

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you take advance applications for housing?

YES

When can I apply for housing?

When orders are issued

Can I select the area where I want to live?

Within your rank designated areas and a home is available.

Can I live off-post?

If you are authorized BAH and you are not identified as Key and Essential and required to leave on post, and no further unit restriction apply you may live off post.

How long does it take to find housing?

For most it is a very quick process.

What size are the houses (on-post, off-post) and where can I get/see the floor plan?

For OFF-post houses and floor plan please contact the Housing Service Office at 256-876-6666 for assistance. To view On-post size/photos, please go to:

<http://www.redstonefamilyhousing.com>

I've heard the electric systems are different in Germany/Japan/Korea, will my appliances work or will I have to buy new ones?

NA to Redstone Arsenal

Is housing overseas different from US homes?

YES

Will military members still have the option to live off-post?

DEPENDS on what post/rank/availability

What are Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) entitlement and rent allotments?

Please refer to the BAH websites, each installation is different

How and who is starting and stopping my BAH and/or Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA)?

SM completes Form DA-5960, returns to nearest S-1.

Are there any restrictions on bringing our pets? Restrictions on the number of pets?

YES – 2 per home

Restrictions on the type/breed of dog?

YES – non aggressive breeds

Restriction on the type of pet, i.e., “Can I have my pet snake/iguana/ferret/pot-bellied pig?”
NO

What schools are in the area?

<http://www.hsvk12.al.us>

<http://www.greatschools.org>

<http://www.nces.ed.gov>

What is the best school?

This process is much the same as it would be in the U.S. You may not have as many choices but it is important to make a list of possible schools and then begin to ask around. However, talk to the Relocation Personnel in the Family Center and your sponsor at your new installation that may be able to put you in touch other families with children around the same age as your child/children. Always contact the school directly and ask for references. Once you have narrowed down your options, interview the school or schools directly. This is best done in person, if possible. Ask about: attendance, atmosphere, curriculum; grading system, tuition, accreditations, the staff and administration; as well as other practical details such as, does the school provide meals, what types of extracurricular programs are available, is there transportation, holidays and schedule, sports programs, before and after school care programs, and how the facility is maintained.

What is the loaner furniture program?

NA to Redstone Arsenal

Where do I stay while I wait for housing?

This is dependent on your wait. A short wait you may live in lodging or a local hotel. The HSO can assist with longer housing requirements off-post.

How much credit (months) do I get from being on a dependent restricted tour?

Depends on Service Members situation, please contact the nearest S-1

Do I need renters insurance for on-post, partner or private rental housing?

YES (recommended) to protect yourself. The partner provides insurance for accidents that were not your fault.

Who is eligible for Family housing?

Please contact the RCI Office for eligibility, (256) 430-1517

What is the waiting time for housing?

Please contact the RCI Office for availability, (256) 430-1517

What determines the list I am placed on and my placement on the list?

Active Duty military please refer to the RCI website: <http://www.redstonecommunities.com>

What is a waiting list?

A system used to determine eligibility, availability and priority placement.

Once placed on the wait list, may I transfer to a different list?

Yes, contingent upon criteria

What happens if someone has the same eligibility date as me?

Rank, date of application may be used to prioritize.

What does it mean if my wait list position moves up and down?

Priority placement, others moved, added or declined housing

May I request placement on more than one wait list at one time?

NO

How long will my application remain active once submitted?

Until the RCI Office is notified, or 6 months time has expired

What is military Family housing privatization?

Redstone Arsenal privatized housing which includes 10 General Officer Quarters and 342 family housing units for other officers and enlisted personnel. Waiting time varies based on the needs of the tenants. Call for more details. Family housing units include central heat and air conditioning, dishwasher, range and refrigerator. Some units have garages. The one and two-story facilities range from single to multi-plexed units. All permanent party personnel, accompanied by their families and assigned within the commuting area of Redstone Arsenal, are eligible for family housing.

How does military housing privatization affect a Service Member's BAH?

SM receives full BAH at duty location, the partner will withdraw through allotment
Rent is equal to SM rank @the with dependent BAH rate.

How will rent be paid to the privatized community housing partner and what does it cover?

Rent & Utilities (BAH) are paid out through an allotment.

How does privatization affect the service I receive?

Privatization has and will improve the service.

Will/is there to be a Self-Help program?

NOT at Redstone Arsenal

What are the requirements for vacating my home?

SM gives 30 day notice.

When I move, do I have to clean?

YES

Under privatization, will the partner handle the clearing process, or will it remain with housing?

Partner clears family first, SM then returns to the government housing office to finalize the clearing process

I have two children, one female and one male; how many bedrooms do I qualify for?

If available, 3 bedrooms

I have a Family member enrolled in EFMP, how will that affect my on-post housing assignment and waiting time?

PRIORITY placement with proper documentation

If I live on post, what type of housing can I expect?

Contingent on rank, and availability. Please contact the RCI Office at (256) 430-1517

I am a dual military household, whose name will my privatized (on-post partner) housing lease be under?

The more senior service member.

I have a dual military household and my wife is stationed at another installation. Can I apply for housing?

YES

Can my spouse or someone else accept a home on my behalf?

Yes, with a Power of Attorney

I currently live on post but would like to move to a different house. Can we apply for another wait list?

Yes, but there may be a transfer fee associated

In privatized on-post housing will I be responsible for utilities?

If you exceed the monthly baseline limits

Can I accept on-post housing before I sign into the installation?

YES

I am a single Service Member with one child, am I eligible for on-post housing?

YES

I'm TDY in route, when can I be put on the housing list?

As soon as the RCI Office receives application packet

What will my eligibility date be?

The date you signed out of your last duty station

Does it start when I depart my permanent duty station, or when I finish the course or when I arrive at my new permanent duty station?

At the gaining Housing Installation

What amenities are included with the privatized on-post community housing?

Please refer to the Redstone Communities website

My Family was assigned to a 4-bedroom home at my last duty station. Will I automatically qualify for a 4-bedroom home?

Will qualify according to current number of dependants

Once I am offered a home, how long do I have to accept/decline?

24 hours

What happens if I decline a home?

SM has 3 chances to accept a home. SM declines, their position on the waiting list will drop to the bottom

Will my BAH/OHA cover my rent and utilities?

YES, if you stay within your baseline utility guidelines

If I get married after I have been living off post with a certificate of non-availability (CNA) do I have to apply for on post housing?

NO, at SM discretion

How much is the rent for off-post housing?

Average from \$500 up to \$2k

Are there any off limit Landlords?

Your HSO person will provide guidance

How do I get a list of available rentals in the area?

Please contact the Housing Service Office at 256-876-6666

I just received Deployment Orders. Can I terminate my lease before I depart?

Most likely under the SCRA (Service Members Civil Relief Act), please refer to your lease agreement to verify and see your HSO representative.

I received notification that my Family can move on-post but I just renewed my lease. Can I break the lease and move?

Your current landlord will have to decide in accordance with and in respect to your lease.

I'm unaccompanied; do I have to live on-post?

E-5 and below = NO

My roommate and I both signed a lease but she has moved out. Can I get out of the lease?

Your current landlord will have to decide