



26 JUNE 2025

LONE STAR

Submit your content for The Pulse: old-ict@sg.tmd.texas.gov

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Luke 9:11b–17

Troops, our Gospel today tells about the feeding of the five thousand. Jesus instructs the crowd to recline, and they do so on the grass. Taking the loaves and dried fish, Jesus makes a meal that satisfies the enormous crowd. They are hungry, tired, worn out from their exertions, and Jesus gives them sustenance for the day.

For Thomas Aquinas, the great metaphor for the Eucharist is sustenance, food for the journey. The Eucharist is daily food, nourishment to get us through the day to day. How effective would we be if we never ate, or ate only on special occasions and in a festive environment? Not very. So, in the spiritual life, we must eat and drink or we will not have strength.

Is this just meant in some vague symbolic way? No, rather in a vividly analogical way. For just as the body needs physical nourishment, the spirit needs spiritual nourishment, and there is no getting around this law.

"Well, it's no big deal if I stay away from Mass and refrain from receiving Communion." Think again! NEWS ArmyTimes MilitaryTimes AirForceTimes Strikes only set back Iran's nuclear program by months, US report says

Fort named after Gen. Robert E. Lee will now honor a Buffalo Soldier

Former sergeant pleads guilty to trying to sell secrets to China

Advocates recruit vets to attend Afghan allies' immigration hearings

Lawmakers press VA for details on DOGE access to vets records

Orders Ended? You may be eligible for <u>UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS</u> through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

<u>Your Next Mission:</u>

Transitioning from military to civilian life can be a major shift, but you're not alone. A variety of resources are available to support your next steps—whether you're exploring a new career, going back to school, or focusing on personal well-being.

From career counseling and resume assistance to job placement services, education benefits, and mental wellness programs, help is available when and where you need it. Connect with your local Transition Assistance Office to get started.





FREE



DID YOU SERVE IN THE ARMED FORCES?

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

REGARDLESS OF DISCHARGE STATUS!

Every Wednesday 1pm - 5pm H.E.A.R.T.S. Veterans Museum 463 TX-75, Huntsville, TX 77320

Counseling Peer support/mentoring Assistance with resources (food, housing, employment, VA benefits, etc.)





Healthy Minds. Meaningful Lives.





TEXAS MILITARY DEPARTMENT $\star \star \star \star$ STATE TUITION ASSISTANCE

Need Money for College?

Apply Now for the 2025 Fall Semester!



Fall Application opened 01 Jun 2025 closes 03 Aug 2025



ABOUT US

State Tuition Assistance (STA) is an education benefit for Texas Service Members (TXARNG, TXANG, TXSG), **funded by Texas for Texans.** We believe in the power of education to transform lives and aim to **support resourceful minds committed to making a positive impact through learning.**

Application packet available at: https://tmd.texas.gov/state-tuition-assistance-program

WHY STATE TUITION ASSISTANCE?

- Awards up to **\$10,000** per Fall & Spring semesters.
- STA is no longer a reimbursement program; you can register for your classes without paying up front.
- Available for up to **10 semesters** or five years.
- Provides up to **12 semester hours of tuition and mandatory fees**.
- For use exclusively at **Texas colleges and universities**, **public and private**.
- Ability to **combine** with other education grants, scholarships, and benefits.
- Applicable for undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees, as well as vocational, technical & academic certificates, and credentials.

ELIGIBILITY

- Active member in good standing with the TXARNG, TXANG, TXSG
- Enlisted (E1-E9), Officers (O1-O5), and Warrant Officers (W1-W3)
- AGRs
- Must have completed one: Basic training, Basic camp or OCS



Contact us & find out how we can help fulfill your educational goals: (512) 782-5270



MODERN STATES YOUR PATHWAY TO FREE COLLEGE CREDIT

Pass the Modern States free online class and get a voucher to take CLEP courses towards core college requirements.

WHAT IS CLEP?

The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) lets you earn college credit by passing exams in subjects you already know saving you money and accelerating your path to a degree. Over 2,900 colleges and universities accept CLEP credits!

MODERN STATES -Free College Credits Online

• Free Online Courses: Modern States offers 32+ self-paced, online CLEP prep courses taught by college professors. All materials, textbooks, and mesources are included—completely free!

