LOCATION GUIDE

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri

Housing, BAH, schools, gates, contacts and Ozarks know-how for the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence.

SERIES
CONUS
PCS

FROM	TO	GUIDE
Your current duty station	Fort Leonard Wood, MO	Location
BRANCH	**BAH AREA**	**REPORT TO**
Army	Fort Leonard Wood, MO	Dillard Hall

INSIDE THIS GUIDE

- Quick facts and getting here
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- 2026 BAH and rent vs. buy
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WELCOME

Fort Leonard Wood at a glance

Fort Leonard Wood sits in the Missouri Ozarks along I-44, next to St. Robert and Waynesville. It's a training post with a low cost of living, rivers and trails all around, and a brand-new hospital.

FACT	DETAIL
Location	Pulaski County, MO, along I-44 next to St. Robert and Waynesville
Nearest cities	Rolla (about 30 min), Springfield (about 1.25 hr), St. Louis (about 2 hr)
Mission	Maneuver Support Center of Excellence: Engineer, Military Police and CBRN schools
Training	Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training and the NCO Academy
Founded	1940
BAH housing area	Fort Leonard Wood, MO
On-post housing	Balfour Beatty Communities
Hospital	General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital — new facility opened in 2026

Getting here

OPTION	DETAIL
Waynesville-St. Robert Regional (TBN)	About 10 minutes; very limited flights
Springfield-Branson (SGF)	About 1.25 hours
St. Louis Lambert (STL)	About 2 hours on I-44; the most flights

A brand-new hospital

The new General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital opened its ER and inpatient care in April 2026.

COUNTDOWN

Before you arrive

Fort Leonard Wood has constant student and cadre turnover. Apply for housing and request child care as soon as orders arrive, even for short courses.

As soon as you have orders 90+ DAYS OUT

- [ ] Apply for on-post housing with Balfour Beatty
- [ ] Call the School Liaison about districts
- [ ] Look up your BAH for Fort Leonard Wood
- [ ] Reserve child care for Arrive Strong if needed
- [ ] Request a sponsor from your gaining unit
- [ ] In EFMP? Contact EFMP through ACS now
- [ ] Request child care on MilitaryChildCare.com
- [ ] Join local military spouse groups

Book the move 60 DAYS OUT

- [ ] Schedule household goods or plan your PPM
- [ ] Start the off-post rental or home search
- [ ] Check pet rules for on-post housing
- [ ] Reserve on-post lodging
- [ ] Gather school, shot and IEP/504 records

Final prep 30 DAYS OUT

- [ ] Print orders, your leave form and copies
- [ ] Book a DEERS/ID card appointment if needed
- [ ] Confirm arrival date with your sponsor
- [ ] Set up utilities and internet at the new address

Ticks, storms and ice

Ozark summers bring ticks and chiggers, springs bring severe storms, and winters bring ice. Pack bug spray and pick a shelter spot early.

DAY ONE

Arrival and in-processing

Report to Central In/Out Processing at Dillard Hall on weekday mornings. After hours, families check in at Lodging and Soldiers with their unit's staff duty.

1

Central In/Out Processing

Dillard Hall, Building 470, Room 2105. Arrive 7:45–8 AM, weekdays: (573) 596-6204.

2

Arrive Strong orientation

Every Thursday, 8 AM to 4 PM at the USO, Building 805. Spouses welcome; reserve CDC care ahead.

Bring with you

- Orders and any amendments, with copies
- Your CAC and dependents' IDs
- Travel receipts and PPM weight tickets
- Signed leave form (DA Form 31)
- Marriage and birth certificates for dependents
- Lease or mortgage papers, if you have them

Gates to know

GATE	NOTES
Main (North) Gate	Off Missouri Ave; open 24/7
South Gate	Open 24/7
West and East gates	Weekday hours only
Visitor Center	Building 100 at the Main Gate; closed 9 PM to 5 AM

Training traffic

Trainee formations and road marches are common on post. Slow down, and watch for road guards in reflective vests.

WHERE TO LIVE

On-post and off-post housing

Balfour Beatty Communities manages about 1,800 homes on post in four neighborhoods, with new homes under construction. Off post, most families live in St. Robert or Waynesville.

On post BALFOUR BEATTY COMMUNITIES

- Two- to four-bedroom homes; apply as soon as you have orders
- New homes broke ground in December 2025
- On-post kids attend Waynesville R-VI schools
- Housing office: (573) 329-0122

Off post PICK BY COMMUTE

TOWN	FEEL	COMMUTE
St. Robert	I-44 shopping strip, many rentals	5–15 min
Waynesville	Small historic Route 66 town	About 15 min
Laquey	Rural; small K–12 district	About 20 min
Crocker / Dixon	Rural and quiet	25–30 min
Rolla	College town with more amenities	About 30 min
Lebanon	Larger town with more retail	About 40 min

Use the Housing Services Office

The Housing Services Office can review a lease before you sign and help with off-post landlord problems.

THE NUMBERS

2026 BAH and rent vs. buy

Fort Leonard Wood BAH is set by the Fort Leonard Wood, MO housing area. Monthly rates below.

