

Arkansas National Guard Community Support and Outreach

The Arkansas National Guard has a presence throughout the entire state of Arkansas where our Soldiers and Airmen serve. Through active community support programs the Arkansas National Guard strives to be a good neighbor and community partner.

The Guard, its Soldiers and its Airmen, are extensively involved in local community organizations and often participate in and/or support the events they sponsor, but training and mission requirements always come first.

What types of support activities are available?

Preferred activities for support are those which stimulate patriotism, promote public understanding of national security issues or foster public appreciation of our military or national heritage.

Examples of the most common types of support the Arkansas National Guard may be requested to provide are:

- **Arkansas National Guard's 106th Army Band**
- **Arkansas National Guard Color Guard**
- **Static Equipment Displays (non-aviation)**
- **Static Equipment Displays (aviation)**

This list is not all-inclusive — there may be other activities the Arkansas National Guard could support if requested and if they would enhance the Arkansas Guard's public image.

Who is eligible for National Guard support?

There are a number of state and federal restrictions on how the Arkansas National Guard can support organizations and events. Organizations eligible for military support include: federal, state, and local governments; and certain private (non-profit) institutions, when the activity concerned is conducted for the betterment of the community and does not selectively benefit any one individual or organization.

Events must be open and accessible to the public. Federal laws and military regulations prohibit military agencies from competing with services available from commercial sources in the private sector.

Use of government equipment and/or personnel in support of a private enterprise, whether profit or non-profit, or for promotional events of a select organization's commercial activity or concern, is strictly prohibited by regulation.

Specific requirements for events include:

1. The event or occasion is of general interest or benefit to the community as a whole.
2. The sponsor is a broadly based civic organization, or an organization whose primary purpose is to stimulate patriotism, promote public understanding of the necessity of national security or foster public appreciation of our national heritage, and not promote the organization's private objectives. (Exception: an organization whose membership is based on sex or national origin, or whose membership is otherwise narrowly defined, may be supported, if the program or event is open to the entire community. The program or event must not promote the partisan, fraternal, or commercial objectives of the organization itself).
3. Requested support is specifically authorized by public law or executive order and is not restricted by other statutes or regulations.
4. The command is able and willing to provide the same support to comparable events that meet the criteria of this section and are sponsored by similar non-federal entities.
5. Community relations with the immediate community and/or other legitimate National Guard public affairs or military training interests are served by the support.
6. No admission fee (beyond what will cover the reasonable costs of sponsoring the event) is charged for the event or charged for the portion of the event supported by the National Guard.

Restrictions:

The following general restrictions on Arkansas National Guard support to community relations support are established in NGB Pam 360-5:

1. Participation is prohibited unless admission, seating and all other accommodations and facilities connected with the event are available to all without regard to race, creed, color or national origin. Participation is also prohibited in public events when the sponsoring organization or group excludes any person from its membership or function because of sex, race, creed, color or national origin.
2. National Guard participation in community relations programs must not interfere with military training or operations and must be at no additional expense to the U.S. Government. The sponsor may be required to reimburse additional cost such as meals, lodging and other travel expenses.
3. Participation that supports commercial advertising, publicity, promotional activities or events so as to benefit or favor a commercial venture is prohibited.

4. Participation is prohibited in any event in which the public is charged admission specifically to observe National Guard participation.
5. Use of National Guard personnel as ushers, guards, parking lot attendants or messengers in support of community relations programs in the civilian domain is prohibited.
6. Units and individuals participating in community relations programs may not be used in any manner to enforce local laws, statutes or ordinances (state active duty situations not included).
7. Use of National Guard personnel in community relations programs will not compete with the civilian labor force or deny employment opportunities to civilians in their regular profession. Guard participation in the program should be coordinated with local elected officials and labor unions in order to preclude claims of unfair competition.
8. Support will not directly or indirectly endorse or selectively benefit or favor any person, corporation, and whether profit or non-profit; religion, sect, quasi-religious or ideological movement; fraternal organization, political organization or commercial venture.
9. Support will not be provided to candidates for political office or for any partisan political activity.

Examples of requests that cannot be accommodated

- Events that benefit a particular business or company
- Events for a narrow segment of the populace, e.g. a family reunion
- Events for or during a religious service (although on-post chaplaincy mission is supported)
- Events that are not open and free to the public
- Events that are Fundraisers
- Events during sectarian events or on church property when related to a religious activity
- Events that charge an entry fee or are closed to the public
- Events detrimental to the interests or values of the Armed Forces
- Events that directly or indirectly endorse, selectively benefit, or favor any private individual, sect, fraternal organization, political group, commercial venture, or is associated with solicitation of votes in a political election
- Events during which Army participation and support "interferes with the customary or regular employment of local civilians in their act, trade, or profession," per Title 10, US Code
- Events that restrict admission, seating and other accommodations or facilities with regard to race, creed, sex, or national origin

All requests for community support must be submitted to the Arkansas National Guard not less than 30 nor more than 90 days in advance of a scheduled program

on Department of Defense Form 2536 (for band, color guard, non-aerial static display), Department of Defense Form 2535 (for aerial events).

Requests received after this deadline will not be considered.

Please realize that all Armed Forces units have specific military missions and training requirements. Participation in public programs will only be authorized when such support is in the best interests of the Department of Defense and the Military Services and does not interfere with mission or training programs. In all cases, operational commitments must take priority and can cause previously scheduled appearances to be cancelled.

Requests may be submitted by Email, or U.S. Postal Service.

Via Email:

ng.ar.arang.mbx.daily-guard@army.mil

Via U.S. Postal Service:

Arkansas National Guard
Public Affairs Office
Camp Joseph T. Robinson
North Little Rock, AR 72199-9600

Arkansas National Guard Assets

Arkansas National Guard's 106th Army Band

The Arkansas National Guard's 106th Army Band is headquartered in North Little Rock.

Requests for band participation in public events should be made by completing and submitting a [DD Form 2536 \(Request for Armed Forces Participation in Public Events\)](#)

Arkansas National Guard Color Guard

The Arkansas National Guard Public Affairs Office is the point of contact for requesting color guard. The color guard is a four-person formation of National Guard soldiers in appropriate military uniform. They act as a Color guard, posting and retiring the flag and rendering to it the proper customs and courtesies. This time-honored traditional detail

adds dignity to any military-related activity while showing respect to our nation and those who have served it.

Requests for color guard participation in public events should be made by completing and submitting a DD Form 2536 (Request for Armed Forces Participation in Public Events)

Static Equipment Displays

Non-aviation: Event organizers should be aware that static display requests are subject to a number of restrictions and are supported only where they do not impact operational mission accomplishment.

Requests for static displays in public events should be made by completing and submitting a DD Form 2536 (Request for Armed Forces Participation in Public Events)

Aviation: Arkansas Army National Guard aircraft include UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and UH-72 Lakota helicopters. Arkansas Air National Guard aircraft include C-130H Aircraft.

Requests for static displays in public events should be made by completing and submitting a Department of Defense Form 2535 (Request For Aerial Events)

NOTES ON AIRCRAFT STATIC DISPLAY REQUESTS

Approval of an event for aerial support does NOT indicate the event will actually receive support. Once an event approved for aerial support, event organizers must request the actual support from an Arkansas Army or Air National Guard flying unit. Whether an approved event receives aviation support depends on aircraft and crew availability, and many other factors including training schedules and mission requirements.

Army and Air Force approvals are only for aircraft from the individual service. An organization wishing to have an event approved for either Army National Guard aircraft or Air National Guard aircraft must submit a request to each service.