• Exam Fee Vouchers: Complete a Modern States course and receive a voucher to cover your CLEP exam fee. Modern States will also reimburse your test center fee!

• Flexible Learning: Study on your schedule, at your pace, from anywhere.

• **Support for All:** Open to high school students, college students, adult learners, and anyone seeking affordable college credit.

HOW IT WORKS

1. **Check CLEP Credit Policies:** Confirm your college accepts CLEP credits.

2. Sign Up: Create a free account at modernstates.org.

3. Enroll & Learn: Choose your CLEP course and complete the lessons and practice questions.

4. Get Your Voucher: Finish the course to receive your free CLEP exam voucher.

5. **Register for CLEP:** Sign up for your exam at clep.collegeboard.org and use your voucher to pay.

6. **Take the Exam:** Schedule and complete your CLEP test at a local center.

7. **Modern States pay for CLEP exam:** Modern States provides a CLEP exam voucher, which covers the cost of the CLEP exam, for students who pass a Modern States course.

8. Earn College Credit: Send your CLEP scores to your college and get closer to your degree!

Visit modernstates.org or clep.collegeboard.org/practice





CREDIT CONVERSION: YOUR EDUCATIONAL BRIDGE TO THE ACADEMY

WHAT IS CREDIT CONVERSION?

The Mid-Atlantic Center for Emergency Management & Public Safety at Frederick Community College (MACEM&PS|FCC) awards college credit for eligible FEMA course completions. This process is called credit conversion.

WHY CHOOSE FREDERICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

- Affordable at \$90/credit (60 credits = \$5,400)
- 3 easy steps to complete and convert eligible FEMA courses to college credit
- Official transcripts are readily available upon completion
- Relevant coursework in public safety
- Personal support Monday Friday at 301.624.2854 or creditconversion@frederick.edu
- Credits awarded as quickly as 2 weeks

	MACEM&PS FCC	Comparable Services
Processing Time After Receiving Official Course Record	1-2 Business Days	5-10 Business Days
Transcript Services Cost	\$0	\$495
Transcript Service Renewal Fee	\$0	\$295
Cost Per Credit	\$90	\$75
Official Transcript Fee (per transcript)	\$8-\$10.50 plus sales tax	\$20



LEARN MORE:

FEMA Credit Conversion Program *Earn college credits for completion of eligible FEMA Courses* frederick.edu/femacc • creditconversion@frederick.edu

COLLEGE CREDIT Step 1 Register for a FEMA Student ID. cdp.dhs.gov/femasid / Step 2 **Complete FEMA courses** that are eligible for college credit. macem.org/downloads/fccc ourselist.aspx/ Step 3 Request your eligible FEMA courses be converted to college credit at Frederick Community College.

3 EASY STEPS TO EARN

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macem.org/femais.aspx/

Frederick Community College (FCC) prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of age, ancestry, citizenship status, color, creed, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, genetic information, marital status, mental or physical disability, national origin, race, religious affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status in its activities, admissions, educational programs, and employment. • Under the ADA and Section 504, FCC makes every effort to accommodate individuals with disabilities for College-sponsored events and programs. For FCC employees needing accommodations, including interpreting, please email humanresources@frederick.edu. • For students and others with accommodation needs or questions, please call 301.846/2408, or to request sign language interpreter services, please email interpreting@frederick.edu. Sign language interpreters will not be automatically provided for College-sponsored events without a request for services. Requests must be made at least five workdays before a scheduled event to guarantee accommodations. • If your request partains to accessible transportation for a College-sponsored tip, please submity your request at least 21 calendar days in advance. Requests made less than 21 calendar days in advance may not be able to be guaranteed.



LONE STAR PULSE 26 JUNE 2025

FOB Eagle

Grammy's Cookie Convoy – Cookie Day at FOB Eagle 🍩

We are proud to celebrate another heartwarming **Cookie Day at FOB Eagle**, made possible by **Grammy's Cookie Convoy** — a beloved supporter of our service members worldwide.