GRADE	WITH DEPS	WITHOUT	GRADE	WITH DEPS	WITHOUT
E-1 to E-4	$1,386	$1,287	W-5	$2,130	$1,860
E-5	$1,479	$1,290	O-1	$1,515	$1,293
E-6	$1,722	$1,296	O-2	$1,719	$1,452
E-7	$1,833	$1,386	O-3	$2,028	$1,629
E-8	$1,956	$1,533	O-4	$2,142	$1,833
E-9	$2,064	$1,596	O-5	$2,223	$1,899
W-1	$1,740	$1,368	O-6	$2,238	$2,013
W-2	$1,884	$1,530	O-1E	$1,854	$1,476
W-3	$2,034	$1,608	O-2E	$2,010	$1,581
W-4	$2,073	$1,743	O-3E	$2,085	$1,713

Source: DoD 2026 BAH rates via FedRateCalc

Double-check your rate before you budget — BAH changes every January: travel.dod.mil/Allowances/Basic-Allowance-for-Housing/BAH-Rate-Lookup/

Some high-cost areas also pay CONUS COLA: travel.dod.mil/Allowances/CONUS-Cost-of-Living-Allowance/

Rent or buy?

- Rents around St. Robert and Waynesville are among the lowest in the Army
- Missouri doesn't tax military pay, which stretches your budget further
- Buying can work for a long tour; short courses fit renting or lodging
- Rural homes may have well water and septic — get them inspected

KIDS

Schools and child care

There are no DoDEA schools at Fort Leonard Wood. Waynesville R-VI runs the elementary schools on post. Off post, your address decides the district.

DISTRICT OR SCHOOL	SERVES
Waynesville R-VI School District	On post (Thayer, Partridge and Wood elementary) and Waynesville / St. Robert
Laquey R-V	Laquey
Dixon, Crocker and Plato	Rural districts around post
Rolla and Lebanon	Larger districts with more programs

School Liaison

Call (573) 596-0357 for district maps, enrollment help and IEP or 504 transitions.

Military Interstate Compact

Missouri is a member — it helps with placement and graduation rules.

Colleges nearby

Missouri S&T in Rolla and Drury University on post.

Child care

- Request Child Development Center care on MilitaryChildCare.com as soon as you have orders
- Youth programs run before and after school and in summer
- Family Child Care homes on post fill gaps
- Fee assistance can help with off-post care

FAMILY LIFE

Spouse, family and Missouri rules

Spouse support

- ACS Employment Readiness helps with job searches and federal applications
- Missouri offers licensing help for military spouses
- Local jobs are limited — remote work and on-post jobs are popular
- MyCAA can fund certificates for eligible spouses

Family programs

- ACS Relocation Readiness: (573) 596-0212
- Arrive Strong every Thursday
- EFMP through ACS — register before you arrive
- New Parent Support and Family Advocacy through ACS

Missouri rules for military families

TOPIC	WHAT TO KNOW
State income tax	Missouri exempts active-duty military pay and military retirement pay
Spouse income	Spouses who keep another legal residence may be exempt under MSRRA
Driver's license	Service members and dependents with a valid home-state license can keep it
Vehicle registration	Nonresident service members can keep home-state registration
Severe weather	Spring storms and tornado risk; ice storms in winter

OFF DUTY

Living here

You'll need a car. I-44 links St. Robert to Rolla, Springfield and St. Louis, and Ozark rivers are minutes away.

Climate

Hot, humid summers, colder winters than you'd expect, and stormy springs.

Shopping

PX and commissary on post. St. Robert for basics; Springfield for malls and Bass Pro.

On post

Engineer, MP and Chemical Corps museums, trout fishing in Roubidoux Creek, and MWR events.

Day trips

DESTINATION	DRIVE	WHY GO
Route 66 at Devil's Elbow	~15 min	Historic bridge and old road
Big Piney and Gasconade rivers	Under 1 hr	Canoe and float trips
Lake of the Ozarks	~1 hr	Boating, resorts and Ha Ha Tonka castle ruins
Springfield	~1.25 hr	Wonders of Wildlife aquarium
Branson	~1.5 hr	Shows and Silver Dollar City
Columbia	~1.5 hr	College town and Mizzou games
Mark Twain National Forest	Nearby	Trails and campgrounds
St. Louis	~2 hr	Gateway Arch, City Museum and the free zoo

KEEP THIS HANDY

Key contacts

Phone numbers change — call ahead to confirm hours before you drive over.

OFFICE	PHONE
Central In/Out Processing	(573) 596-6204
ACS Relocation	(573) 596-0212
School Liaison	(573) 596-0357
Visitor Center	(573) 596-0356
Lodging	(800) 677-8356

OFFICE	PHONE
Housing office	(573) 329-0122
TRICARE East	(800) 444-5445
Nurse advice line	1-800-874-2273

Add your own

EFMP

TRANSPORTATION (HHG/PPM)

HOSPITAL APPOINTMENTS

SPONSOR

Links

Fort Leonard Wood home page · Fort Leonard Wood MWR · GLWACH · BAH Rate Lookup · Plan My Move

Sources: Fort Leonard Wood official reporting and access pages; Military OneSource; GLWACH incoming personnel; KY3 (Mar 2026) hospital report; DoD 2026 BAH rates via FedRateCalc.

READY FOR THE FULL PLAYBOOK?

Go step by step with the kits.

Worksheets, trackers and a complete binder setup for every stage of your move.

pcslikeapro.org

hello@pcslikeapro.org

WORKSHEET

Plan your landing

My housing budget

ITEM	AMOUNT
My monthly BAH	$
Rent or mortgage	$
Utilities (estimate)	$
Renter's or homeowner's insurance	$
Left over (BAH minus costs)	$

Neighborhood comparison

AREA / ADDRESS	RENT OR PRICE	COMMUTE TO GATE	SCHOOL DISTRICT	NOTES

First-week checklist

- [ ] Report to Central In/Out Processing
- [ ] Update DEERS; get dependent IDs
- [ ] Turn in travel and moving paperwork
- [ ] Register with Child and Youth Services
- [ ] Attend Arrive Strong
- [ ] Enroll in TRICARE at GLWACH
- [ ] Enroll kids in school
- [ ] Pick your storm shelter spot