DoD MILITARY SPOUSE PREFERENCE PROGRAM
PROGRAM "S" FACT SHEET[1]

General: The Military Spouse Preference Program applies to spouses of active duty military members of the U.S. Armed Forces, including the U.S. Coast Guard and full-time national Guard, who desire priority consideration for competitive service positions at DoD activities in the U.S. and its territories and possessions. Chapter 14 of the PPP Operations Manual contains specific information on registration in this program.

Eligibility: Spouses of active duty military members of the U.S. Armed Forces, including the U.S. Coast Guard and full time National Guard, may register 30 days prior to the sponsor's reporting date, for competitive service positions at DoD activities in the U.S. and its territories and possessions provided the spouse accompanies the military sponsor who is:

- Assigned by a PCS move from overseas to U.S., or to a different commuting area within the U.S., including the U.S. territories or possessions;
- Relocating to a new and permanent duty station after completing basic and advanced individual training.
- Permanently assigned to the same duty station where initial entry training was received;
- Assigned by PCS to a service school regardless of the duration of training;
- A former military member who re-enlists and is placed in a permanent assignment; or
- Reassigned on an unaccompanied tour by PCS with orders specifying the sequential assignment. The spouse may register for activities in the commuting area of the sequential assignment at any time during the sponsor's unaccompanied tour.

(NOTE: Military spouses are ineligible for Program "S" when the sponsor relocates in conjunction with retirement or separation.)

Registration: Registration may be accomplished at the losing A-coded activity up to 30 days prior to the sponsor's reporting date or, upon relocation, at any A-coded activity in the commuting area of the sponsor's new duty station. If not currently employed by DoD, an eligible spouse may register at an A-coded activity in the gaining area or, if registration is desired in advance, at any A-coded activity in the losing area. Spouses are not eligible if their sponsor relocates in conjunction with retirement or separation. Military spouse preference applies to temporary employment when it is expected to last one year or longer.

Skills: May register for up to 5 skills provided they are well qualified.

High Grade: Spouses may register at a grade no higher than that previously held on a permanent basis or if the spouse's only Federal service was overseas under time-limited appointment, he/she may register for the highest grade held, if they have appointment eligibility under Executive Order (E.O.) 12721. Spouses who are not current Federal employees who have E.O. 12721 and reinstatement eligibility may register under either option, whichever is more beneficial.

[1] Fact Sheet is for information only. This Fact Sheet does not establish, revise, replace or supplement policy or procedures contained in Defense Civilian Personnel Manual Chapter 1800 or the PPP Operations Manual.

Low Grade: May register for any grade for which qualified and available.

Priority: "3"

Separation Date: No date is entered on the registration. The computer enters the date of one year from the date of registration or file maintenance.

Release Date: No date is entered on the registration. The computer enters the date of one year from the date of registration or file maintenance. (NOTE: Both the spouse and the registering activity are notified that the "S" program registration will be terminated 12 months after initial registration or the last extension/file maintenance action. Any file maintenance or extension submitted by the registering activity and processed in Dayton extends the registration for one year. If automatically terminated, the spouse may re-register if otherwise eligible.)

Area of Referral: Employee may register for any location in the commuting area of the sponsor's new duty location.

Registering Activity Change: To change the registering activity of an active Program "S" registration, a new registration must be submitted (all registration elements must be completed and resubmitted).

Offer Response Time: Registrants in the continental U.S. (CONUS) must accept or decline offers from CONUS activities within 2 calendar days and registrants outside CONUS must respond within 3 calendar days.