LOCATION GUIDE

# Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

Housing, BAH, schools, gates, contacts and local know-how for the Army's intellectual center on the Missouri River.

SERIES
CONUS
PCS

| FROM | TO | GUIDE |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Your current duty station | Fort Leavenworth, KS | Location |
| **BRANCH** | **BAH AREA** | **MAIN GATE** |
| Army | Fort Leavenworth | Grant Gate |

## INSIDE THIS GUIDE


- Quick facts and getting here
- Before-you-arrive checklist
- Arrival, gates and sponsors
- On-post and off-post housing
- 2026 BAH and rent vs. buy
- Schools and child care
- Spouse, family and Kansas rules
- Living here and day trips
- Key contacts
- Budget and house-hunting worksheets

WELCOME

# Fort Leavenworth at a glance

The oldest active Army post west of the Mississippi sits on bluffs above the Missouri River, about 30 minutes from Kansas City. Many families come for a one-year school tour at the Command and General Staff College.

| FACT | DETAIL |
|---|---|
| **Location** | Leavenworth County, KS, on the Missouri River |
| **Nearest cities** | Leavenworth and Lansing (next door), Kansas City (about 25–30 mi) |
| **Mission** | U.S. Army Combined Arms Center: CGSC, SAMS, School for Command Preparation and more |
| **Other tenants** | 15th Military Police Brigade and the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks |
| **Founded** | 1827 |
| **BAH housing area** | Fort Leavenworth, KS |
| **On-post housing** | Fort Leavenworth Frontier Heritage Communities |
| **Health care** | Munson Army Health Center |

## Getting here

| OPTION | DETAIL |
|---|---|
| **Kansas City Intl (MCI)** | About 20 miles from Grant Gate — an easy airport for visits home |
| **By car** | K-7 or K-92 into Leavenworth, then Grant Avenue to Grant Gate |
| **Grant Gate** | The main gate, open 24/7; other gates are closed until further notice |

**A school-year rhythm**

CGSC classes start in summer, so most families arrive at once. Housing, schools and lodging all fill fast in June and July.

COUNTDOWN

# Before you arrive

If you're coming for CGSC, timing is everything. Housing applications after mid-May often go to a waitlist, so apply the day you get orders.

## As soon as you have orders 90+ DAYS OUT

- [ ] Apply for on-post housing with your PCS orders (an RFO isn't enough)
- [ ] Call the School Liaison Office about USD 207
- [ ] Look up your BAH for Fort Leavenworth
- [ ] Compare Lansing, Leavenworth and Missouri-side towns
- [ ] Request a sponsor through Army Career Tracker
- [ ] In EFMP? Contact EFMP before you house-hunt
- [ ] Request child care on MilitaryChildCare.com
- [ ] Join local 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 lodging (Hoge Hall or Otis Hall)
- [ ] Gather school, shot and IEP/504 records

## Final prep 30 DAYS OUT

- [ ] Contact your gaining unit for in-processing steps
- [ ] Book a DEERS/ID card appointment if needed
- [ ] Pre-register visitors online if family will help you move in
- [ ] Set up utilities and internet at the new address

**One-year tours go fast**

For a 10–12 month school tour, on-post housing or a flexible lease usually beats buying. Plan your exit before you arrive.

DAY ONE

# Arrival, gates and sponsors

Your gaining unit sets your in-processing steps. Newcomer resources and unit contacts are on the Fort Leavenworth home page.

1

### Grant Gate

The main gate on Grant Avenue, open 24/7. Hancock and Sherman gates are closed until further notice.

2

### Visitor Control Center

1 Sherman Avenue, weekdays 7 AM to 4 PM. Visitors can pre-register online up to 10 days ahead. (913) 684-3600.

## Bring with you

- Orders and any amendments, with copies
- Marriage and birth certificates for dependents
- PCS orders for the housing application
- Signed leave form
- Your CAC and recent LES
- Lease or mortgage papers, if you have them

## Key offices

| OFFICE | PHONE |
|---|---|
| DEERS / ID cards | (913) 684-2636 |
| Transportation Office | (913) 684-5642 |
| Housing Services Office (off post) | (913) 684-5673 |
| Frontier Heritage Communities | (913) 682-6300 |

WHERE TO LIVE

# On-post and off-post housing

On-post homes range from historic Main Post quarters with hardwood floors to newer homes with garages and fenced yards.

## On post FRONTIER HERITAGE COMMUNITIES

- 3-, 4- and 5-bedroom single-family homes and duplexes
- CGSC applications after May 15 typically go to a waitlist
- Rent equals your BAH and adjusts with promotion or family changes
- Bachelor options include Infantry Barracks and Old Oregon

## Off post PICK BY COMMUTE

| TOWN | FEEL | COMMUTE |
|---|---|---|
| **Lansing** | Closest and often the most affordable | 10–15 min |
| **Leavenworth** | Historic river town of about 36,000 | 10–15 min |
| **Basehor** | Newer construction, suburban | 20–25 min |
| **Weston / Platte City, MO** | Historic downtowns across the river | 20–30 min |
| **Atchison** | Lower cost of living | About 25 miles north |

**Kansas or Missouri?**

Living across the river in Missouri changes your school district, vehicle rules and taxes. Ask the Housing Services Office before you decide.

