

Fort Leonard Wood – Protecting Our Nation from the Heart of Our Nation

Diverse mission

- Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post more than 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains more than 80,000 military and civilians each year in active component courses.
- Fort Leonard Wood is a valued asset and has proven to be a great investment for our nation, receiving gains in prior BRACs for three U.S. Army training schools, their brigades and the Prime Power School.
- Fort Leonard Wood has also received discretionary gains of inter-service and joint training missions for the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Air Force which are integral parts of the post's mission.
- All Department of Defense (DoD) training for earthmoving, truck driving, civil support, and CBRN first responders happens at Fort Leonard Wood. It is also home to the 102d U.S. Army Reserve Training Division, commanded by a Brigadier General as well as to the Missouri National Guard's 35th Engineer Brigade. About 12-13,000 people from 120 reserve and other non-tenant units train at FLW yearly.
- The Army also recently approved moving the Army Geospatial School to Fort Leonard Wood from Fort Belvoir as a discretionary move.
- Not only does Fort Leonard Wood train and educate service members and develop leaders, doctrine and future capabilities for the U.S. Army Engineer School, the U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, and the U.S. Army Military Police School...it also trains 1 in 5 new Soldiers entering Army basic combat training. 25-30% of women in the Army start their careers at Fort Leonard Wood as it is one of only three gender-integrated reception sites. Fort Leonard Wood is also home to one of the Army's largest and most diverse Non Commissioned Officers Academies.
- A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; one in seven Marines will train at Fort Leonard Wood. A large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well. In addition our U.S. Army Engineer School's, 1st Engineer Brigade has joint agreements and command and control for numerous joint training companies located in Florida, Mississippi, Texas, and North Carolina.
- The post is also home to a large international student detachment. We typically train about 450 international students each year, and, in the past 5 years, we have trained international partners from more than 100 nations.
- Engineer; Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear; and Military Police branches and forces are critical to the Army and nation and have critical input to nearly every area outlined in the nation's 21st century defense priorities. Our three branches and their deployed forces are critical to deter and defeat aggression, anti-access, countering-weapons of mass destruction, defending the homeland and supporting civil authorities, stability operations, disaster relief, and humanitarian assistance.

- Fort Leonard Wood has several highly critical missions for the Army or Training and Doctrine Command including lead for capabilities development in Countering Improvised Explosives Devices; lead for Homeland Defense and Civil Support; and performing high risk Chemical Defense training with Live Nerve Agent.
- In addition to being a premier training Center, Fort Leonard Wood is home to and supports numerous deployable Forces Command units including the Fourth Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, which oversees 2 battalions of engineer, military police, and support functions. The Maneuver Enhancement Brigade is the Army's choice to execute the Defense Chemical Biological Radiological & Nuclear Response Force mission for the nation and is executing this mission through May 2015.
- Add to these the strength of our retirees, families, civilians, resident school district, and industry and academic liaisons, and you have the full picture of Fort Leonard Wood's current mission and population served – nearly 100,000 – and its competencies and contributions to the Army and Nation.

Economic impact

- Not only is Fort Leonard Wood a leading training and support platform, it's also a leading employer and economic engine, employing a highly professional and motivated civilian workforce of 7,500 people in a variety of fields.
- Fort Leonard Wood has an operating budget of approximately \$470M not including \$680M in annual military salaries.
- The post's typical supported population includes 12,000 Service members in training; 6,600 military permanent party; 12,700 military family members; and 59,000 retirees and their families. In addition, nearly 200,000 families and friends attend their loved ones' graduations at Fort Leonard Wood each year. So, it's no surprise that Fort Leonard Wood was ranked third in Forbes' list of fastest-growing small towns in America.
- In addition to population and salaries, military construction also plays a role in economic impact. With funds allocated from prior and current year(s), Fort Leonard Wood's military construction projects currently underway or pending start in FY15 total more than \$264M.
- The installation is Missouri's 5th largest employer and supports 36,400 direct and indirect jobs.
- Over the past several years, just shy of 60% of military retirees chose to make the communities around Fort Leonard Wood their lifelong homes.

Community Relations, Location, and Future

- Over the years and throughout its tremendous growth, Fort Leonard Wood has continually experienced fantastic relationships among senior commanders and leaders, tenants, and the surrounding communities and the state.
- Across communities throughout the state, Fort Leonard Wood has signed 13 Army Community Covenants – more than any other Army installation.

- Leading in innovation and development for the future of our Army, Fort Leonard Wood has established community service partnerships with 11 school districts and six universities which include a Memoranda of Agreement with the University of Missouri, participation with six economic development organizations, and collaboration with the Leonard Wood Institute.
- Military, family members, and local residents can gain higher education on post as well. Through cooperative agreements, Fort Leonard Wood is home to Missouri's 6th largest degree granting program through several institutions of higher learning at our Truman Education Center.
- The local school systems are second-to-none and boast incredible statistics in learning, graduation rates, and placement; the local schools demonstrate excellence in appreciation for the military, quality of education, and excellence in academia, athletics and the arts.
- Missouri is one of the most military-friendly states in the nation with state legislation allowing for the following: greater access to education and ease of transfer including leniency with kindergarten/first grade entry and waivers for state history credits in high school; spouses' interim professional licenses if they've had them in another state; continuing Missouri Military Family Relief Fund to assist National Guard and Reserve Families; unemployment for spouses who must leave their jobs to accompany military spouses on a military transfer; assisting veterans in educational pursuits through the Returning Heroes Education Act; and providing a graduated relief from state income tax on military retired pay.
- Fort Leonard Wood has an outstanding master plan for future facilities and is one of the few Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) installations without energy, environmental, water, space, or encroachment concerns.
- In recent months' and years' visits from senior leaders including elected officials, Secretary of Defense; Secretary of the Army; Chief of Staff of the Army; Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy, and Environment, Chief of Staff of the Army; staff from U.S. Representatives House Armed Services Committee, and numerous other General and Flag Officers, a resounding and common feedback theme was Fort Leonard Wood's tremendous contributions to protecting our nation and its capacity, infrastructure, and capabilities that would allow for even more growth.
- With everything Fort Leonard Wood has to offer – from its inter-service Engineer, CBRN, Military Police, and Truck Driver training and education missions supporting national security....to its quality of and capacity in infrastructure, facilities, and land...to its inexpensive and military-friendly state and communities– it's not surprising that more and more service members, families and civilians are making Fort Leonard Wood their lifelong home. With these qualities, Fort Leonard Wood is postured to grow and prosper for years to come.