

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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### QUESTION 1: How do I enroll my spouse of the same-sex?

**Answer:** In light of the Supreme Court’s ruling that section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) is unconstitutional, the Department will construe the words “spouse” and “marriage” to include same-sex spouses and marriages. Spousal and family benefits, including ID cards, will be made available to same-sex spouses beginning on September 3, 2013.

If you are legally married, you may enroll your spouse in DEERS, regardless of gender. To do so, you must submit a completed [DD Form 1172-2](#) and necessary eligibility documentation (i.e., a marriage certificate) to your nearest RAPIDS Site. To be eligible for DEERS enrollment and ID card issuance, same-sex couples are only required to have a valid marriage certificate; they are not required to live in a state that recognizes same-sex marriage.

To locate your nearest RAPIDS Site, please use the RAPIDS Site Locator, at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/>.

Please contact the CAC.MIL Support Team at [dhrcac@osd.pentagon.mil](mailto:dhrcac@osd.pentagon.mil) for additional assistance.

#### References

- [DoD News - DoD Announces Same-Sex Spouse Benefits](#)
- [Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Extending Benefits to the Same-Sex Spouses of Military Members”](#)

## **QUESTION 2: I found a lost DoD ID card. How do I return it?**

**Answer:** All DoD ID cards may be turned into your nearest ID card issuing facility which can be found by using the RAPIDS Site Locator at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/>.

The ID card may also be mailed to the following address:

DMDC  
Attn: Customer Operations  
4800 Mark Center Drive  
Ste. 04E25  
Alexandria, VA 22350

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## **QUESTION 3: How do I schedule an appointment to get a new ID Card?**

**Answer:** Your nearest ID card issuing facility can be found by using the RAPIDS Site Locator at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/>.

Once you have located your nearest Site, if the Site accepts appointments, the Site's web page should include a link to an appointment scheduler. If a link for the scheduler cannot be located, please contact the Site using the contact phone number provided on the web page for assistance.

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## **QUESTION 4: I am a contractor working overseas. My employer is collecting my CAC prior to my leaving for R&R and holding it until I return. My understanding is that the CAC is my government ID and I need to ensure it is in my possession at all times. Please advise.**

**Answer:** Contractor CAC eligibility is specifically dependent on the mission and the DoD contract being supported. In accordance with current DoD ID card policy, "ID cards shall be used as proof of identity and DoD affiliation to facilitate access to DoD facilities and systems" required by the contract. Additionally, "ID cards shall represent authorization for entitled benefits and privileges in accordance with DoD policies." The physical and logical access requirements are particular to your place of duty as identified by the contract, and the benefits conveyed by the ID card, if any, are particular to your place of duty. While on R&R, you do not have physical or logical access requirements, nor are you entitled to the benefits identified on the CAC.

Current policy also states: "All ID cards are property of the U.S. Government and shall be returned upon separation, resignation, firing, termination of contract or affiliation with the DoD, or upon any other event in which the individual no longer requires the use of such ID card. The DoD sponsor or sponsoring organization is ultimately responsible for retrieving CACs from their personnel who are no longer supporting their organization or activity."

These policy statements provide the authority for your company to hold the CAC when you are no longer directly supporting DoD functions. This practice ensures that the CAC is available to resume contract support upon the contractor's return from R&R, eliminates unauthorized use of benefits while on R&R, and ensures the company has a CAC to turn in should the contractor not return from R&R.

#### References

- [DoDI 1000.13, "Identification \(ID\) Cards for Members of the Uniformed Services, Their Dependents, and Other Eligible Individuals,"](#) Chapter 6.
  - [Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness \(USD\(P&R\)\) Directive-Type Memorandum \(DTM\) 08-003, "Next Generation Common Access Card \(CAC\) Implementation Guidance,"](#) Attachment 3.
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### **QUESTION 5: The Personal Identification Number (PIN) on my CAC is locked, how do I unlock it?**

**Answer:** Currently, there is no way to reset your CAC PIN remotely. Resetting your PIN requires confirmation of your biometrics by matching your fingerprints against the fingerprints stored in DEERS when you were issued the card. Any RAPIDS Site can reset a CAC PIN. Please visit your nearest RAPIDS Site, which can be located using the RAPIDS Site Locator at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/>.

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### **QUESTION 6: I was told that retired DoD civilians could obtain a CAC as an ID card. Is that true? What is the policy guidance?**

**Answer:** Retired DoD civilians are eligible for the DoD Civilian Retiree ID Card, which is not a CAC. This trusted credential for civilian retirees can be used at DoD base installations at the discretion of installation commanders. Although it is DoD policy to issue ID cards to retirees, installation commanders retain the authority to deny access to base installations. The policy authorizing issuance of the DoD Civilian Retiree ID Card is contained in the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), Memorandum, "Department of Defense (DoD) Civilian Retiree Identification (ID) Cards."

To be eligible for card issuance, you must have received and be able to provide to a RAPIDS Site a copy of your retirement Standard Form 50 (SF-50), "Notification of Personnel Action." You will also need to bring two forms of ID, one of which is a government issued picture ID, to receive your ID card. To locate your nearest RAPIDS Site, please use the RAPIDS Site Locator, at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/>.

#### Resources

- Under Secretary of Defense, Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Department of Defense (DoD) Civilian Retiree Identification (ID) Cards"
  - [Civilian Retiree Informational Trifold](#)
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## QUESTION 7: I am a Veteran. How do I get a DoD ID Card?

**Answer:** The Department of Defense issues ID cards to those individuals authorized to receive medical care and other benefits provided by the uniformed services in accordance with Federal law. Federal law at section 1074 of title 10 of the United States Code describes the persons entitled to receive medical and dental care, specifically: active duty uniformed service members; certain reserve uniformed service members; and retired military members of the uniformed services or those who are entitled to receive retainer or equivalent pay. Veterans with disability ratings must be rated 100% disabled by the Department of Veterans Affairs from a Uniformed Service-connected injury or disease to receive DoD benefits and the authorizing ID card.

If you are not within any of the categories of persons authorized by law to receive care or other benefits from the Department, you are not entitled to a DoD ID card. To provide evidence of veteran's status, you may use your DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. If you do not have your DD Form 214 but would like to request a copy, you may use the following website: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>. Additionally, some state DMVs offer a veteran ID card. This card is not associated with DoD nor does it convey any DoD benefits or privileges. If you are interested in a DMV-sponsored ID card, you may contact your local DMV for more information.

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