Since 2005, Grammy's Cookie Convoy has delivered more than just cookies — they've delivered *Chocolate Chip Hugs* to our troops, spreading joy and appreciation across the globe. Their heartfelt "Thank You for Your Service" cards and delicious cookies have been a consistent morale boost for all who receive them. Since 2022, they have stood beside the brave men and women of the **OLS Mission**, providing year-round support and sweetness that lifts spirits and reminds every soldier they are seen, valued, and appreciated. As we mark another year of their incredible support, we want to send a big, heartfelt **THANK YOU** to Grammy's Cookie Convoy for being a constant source of comfort, encouragement, and cookie-filled smiles.



	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
7 DAY FORECAST FOR EAGLE PASS	98° 78°	98° 79°	100° 80°	100° 78°	101° 79°	99° 78°	99° 79°

	PAY DATES: EAGLE, LONE STAR, TXSG								
	TASK FORCE	Period	Days	Date Paid		Period	Days	Date Paid	
	TF EAGLE/LONE STAR	30 APR - 29 MAY 25	30	5-6 JUN		30 MAY - 29 JUN 25	31	70111	
OLS Rally Point	TXSG	01 MAY - 30 MAY 25	30			31 MAY - 30 JUN 25	31	7-8 JUL	









JOIN OPERATION HOMEFRONT ----- FOR A SCHOOL SUPPLY -----**DISTRIBUTION EVENT**

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BRIGADE®

- both currently serving and those no longer serving in the military, or
- Eligibility Category 5:
 Post 9/11 wounded, ill or injured service member of any rank, both currently service
 All ranks, Active Duty, Guard and Reserves, any duty status, or
 Transitioning service members within 12 months of their discharge/retirement date

Friday, Aug. 1st | 9am-12pm

Dyess AFB Fitness Center

525 Avenue B, Dyess AFB, TX 79607

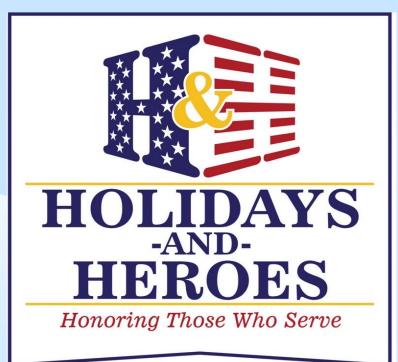
To register, scan the QR code or visit MyOperationHomefront.org

7 DAY FORECAST FOR MC ALLEN	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
	93° 77°	94° 78°	93° 78°	91° 76°	92° 77°	93° 78°	94° 78°

	PAY DATES: EAST, TXSG, WEST										
	TASK FORCE	Period	Days	Date Paid		Period	Days	Date Paid			
	TF WEST/EAST	29 APR - 28 MAY	30	5-6 JUN	5-6 JUN	5-6 JUN	5-6 IUN		29 MAY - 28 JUN 25	31	70.00
OLS Rally Point	TXSG	01 MAY - 30 MAY	30					31 MAY - 30 JUN 25	31	7-8 JUL	







Good Day..!!

Please share with your SM/FM.

Holidays and Heroes will soon be opening the registration for their Military Family Christmas Party. If you would like to participate, please reply to the link below and they will send you the link on 3JUL25. You must be E1-E6, and be assigned to a unit the DFW area.

The event will take place on December 7, 2025, 12:00 - 15:00. Approved applicants will be notified by October 1st. At that time, you will receive a wish list to fill out.

https://holidaysheroes.formstack.com/forms/ 2024 h h application copy

"Holidays & Heroes primary purpose is to provide holiday assistance for military families in need". https://www.holidaysandheros.org/



			PAY DAT	ES: EAST, TX	KSG, V	VEST				
	TASK FORCE	Period	Days	Date Paid		Period	Days	Date Paid		
	TF WEST/EAST	29 APR - 28 MAY	30	5-6 JUN	5.6 11 10	29 MAY - 28 JUN 25	31	7.0.11.11		
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REDEPLOYMENT RESOURCES: For Your Family Members & Loved Ones



<u>Mental Health After Deployment: What to Know</u> <u>and Where to Get Help</u>

Returning home from deployment can be challenging in a variety of ways for service members. Not only will they be adjusting to a new routine, but they may also be wrestling with strong feelings of fear, sadness or helplessness from their experiences while deployed. While some combat and operational stress reactions are common and heal with time, others may require professional attention. By recognizing the warning signs and knowing how to get help, you and your service member can become more resilient in the face of reintegration challenges.



