



OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT

Department of Army - Alaska

Fort Richardson is located in a picturesque state with majestic snow-capped mountains, lakes, rivers, glaciers, and wildlife and is adjacent to the Chugach National Forest and Elmendorf Air Force Base. The post is situated within easy access to downtown Anchorage (population 270,000) and the surrounding civilian communities of Eagle River, Wasilla, Palmer, and Girdwood. Fort Richardson and the city of Anchorage are approximately a three-hour flight from Seattle, WA. Contrary to popular belief, Anchorage weather is very mild, comparable to northern cities like New York, Chicago, and Minneapolis. The Anchorage area is a close knit community of mostly “transplanted” people from the lower 48 states. Alaska is the largest state in the Union, despite the opinion of some Texans.

The Anchorage area has a moderate climate. Summer temperatures can reach into the high 70s. Low humidity also contributes to Anchorage’s comfortable climate. The temperatures are moderated by the Gulf of Alaska, and the truly cold winds of the north are often blocked by the Alaska, Chugach, and Talkeetna mountain ranges. Winter temperatures do drop below zero.

Summer sunlight in Anchorage lasts 19.5 hours at the June solstice. At the winter solstice, daylight lasts 5.5 hours.

While we do not have locality pay here, employees receive a tax-free Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) of 25% within most of the State of Alaska.

The average sale price for a single family home is \$275,000.

The Alaska CPAC is currently authorized 13 Appropriated Fund civilian positions providing advisory service to 2,300 civilians located at Fort Richardson, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Fort Wainwright, and Fort Greely. The CPAC has two satellite offices, one on Elmendorf AFB for the Alaska District Corps of Engineers and the other at Fort Wainwright (Fairbanks, AK)



The Pacific Region CPOC, located on Fort Richardson, is currently authorized 54 Appropriated Fund civilian positions providing personnel services to 7,200 civilians throughout Alaska, Hawaii, and Japan.

Alaska is an outdoor enthusiast and sportsman’s paradise. Imagine your excitement the first time you find a moose wandering through your yard...or catching one of those 75-pound King Salmon...or back-packing through Denali National Park!!

20,320 foot Mount McKinley is the tallest mountain in North America and can be seen on clear days from Anchorage.

Alaska does not have a state income tax.

Anchorage does not have a sales tax, although there are other cities or boroughs in the state which do.

Each fall residents who have lived in the state for at least one calendar year receive a portion of a Permanent Fund Dividend. The Permanent Fund was created in the early oil boom to invest part of the state's income from petroleum. In 2003 the dividend was \$1107.56. The Permanent Fund is subject to Federal Income Taxes.

If a full PCS is authorized, the government will pay to ship your household goods and vehicle. Other PCS entitlements may also include:

Temporary Quarters Subsistence Expense (TQSE), to cover the cost of temporary quarters and meals,

Real Estate Expense for both selling your former residence and purchasing a new home in Alaska, and Per Diem for you and your family.



The length of your initial tour in Alaska is normally 36-months. A subsequent tour extension of two years in length may be granted. But unlike other "overseas" tours you can remain in Alaska beyond 5 years.

In addition to supporting locally owned stores, Alaska has many well-known chain stores. In general, anything you can buy in the Lower 48 is also available here.

Well-known fast-food and sit-down chains compete with the superb, locally owned restaurants.

For those interested in the Arts there is the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. Host to many wonderful performing arts events, patrons can choose from a season-long menu of music of all kinds – symphonic, classical, folk, bluegrass and jazz; dance to excite the spirit – modern, classical ballet, ethnic; opera to make you laugh and cry; theatre that intrigues and inspires; plus Broadway musicals, children's events, choral music... The list is almost endless! Along with traditional performing arts concerts, special activities also fill the Center's calendar. The Holiday Craft Fair, Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, Kid's Day, special event fund raisers, and large format movies are just a few of the added attractions you'll find in the facility. With three theatres – the Evangeline Atwood Concert Hall with 2100 seats, the Discovery Theatre with 700 seats, and the Sydney Laurence Theatre with 350 seats – and eight resident companies, variety abounds at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts!

The Anchorage School District (ASD): Their mission is to educate students for success in life. As the 86th largest school district in the country, the Anchorage School District is diverse in its staff, students and program offerings. Over 50,000 students attend ASD schools. They are taught by a well-qualified staff that sets high expectations and achieves great results. Located in south central Alaska, we have schools in Anchorage, Eagle River, Chugiak and Girdwood. (School Facilities Map or Administrative Facilities Map) ASD has a wide variety of programs and schools that serve our 50,029 students (2002-2003 school year):

- (60) Elementary schools
- (1) Middle/High school combination
- (1) K-12 school
- (7) Specialized programs and schools

- (9) Middle schools
- (6) High schools
- (1) Vocational school
- (5) Charter schools

The world's largest and busiest seaplane harbor is Lake Hood Air Harbor, near the Anchorage International Airport. Merrill Field, a general aviation airport near downtown Anchorage, is the 9th busiest airport in the nation.

Alaska has about six times as many pilots and 14 times as many aircraft per capita as the rest of the United States.

