



# Virtual Family Readiness Group (vFRG)





# AGENDA

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- **Army Family Demographics**
- **vFRG Objectives**
- **Benefits**
- **Registration Process**
- **vFRG Setup Checklist**
- **Tracking**
- **Features**
- **Responsibilities**
- **System Administrator Training Options**
- **Subscription Process**
- **User Approval**

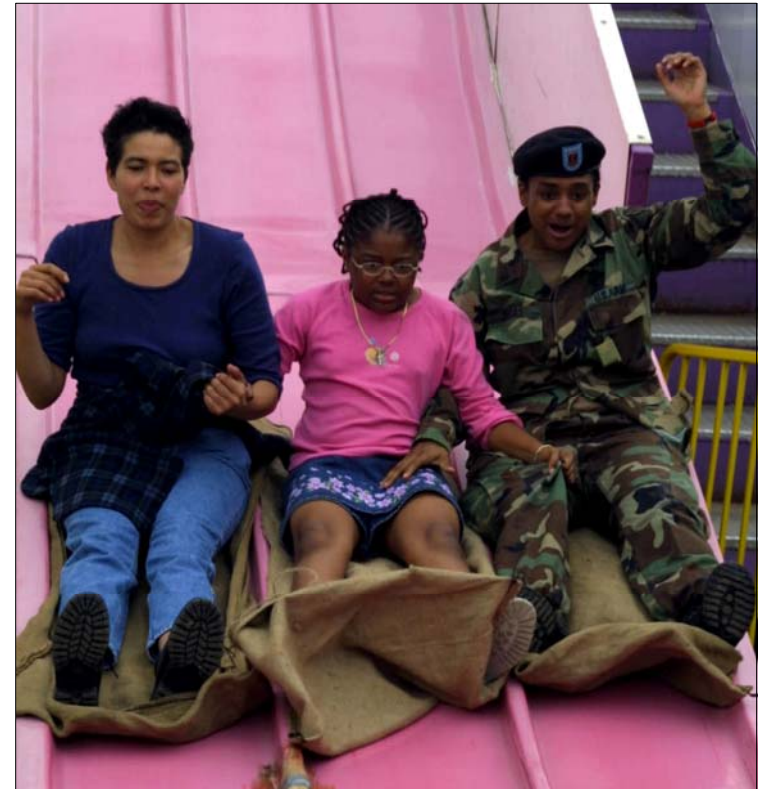


# Today's Army Family



The Greatest Challenge in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is  
"Work Life Balance"

- **Dual careers – 48% of spouses employed**
  - ✓ Emerging social trends
  - ✓ changing demographics
- **Higher aspirations and expectations**
  - ✓ Higher standard of living
- **Better educated and informed**
  - ✓ Through improved technology/Internet
- **Increasing demands – child care, youth programs, community services, youth education**





# Virtual FRG Project Objective



- **Build a system to replicate the major components of Family Readiness Groups in a virtual context that can support an Army at War... moving FRGs into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century to meet the demands of the Expeditionary Force.**
- **Create Virtual Family Readiness Groups (vFRG) to meet the needs of geographically dispersed units and families across the Army.**

[www.ArmyFRG.org](http://www.ArmyFRG.org)



