARPC highlights RIO professionals

ARPC congratulated SSgt Amy Greenwood (IMA), and Master Sgt. Christopher Gracey, after they won ARPC Outstanding Airman of the Year and First Sergeant of the Year, respectively. The winners are competing at the AFRC MAJCOM OAY being held during the first week of March. Should they be selected as the AFRC winner they will go on to compete in their categories at the Air Force level. The 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year awards recognize 12 enlisted personnel for their superior leadership, job performance, community involvement and personal achievements.

2018 Annual A1 Awards AFRC Nominees Announced

Headquarters Readiness and Integration Organization would like to congratulate the Air Force Reserve Command nominees for the 2018 Annual A1 Awards. For further information go to https://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1766442/2018-annual-a1-awards-afrc-nominees-announced/fbclid/IwAR13va_0QEToCTjlbp6J1WIGqlUQt-JVyaFfd4jozZ2PcPp1qxuUDw1bKwKA/

Nominations for Outstanding IR of the Year accepted until Mar. 22

Nomination packages for the 2018 Outstanding Individual Reservist of the Year Award are due to your servicing HQ RIO Detachment no later than March 22, 2019. This award recognizes Individual Mobilization Augmentees and Participating Individual Ready Reserve members who distinguish themselves from their peers through job performance, community involvement and personal achievements. For further information go to <https://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1765511/nominations-for-outstanding-ir-of-the-year-accepted-until-mar-22/>

HQ RIO SNCO recognized as one of Buckley's Best



Senior Master Sgt. Elisha Olivas, Superintendent of Force Management at Headquarters Readiness and Integration Organization at Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., was recognized as one of Buckley's Best by Col. Troy L. Endicott, 460th Space Wing commander during the annual State of the Base Luncheon jointly hosted by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and the Aurora Rotary. Olivas was highlighted before the Defense Council for her resiliency, determination and professionalism. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Eric Amidon)

Travel tips for Individual Reservists

did
you
know?

As of March 3, 2019, approximately 280 travel vouchers have been sent back to the member awaiting additional information or corrections? Members should log into MyPers to check the status of their voucher. If the voucher status is "waiting" there is an item missing from the submitted package and the IR Travel Office is awaiting a response. Comments are annotated in the system to indicate what specifically is needed to continue the payment process. If key documentation is missing, then the necessary documentation needs to be added to the specific ticket in myPers. The most common missing items are signatures on forms and receipts when required for reimbursement. Once a voucher package is complete in myPers, it typically takes 10 days for reimbursement.



Refer a friend to the Air Force Reserves

The Get1Now Program is a great way to keep the Air Force Reserve strong. Reservists can refer people they believe will make a great addition to the Air Force Reserve. Once a referral is verified as a qualified lead, the Reservist becomes eligible for one of many prizes. Visit the Get1Now website for info on how to refer candidates and to see the various prizes available at www.Get1Now.us.

Air Force's fiscal 2020 budget focuses on modernization, readiness, confronting global threats

By Charles Pope, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs



U.S. Air Force graphic by Alexx Pons

ARLINGTON, Va. -- The Air Force's budget would rise to \$165 billion in fiscal year 2020 under the White House spending plan unveiled March 12, a \$10 billion increase that allows the service to grow, modernize and effectively adapt to an array of changing global threats.

As written, the proposed budget attaches numbers to larger strategic goals that include the need to meet challenges posed by China and a resurgent Russia, provide a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent while continuing to disrupt violent extremists in a cost-effective manner.

The spending plan provides funding for the Air Force to continue restoring readiness with special attention on training, maintenance, spare parts and flying hours.

The proposed budget for fiscal 2020 provides money to modernize nuclear ballistic missile operations, strategic bombers, nuclear air-launched cruise missiles, intercontinental ballistic missiles as well as associated nuclear command, control and communications systems.

One of the more significant additions to this year's budget is a \$14 billion investment in the Air Force's space portfolio, a 17 percent increase over the previous year. This investment includes \$72.4 million to establish the headquarters for Space Force, which will be a new service within the Department of the Air Force.

The budget allows the Air Force to continue its dominance in space while also providing funding to train 1,480 new pilots, an increase from 1,211 trained this year. Overlaying all of it is funding to continue the progress on improving readiness across the Air Force's 690,000 total force. Related is a 3.1 percent pay raise for service members as part of the larger Department of Defense budget.

Taken as a whole, the proposed budget for fiscal year 2020, which begins Oct. 1, 2019, continues Air Force efforts to add equipment and personnel, training and support to offset an era of lean budgets. As Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson has said, the new budget is crafted to align the Air Force closer to the National Defense Strategy.

To get there the budget calls for purchasing an additional 48 F-35A Lightning II and eight upgraded F-15EX Strike Eagle fighters. It provides funding for 12 KC-46A Pegasus tankers as well as funds for third-generation GPS satellite and money to finance four launches of space vehicles for national security.