<u>What to Expect: An Overview of Reunion and</u> <u>Reintegration</u>

Deployment is coming to an end, and service members are finally heading home. Next comes the reunion and reintegration phase. There are five key stages within reunion and reintegration. Learn about the timeline and what you may expect during each stage.



Creating a New Normal as a Family

Even if your family has experienced deployment before, this time things may be different. Things may have changed, and it's okay if you're not able to go back to how things used to be, before the deployment. Focus on how you can make things comfortable and normal for the family.



Five Tips to Support Children During Reintegration

Returning home after deployment is exciting, but it can also be an adjustment for you and your loved ones. For children in particular, it may be emotional or confusing. To help your children with the transition, it's important to develop a plan that's personalized for their age, level of understanding and development stage.



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Homeless & Housing Assistance

Texas Veterans Commission – Homeless Veterans Program

Works to reduce and prevent veteran homelessness by connecting individuals to essential services. Phone: 512-962-4681

& Website: veteransmentalhealth.texas.gov/homelessness

VA Homeless Programs

Supports Veterans who are homeless or at risk. A few questions connect you to a local VA staff member for help. Available for low-income and very low-income Veterans and their families.

C Phone: 877-424-3838

Website: va.gov/homeless/nationalcallcenter.asp

2-1-1 Texas

A statewide service offering information on affordable housing, shelters, accessibility modifications, and subsidized housing options.

Phone: Dial 2-1-1
Website: WWW.211texas.org

Homes for Our Troops

Builds and donates specially adapted custom homes for severely injured post-9/11 Veterans to help them rebuild their lives.

& Website: www.hfotusa.org



Personal Financial Counselors (PFCs)

Free, one-on-one support to help you manage your finances and create a personalized homebuying or budgeting plan.

Flyer: https://tmd.texas.gov/Data/Sites/1/media/next-mission/2025/pfc-flyer_june24.pdf

Military OneSource – Home Financing Assistance (Not available to non-veteran TXSG.)

Offers guidance on saving, home buying, refinancing, and navigating VA loan benefits.

S Phone: 800-342-9647

Website: <u>militaryonesourceconnect.org</u>

VA Home Loans

Benefit program offering low interest rates, limited closing costs, and no private mortgage insurance (PMI) required.

Website: <u>benefits.va.gov/homeloans</u>

Texas Veterans Land Board

Provides home, land, and home improvement loans for Texas Veterans.

Section 252-8387

Website: glo.texas.gov/veterans









OPERATION GOOD JOBS is a program dedicated to assisting veterans and their immediate family members connect to sustainable employment opportunities while exploring ways to increase their skills, continue their education or connect to other services in the community. This program provides a dedicated Success Coach equipped to work with those that have served our country to transition into civilian life, use their military experience to advance their careers, and grow a sense of purpose for their lives.

BENEFITS

In order to address the individual needs of those who have served our country and may face the challenges of transitioning into a civilian world, advance beyond their military careers, and regain a new sense of pride, dignity and purpose each individual is offered:

- Individualized Career and Financial Plan
- Skills assessments
- One-on-one career coaching
- Employment preparation courses
- And other skill building classes

Heart of Texas Goodwill is also a member of the Veterans Services Alliance of Central Texas (VSACT), which allows Operation Good Jobs participants access to a host of services including shelter and housing assistance, transportation assistance, health services, Veterans Benefits Assistance and more – all aimed at helping veterans secure meaningful and secure employment.

ELIGIBILITY

- Veterans and/or transitioning military members must be able to provide documentation of veteran/military status (i.e. DD-214,VA Card, Copy of Orders, etc.)
- Immediate family members must be able to provide documentation or military member's stats and one document showing family link (i.e. marriage certificate, birth certificate, bill with all names listed, etc.)
- Must be 16 years or older
- Must be willing to maintain constant communication with the Success Coach
- Must be willing to participate in all assigned trainings and classes

For more information on Operation Good Jobs or VSACT, please contact:

successcoach@hotgoodwill.org 254-753-7337 ex 456



SCAN HERE to fill out the online application!