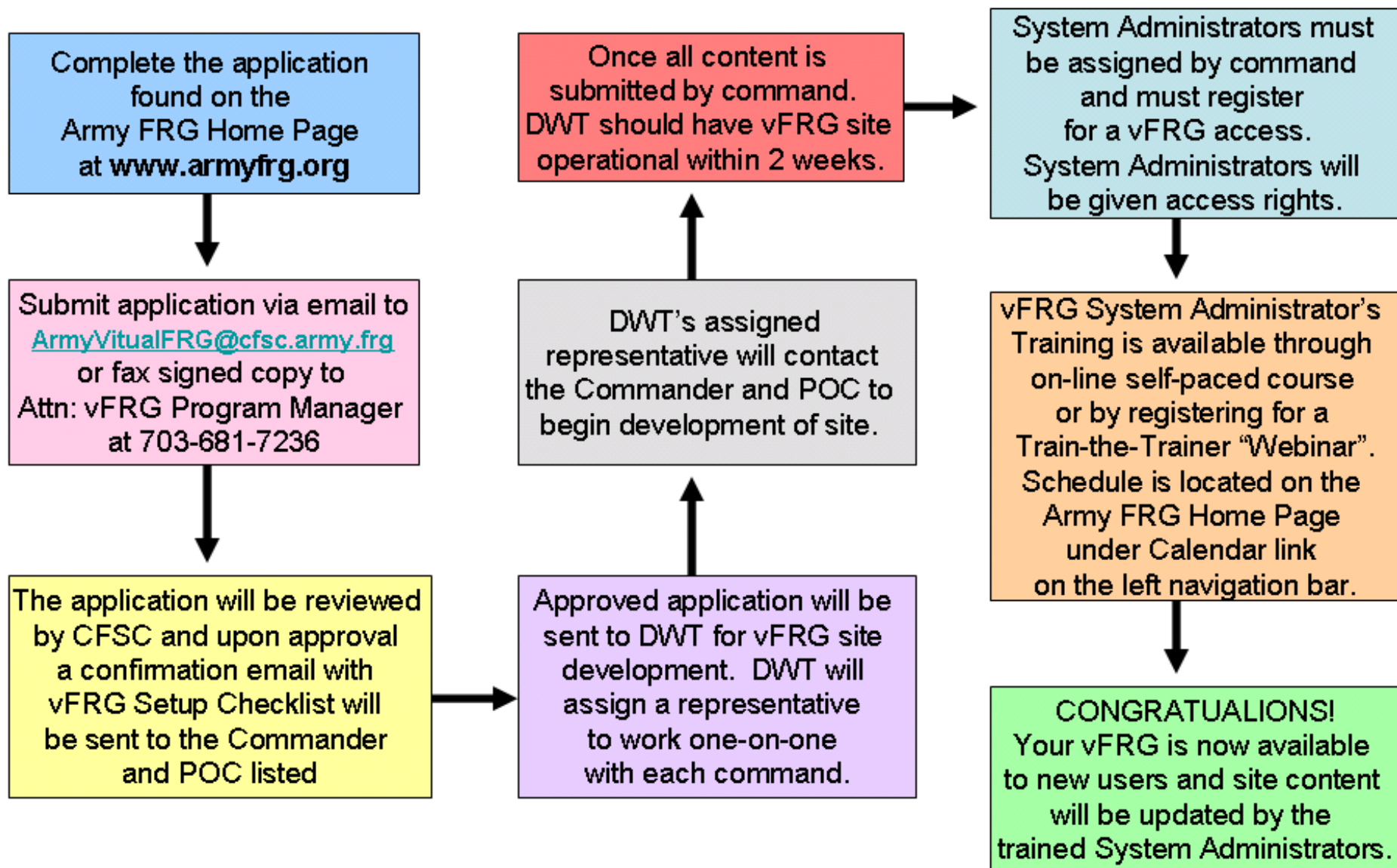
# vFRG Benefits to Units

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- **Meets the requirements outlined in AR 25-1 for information security.**
- **No funding is required by users or units.**
- **Units control and maintain their own content and users.**
- **It is an invaluable resource for communicating quickly and efficiently with geographically dispersed families.**
- **Users enjoy many features and functionality.**
- **Families can update their own contact information.**
- **Includes training program and technical support help desk.**

# Registration Process Flow Chart





# vFRG Setup Checklist

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## 1. Supply unit information

- vFRG Site Name
- Commander info
- Primary vFRG system administrator information
- Unit motto, logo and UIC
- Home Installation
- Division/Brigade/Battalion information

## 2. Provide content items via email (minimum 2 per item)

- Download center
- Links
- News
- FAQ
- Photo Gallery



# vFRG Setup Checklist

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## 3. Send your information to DWT

- Provide all information in 1 email
- Subject line must contain your vFRG Site Name

## 4. DWT will populate the site and launch it.

- Primary system administrator will be given access rights to begin maintaining site.
- FRG members can register and subscribe.

## 5. vFRG System Administrator Training

- Review system administrator guide (downloaded from vFRG)
- Complete the on-line training.
- Sign up for VFRG system administrator Train-the-Trainer Webinar.

## 6. Technical Support

- Questions/problems may be directed to DWT Support Staff via email (online Feedback link)
- Most questions are answered within 1 working day.



# vFRG Tracking

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- **CFSC has developed a vFRG tracking database.**
- **Every Monday DWT sends CFSC a vFRG matrix showing the status of each approved command website.**
- **CFSC reconciles the database with the matrix.**
- **CFSC sends a copy of the weekly matrix to the MACOM POC, usually on Wednesdays.**
- **Notify CFSC if errors are identified in the matrix.**
- **Questions/concerns should be directed to CFSC ([armyvvirtualfrg@cfsc.army.mil](mailto:armyvvirtualfrg@cfsc.army.mil)).**