THE NUMBERS

# 2026 BAH and rent vs. buy

Fort Leavenworth BAH is set by the Fort Leavenworth, KS housing area. Monthly rates below.

| GRADE | WITH DEPS | WITHOUT |
|---|---|---|
| E-1 to E-4 | $1,740 | $1,410 |
| E-5 | $1,815 | $1,569 |
| E-6 | $2,133 | $1,662 |
| E-7 | $2,229 | $1,737 |
| E-8 | $2,331 | $1,884 |
| E-9 | $2,427 | $1,971 |
| W-1 | $2,151 | $1,725 |
| W-2 | $2,268 | $1,881 |
| W-3 | $2,397 | $1,983 |
| W-4 | $2,439 | $2,151 |

| GRADE | WITH DEPS | WITHOUT |
|---|---|---|
| W-5 | $2,496 | $2,250 |
| O-1 | $1,860 | $1,659 |
| O-2 | $2,130 | $1,794 |
| O-3 | $2,394 | $2,013 |
| O-4 | $2,508 | $2,226 |
| O-5 | $2,589 | $2,283 |
| O-6 | $2,610 | $2,376 |
| O-1E | $2,244 | $1,812 |
| O-2E | $2,376 | $1,950 |
| O-3E | $2,448 | $2,124 |

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?

- Most CGSC families live on post for the short tour
- Lansing and Leavenworth offer the closest, most affordable rentals
- Permanent party on 3+ year tours sometimes buy — Kansas City suburbs give strong resale options
- Budget for winter heating and summer air conditioning

KIDS

# Schools and child care

USD 207 runs schools on post for grades PreK–9. High schoolers go to Leavenworth High School, with bus service for grades 10–12.

| DISTRICT OR SCHOOL | SERVES |
|---|---|
| **USD 207 (on post)** | PreK–9 for families living on post, including Patton Junior High; no open enrollment for non-residents |
| **Leavenworth USD 453** | Leavenworth High School for grades 10–12 from post; Leavenworth families |
| **Lansing USD 469** | Lansing |
| **Basehor-Linwood USD 458** | Basehor |
| **Missouri districts** | Platte County and West Platte for Missouri-side towns |

### School Liaison Office

Call (913) 684-1655 for enrollment help and IEP or 504 transitions.

### Military Interstate Compact

Helps with records, placement and graduation rules when you move mid-year.

### USD 207

207 Education Way; (913) 651-7373.

## Child care

- Request Child Development Center care on MilitaryChildCare.com as soon as you have orders
- Summer is the busiest time — plan care for in-processing week
- Family Child Care homes on post can fill gaps
- Youth programs and camps run through Child and Youth Services

FAMILY LIFE

# Spouse, family and Kansas rules

## Spouse support

- ACS Employment Readiness helps with job searches and federal applications
- Spouse clubs and CGSC spouse programs connect families quickly
- Kansas City has a large job market about 30 minutes away
- MyCAA can fund certificates for eligible spouses

## Family programs

- EFMP through ACS — register before you arrive
- New Parent Support and Family Advocacy through ACS
- CGSC family events throughout the school year
- Financial Readiness counseling

## Kansas rules for military families

| TOPIC | WHAT TO KNOW |
|---|---|
| **State income tax** | Nonresident service members stationed here aren't taxed by Kansas on military pay; Kansas exempts 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 and plates |
| **Severe weather** | Spring tornado season; learn your shelter spot and siren tests |
| **Disabled veterans** | Kansas offers extra income and property tax relief for 100% disabled veterans |

OFF DUTY

# Living here

You'll need a car. Kansas City's airport, sports and shopping are about 30 minutes away.

### Climate

Hot, humid summers and cold winters with real snow. Spring brings tornado warnings.

### Shopping

Commissary and PX on post. Legends Outlets and Zona Rosa in Kansas City are close.

### On post

Frontier Army Museum, Buffalo Soldier Monument, golf, trails along the river and the historic Main Post.

## Day trips

| DESTINATION | DRIVE | WHY GO |
|---|---|---|
| **Leavenworth** | ~10–15 min | Buffalo Soldier Memorial Park and downtown |
| **Weston, MO** | ~20 min | Historic town, orchards and wineries |
| **Kansas City** | ~30 min | Chiefs, Royals, barbecue and the Nelson-Atkins Museum |
| **Legends Outlets** | ~30 min | Shopping and the Kansas Speedway area |
| **Lawrence** | ~45 min | University of Kansas and downtown |
| **St. Joseph, MO** | ~1 hr | Pony Express and Jesse James museums |
| **Topeka** | ~1 hr | State Capitol and Brown v. Board historic site |
| **Flint Hills** | ~2 hr | Tallgrass prairie and scenic drives |

KEEP THIS HANDY

# Key contacts

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

| OFFICE | PHONE |
|---|---|
| Visitor Control Center | (913) 684-3600 |
| DEERS / ID cards | (913) 684-2636 |
| Transportation Office | (913) 684-5642 |
| School Liaison Office | (913) 684-1655 |

| OFFICE | PHONE |
|---|---|
| Frontier Heritage Communities | (913) 682-6300 |
| Housing Services Office | (913) 684-5673 |
| Lodging (Hoge Hall) | (913) 364-1301 |
| USD 207 | (913) 651-7373 |

## Add your own

ACS

EFMP

MUNSON HEALTH CENTER

VET CLINIC

## Links

Fort Leavenworth home page · Fort Leavenworth MWR · Munson Army Health Center · BAH Rate Lookup · Plan My Move

Sources: PCS Pay It Forward Fort Leavenworth base guide; 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

- [ ] Complete your unit in-processing
- [ ] Enroll in TRICARE at Munson
- [ ] Enroll kids in school
- [ ] Visit ACS for the lending closet
- [ ] Update DEERS; get dependent IDs
- [ ] Turn in travel and moving paperwork
- [ ] Register with Child and Youth Services
- [ ] Register vehicles for post access