

TO ALL USAFA AND PREP SCHOOL PARENTS OF CADETS/CADET CANDIDATES

USAFA PARENT PRIVACY RELEASE INFORMATION

What are Air Force Academy Parents' Clubs?

There are currently 90+ Air Force Academy Parents' Clubs throughout the country. Each club is independently "owned and operated" by the generosity of the parents who have cadets enrolled at USAFA.

Why do we need them?

- Parents' clubs exist because the Service Academy experience is not like any other college. If you are not an academy graduate, it is difficult to comprehend. While parents of cadets and graduates may not understand what it's like to be a cadet, they do know what it's like to be the parent of a cadet. Parents' clubs exist to pass on that experience to new parents so they can learn from their knowledge and offer support.
- Parents' clubs exist to help parents support their cadets. The Academy experience is not designed to be "fun," at least not all the time, and especially not the first year! How do you support your cadet and encourage success? One thing has significantly changed the cadet way of life – e-mail. Cadets can (once the academic year begins) contact their parents daily, but this is a mixed blessing. It may make the cadet feel better to tell Mom and Dad what a miserable day s/he had, but Mom and Dad may be alarmed by what they hear. How do you know when your cadet is just "venting" and when s/he is saying, "I'm not sure this is right for me?" Parents' clubs can help. Parents' clubs are support groups for parents who want to help their children to be successful in an environment with which the parents may be totally unfamiliar.
- Parents' clubs exist because, try as we may, the hardships associated with the daily, weekly, and monthly regimens cannot be adequately articulated. The pressures on cadets and their parents are enormous from the very beginning and these pressures often disrupt communications between the students and the parents. Selection to attend the

Air Force Academy is prestigious and comes with a full scholarship, but it is decidedly not for everyone. "How do I deal with the fact that my son/daughter may not want to stay at the Academy? How can I help my son/daughter make the right decision?"

These are the type of questions that can often be addressed by the parents' clubs.

- Parents' clubs exist to have fun, and to have fun with their cadets. Shared experiences are usually more enjoyable than solitary experiences. Military balls, summer picnics, football parties and/or tailgates, Parents' Weekend and trips to USAFA are just a few examples of activities that can be fun to share with your cadet and other cadets and parents.

Why should parents join?

Many clubs have orientations for appointees and their parents prior to in-processing (I-Day). This gives them the opportunity to ask questions of other cadet parents who have already "been there, done that." It can be invaluable information!

Parents' clubs help recruit other outstanding young men and women from your area and beyond. They also help host cadets when they travel for Academy-sponsored events, sponsor tailgate parties at football games, provide fans for "away" sporting events and cadet visits, and often will send goodie bags to cadets. They may also help to provide financial support for cadet activities, which make the Academy a more enriching experience.

There are a few recognized organizations, such as class Spirit Missions that offer gifts to all cadets based on class year milestones, and by signing below you give permission for USAFA/CM to release your contact information to those organizations. For example: coins or graduation gifts to all the cadets in a particular class year. These class year group organization POCs are carefully screened and briefed not to release privacy information. There is normally one class year group organization per class year; for example: 2020 Spirit Mission, in addition to organizations on the state and local levels.

IF YOUR CADET OR CADET CANDIDATE AGREES, PLEASE FILL-OUT THE ENCLOSED INFORMATION IMMEDIATELY SO PARENTS' CLUBS AND AFFILIATES WILL HAVE PERMISSION TO DIRECTLY CONTACT YOU A EVENTS.

For other information, please contact the USAFA Parents' liaison:

Marie Nikovits
HQ USAFA/CM
2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 3100
USAF Academy, CO 80840-5002

Local: 719-333-3828 toll free: 877-268-3383
Email: USAFA.Parent.Liaison@usafa.edu
Web site: <https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>

USAFA PARENT PRIVACY RELEASE INFORMATION

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Your Cadet's Class Year (for graduation)

Appointee: Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____

Parents' Last Name _____ Dad's first name _____ Cell: _____

Parents' Last Name _____ Mom's first name _____ Cell: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parents' Home Phone (_____) _____

Parents' E-mail _____

*****IF PARENTS LIVE SEPARATELY, COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR THE OTHER PARENT*****

Parents' Last Name _____ Parent first name _____ Cell: _____

Parents' Last Name _____ Spouse first name _____ Cell: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parents' Home Phone (_____) _____

Parents' E-mail _____

CHECK HERE IF YOU ARE GOING TO THE USAFA PREPARATORY SCHOOL INSTEAD OF THE ACADEMY

Check here if you will be attending the USAFA Preparatory School. (Class Year) _____

By signing below, I hereby authorize my release of information to local parents' club and/or approved USAFA organizations to contact me.

Appointee Signature: X _____

Parent #1 Signature(s): X _____ X _____ (Optional)

(If Needed)

Parent #2 Signature(s): X _____ X _____ (Optional)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Note: There are a few recognized organizations that give gifts to cadets based on class year and by signing the form you give permission for USAFA/CM to release contact information to those organizations. For example: Class Year Committees give coins or do things for the class as a whole. These class year group organization points of contacts are carefully screened and briefed to not release privacy information. There is normally one class year group organization per class year. For example: 2021 Spirit Mission

Please complete the above information in its entirety, ensuring all signatures are in place. Without the Appointee Signature we are not able to share information with parents, in accordance with regulations. Please mail or, scan and email to:

Marie Nikovits
HQ USAFA/CM
2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 3100
USAFA CO 80840-5002

Email: USAFA.Parent.Liaison@usafa.edu

* If emailing, please remember to put the following statement on the e-mail for your protection:

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO)

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***Once you have completed entering your information above, to secure the text, "PRINT" or "SAVE AS" a .pdf in a file location on your computer. After you have created the .pdf, you may print directly to your device.*

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