Additionally, the budget proposal includes funds for training and for modernizing live and virtual ranges and infrastructure that provide realistic – and crucial – training capabilities against the most advanced threats. The Nevada Test and Training Range, the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, the Utah Test and Training Range, the Space Test and Training Range and several smaller range complexes will receive targeted funding to better replicate the capabilities of peer adversaries.

Related to that focus, the fiscal 2020 budget includes funding to underwrite 1.1 million peacetime flying hours, the maximum amount of sustainable training, to prepare pilots and Airmen to be effective members of joint forces.

While the Air Force budget proposal is carefully crafted and is a proxy for the service's priorities, the document represents an early, and uncertain, starting point of a months-long process. Congress retains the ultimate authorities on how tax dollars are spent with deliberation expected to stretch until the current fiscal year ends Sept. 30 and possibly beyond.

HQ ARPC Trains Total Force Service Center Technicians

By Staff Sgt. Katrina M. Brisbin, HQ ARPC

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas -- Air Reserve Component subject matter experts from Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center conducted training with Total Force Service Center customer service representatives (CSR) at Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, March 11-14.

The training was designed to provide TFSC CSRs with knowledge to answer a broader, more in-depth range of questions while allowing HQ ARPC to work alongside the CSRs and provide real time answers.

Team members conducted formal training sessions to provide insights for the most common types of calls regarding complex processes which are unique to the ARC. These topics include retirements, evaluations, GI Benefits, the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) and casualty assistance procedures.

HQ ARPC, located at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado, oversees personnel actions for over 1.3 Million customers including guard and reserve members. From initial entry to retirement, the center

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provides support for generations of Airmen throughout their military careers and beyond. TFSC representatives are the front lines for customer service for Air Reserve Component members as well as active duty retirees. As representatives are available 24/7, 361 days a year, it's crucial they are up to date on the policies, service, and support systems available to that customer base.

"As the ARC SMEs, we have an inherent responsibility to explain the unique processes applicable to our customer base which CSRs field on our behalf," said 2nd Lt. Nicholas Phipps, HQ ARPC Personnel and Total Force Services Directorate (DPT) deputy operations officer.

Training between HQ ARPC and the CSRs is an extension of the centralization that took place on Aug. 1, 2018. The training is part of a broader Knowledge Management initiative designed to better serve HQ ARPC's customer base. Topics for the sessions are based on top trends that HQ ARPC notices regarding calls they receive from the CSRs in San Antonio.

"This training gave us the opportunity to ask specific questions that we frequently receive and get real-time answers directly from the source," said Kay Thomas, a TFSC technician. "It allows us to all be on the same page as a team and provide the support our customers need."

HQ ARPC will conduct such trainings quarterly to ensure the CSRs are fully informed and up to date on recent changes within programs and processes.

"Ultimately, our goal is to provide a well-trained group of CSRs to reduce the time our customers will spend on hold which will result in a reduction in the time it takes for personnel actions to be completed by HQ ARPC," Phipps said.

The Total Force Service Center is a centralized location that provides real-time personnel services for all components of the Air Force. They can be reached 24/7, 361 days a year by calling 1-800-525-0102, 210-565-0102 or DSN 665-0102.

Air Force seeks triathletes for Armed Forces competition

Air Force Services Activity

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas (AFNS) --

The Air Force is looking for men and women for the 2019 Armed Forces Triathlon June 19-23, in Ventura County, California.

Applications are due April 26 for coaching staffs and May 3 for athletes. Active-duty, guard and reserve members can apply through the APPTRAC system. Access the application site at <https://cloud.mwr.army.mil/apptrac/atwsc/apptrac.wsc/wb1000.html?wbp=5>.

Commanders, supervisors, athletes, coaches and trainers must create an account to complete the application process using APPTRAC.

Continued support of the Air Force Fitness and Sports Program enables the Air Force to build strong, competitive teams who showcase the service at Armed Forces Championships and tournaments, said Air Force Services Activity officials.



CY19A Reserve School Selection Board Public Release

Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center officials have released the results of the semi-annual CY19A Reserve School Selection Board as of Friday, March 22, 2019, at 1 p.m. MT.

The selection board convened at HQ ARPC Feb. 4-7, 2019, to match selected members to their respective schools based upon the needs of the Air Force Reserve and consideration for the individual's school preferences. Board members selected 143 of 618 officers considered.

A list of those selected can be found by logging into myPers or viewing the official list on the ARPC website.

For more information, call the Total Force Service Center at 1-800-525-0102. Questions specific to the RSSB process can also be directly addressed by emailing: arpc.dpaf.rssb@us.af.mil.

RIO Connect IMA Mobile Wingman App



The [RIO Connect IMA Mobile Wingman App](#) is the official mobile app of the Headquarters Individual Reservist Readiness and Integration Organization (HQ RIO) and is designed for Individual Reservists.