Texas Veterans Commission Employment Services

We can provide employment services and resources to qualifying veterans and transitioning service members

Formal Employment Planning Supportive Service Referrals Transition Assistance Résumé / Application Assistance Job Searching Techniques Training Post-Employment Follow-Up Work Opportunity Tax Credit Pre-Certification

Contact us to see how we can help you find a career you'll love

Stephanie PerezSteven San AgustinVeterans Career AdvisorRural Veterans Career Advisorstephanie.perez@tvc.texas.gov steven.sanagustin@tvc.texas.gov



2002 W. Loop 289, Suite 117 Lubbock, TX 79407 (806) 765-5038



RESOURCES NOW OR HAVE OUESTIONS? CALL US! 1-844-489-8387



South Campus



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VOU'RE INVITED! VETERAN & VETERAN FAMILY FINANCIAL COACHING WORKSHOP

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We're excited to invite you to our Financial Coaching Workshop - designed to help veterans and veteran families take control of their finances and build a secure future. In this workshop, you'll learn how to:

- 1. Organize your finances to match your lifestyle
- 2. Understand your VA benefits
- 3. Set meaningful financial goals
- 4. Build healthier money habits
- 5. Save money effectively
- 6. Break free from debt

MONDAYS 10AM IN-PERSON OR

6PM VIRTUAL

Simply reply to Veteran Navigator Chasity Wohlford, US Navy Veteran, at cwohlford@eastersealshouston.org with your preferred time.

Easter Seals Greater Houston | 4888 Loop Central Dr, Houston, TX 77081



FORWARD OPERATING BASE (FOB) EAGLE REFERENCE SHEET

Physical Address: 496 County Road 523 Eagle Pass, TX 78852

SECURITY - ECP #1 MAIN ENTRY CONTROL POINT

- Open 24/7
- 100% ID Check

HOUSING & BASE CAMP OPERATIONS A-01 MAYOR CELL

- Daily Office Hours: 0600-2000
- MAYOR CELL WORK ORDER REQUEST
- Mail pick up inside
- Phone: <u>512-987-8462</u>

A-03 LAUNDRY SERVICE

- Daily Full-Service: 0800-1900
 24-Hour Turnaround
- Daily Self-Service: 0800-1900
 Select machines only
- *10 lbs. per laundry bag. TWO bag limit.
- **Prohibited Items:** shoes, backpacks, military equipment (TA-50), and pillows.
- Ensure all pockets and equipment are checked for pens or other items before laundering.
- Phone: 512-987-8462 (Mayor Cell)

A-04 DINING FACILITY (DFAC)

Breakfast: 0700-0900; Lunch: 1100-1300; Dinner: 1700-1900; Midnight: 2300-0100; Snacks / Drinks: 24/7 (*TWO per item, per person*) *100% ID Check & Dress Code in effect. Phone: <u>512-987-8462</u> (Mayor Cell)

MEDICAL A-05 BASE AID STATION

- Office Open: Mon-Fri 0800-1600
- Sat-Sun & After-Hours: On-Call
- Phone: <u>512-897-5234</u>

Mailing Address:

496 County Road 523 Suite A-01 Eagle Pass, TX 78852

BASE CAMP RESOURCES B-01 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Office Open: Mon-Fri 0900-1700
- Daily On-Call: 0700-1900
- Phone: <u>512-542-4638</u>
- Crisis Line: 988

B-03 GYM

- Open 24/7
- Phone: <u>512-987-8462</u> (Mayor Cell)

B-05 MWR/LOUNGE

- Open Daily: 0600-0100
- Contact the Mayor Cell for reservations.
- Phone: <u>512-987-8462</u> (Mayor Cell)

B-08 FORCEPRO

- Office Open: Mon-Fri 0800-1600
- Phone: <u>512-470-3850</u> (24 Hours)

B-18 CHAPLAINS | EO

Chaplains:

• Office Open: 0800-1700

<u>EO:</u>

- In Office: 0800-1700
- Phone: 706-627-4395 SFC Evans

C-05 CONFERENCE ROOM

- Open 24/7
- Contact your unit S3 for reservations.

