

USAFA security measures for Parents' Weekend 2011

Due to recent world events, the Air Force Academy has increased its security posture as directed by the Department of Defense (DOD). This means an increased number of people will be subject to inspections at the gates and at random checkpoints on the installation. Public and base personnel can expect increased security checks and possible delays.

All non-DOD ID card holders attending Parents' Weekend events must enter the base through the North Gate (if they are accompanied by a DOD ID card holder, they may enter via South Gate). Installation visitor hours are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., but for Friday of Parents' Weekend, the North Gate will be open to visitors at 5:30 a.m. DOD ID cardholders may enter the base through either the South or North Gates at any time.

A valid driver's license is required and you may be asked to show proof of insurance, a valid vehicle registration, and your rental car agreement. Guests will be directed to the Field House parking lots. Shuttle buses will be provided throughout the Cadet Area on Friday of Parents' Weekend.

We strongly recommend cadets meet their guests off base or at the Field House in order to carpool and/or caravan to their destination. DOD ID cardholders can vouch for non-DOD affiliated people in the car which they are traveling. They may also vouch for one additional vehicle and the people inside, as long as they arrive together. Plan to arrive very early for Parents' Weekend activities, especially the parade, in order to give yourself sufficient time to get through security to your event location.

Guests may ride the buses or walk into the Cadet Area but must be escorted by a cadet or military member with a Cadet Area badge to enter the academic buildings, dormitories, Mitchell Hall and the terrazzo. Each DOD ID card holder may escort up to 10 visitors. Please note that there is no private vehicle access into the Cadet Area during Parents' Weekend. Also be aware that there is NO tailgating permitted in the Field House or Cadet Area parking lots at any time during Parents' Weekend. We appreciate your assistance in ensuring sufficient parking is available for all cadet guests.

For Parents' Weekend events outside of the immediate Cadet Area, no shuttle buses will be available. Non-DOD guests must be escorted through the entry control point by a DOD ID cardholder. These events include the Parents Club Presidents activities on 31 August and the Airfield Open House on Friday, 2 September.

All vehicles entering the base are subject to inspection by security personnel. Guests should refrain from bringing large bags, coolers, thermoses, backpacks or other items that will require additional scrutiny or searches from security personnel.

For the home football game at Falcon Stadium on 3 September, all gates will be open to the public starting at 0800. At that time guests may use either the South or North Gate, but all vehicles will be subject to ID card checks and vehicle inspections. DOD ID cardholders may show their ID and the vehicle will be allowed through; vehicles without a DOD ID cardholder must show a valid driver's license and will be inspected. Again, we recommend guests carpool with DOD cardholders if at all possible. Please review the information on stadium access located on the USAFA website at http://www.usafa.edu/superintendent/parentsweekend/FALCON_STADIUM_ENTRANCE_POLICIES.pdf.

Cadets and DOD ID cardholders may request temporary passes (up to 30 days) for their guests from the Pass and Registration Center (PRC) outside the South Gate between the hours of 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (phone 719-333-0443). The ID cardholder and their guests must be present at the PRC to receive their pass. ID cardholders may also meet their guests at the PRC (or any off-base location) to escort them onto the base.

We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring the Academy and its greatest asset, our Cadet Wing, is safe and protected.