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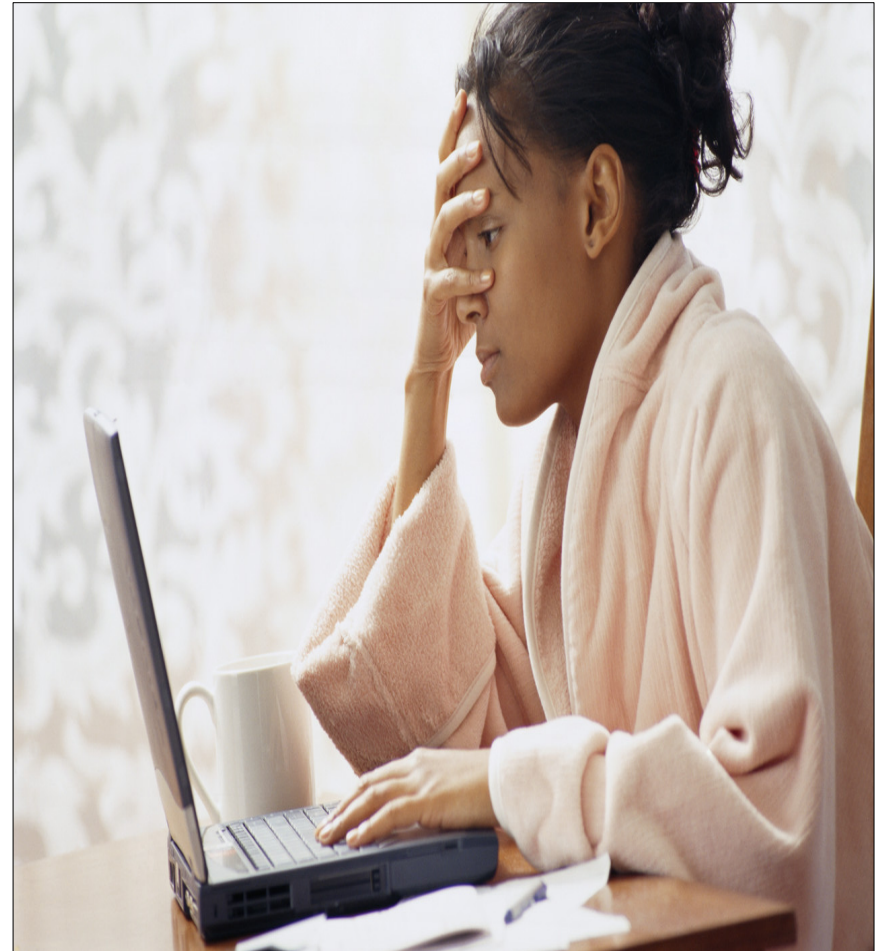
# Questions on vFRG Site Registration/ Implementation Process



# vFRG Features



- Telephone Tree
- FRG Minutes
- Store (internal fund raising)
- Online training
- Photos
- Training Tracker
- Postcards
- Family Contact Information
- Document Sharing
- Mentoring Program
- Instant messaging capabilities
- Forums and discussion groups
- Kids and Teen Area
- Chaplain Area
- Demo disk available for preview





# Responsibilities

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## ➤ **Commanders:**

- Requests the vFRG site
- Supervision and operation of the vFRG site
- Approves information posted on vFRG site
- Appoints System Administrator(s)

## ➤ **System Administrator:**

- Attend System Administrator Training
- Review, research, and approve users, who have subscribed to vFRG site
- Post, review, and release approved information
- Ensure information provided meets OPSEC guidelines
- Assists Soldiers and families with utilizing site

## ➤ **FRG Leaders:**

- May assist command in providing content for vFRG site.
- Assist families with utilizing site



# System Administrator Training Options

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- **vFRG Content Administrator Orientation**
  - On-Line Modules
  - Self-Paced
  - Can be done from any computer, at anytime
  - Highly encouraged to complete prior to attending the Webinar Training
  
- **Webinar System Administrator Train-the-Trainer Training**
  - Visual training through any computer with a broadband internet connection
  - Audio instruction through teleconference
  - Training scheduled posted on [www.armyfrg.org](http://www.armyfrg.org) home page at calendar link
  
- **Other Options will be made available, if needed.**



# Subscription Process

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- **Users must initially register to the Army vFRG parent site.**
  - [www.armyfrg.org](http://www.armyfrg.org)
- **Once register, user can log in and look for “Find an FRG” link**
  - Located on left navigation bar
- **List can be expanded by clicking on the Expand All link**
  - Located just under the Browse Item Hierarchy Bar
- **Search can be done by entering command name information**
- **Select appropriate command by clicking the GO button**
- **Enter Soldier’s information (last name, first name, SSN)**
- **Authentication can be made through DEERS or AKO**
  - This is not a mandatory step
  - It is provided to assist System Administrators with determining eligibility.



# User Approval

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- **Access Subscription List through Control Panel**
  - Located on upper right corner, under the banner
- **List of all Subscribers and their status**
- **Check box for:**
  - Approved – Individual is a user to system with read only capabilities
  - Can Admin – Individual can approve users and create pages
  - Can Create – Individual can only create new pages.
- **Emails are sent to System Administrators registered email address when a new user subscribes to vFRG site**
- **Ensure approvals for subscribers are made in a timely manner.**



# Way Ahead

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## ➤ Focus for this year:

- Developing vFRG sites for commands, who want to utilize this resource
- Collecting suggestions and reviewing current system for improvements

## ➤ Focus for next year:

- Reengineering vFRG site based upon command and user input
- Improved Technical Support
- Adding additional vFRG sites



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# Questions on Training or System Functions



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*Thank you for your  
selfless service and  
dedication. We feel  
honored to support you!*