



PRESS RELEASE

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Five Communities Named 2021 Great American Defense Communities

Washington, D.C. – Five communities around the country have been named to the 2021 class of Great American Defense Communities, the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) announced this week in conjunction with USAA, the program’s official sponsor.

The [Great American Defense Communities program](#), now in its sixth year, recognizes military communities and regions that help improve the quality of life for service members and military families. The 2021 class includes Altus, Oklahoma; Coastal Georgia; Everett, Washington; Great Falls, Montana; and the NAS Pensacola & NAS Whiting Field Community.

“The men and women who serve our nation deserve our full support whether they are on a mission abroad or on duty at an installation closer to home,” said Joe Driskill, ADC president. “These five regions have demonstrated what it means to go above and beyond to support the service members, veterans, and military families who live in their communities, even despite the challenges of this past year.”

The Great American Defense Communities program highlights communities and regions in the U.S. that provide unparalleled support to service members, veterans, and military families. Communities are chosen through a competitive nomination process based on community integration programs, educational and employment opportunities, family support – and this year, diversity and inclusion initiatives and COVID-19 programs were taken into consideration.

“USAA is proud to support The Great American Defense Communities program and highlight these engaged and supportive communities that demonstrate their support for our nation’s military families,” said Mike Kelly, assistant vice president for Military Affairs at USAA. “Service members and their families are valuable assets to the communities where they serve and we appreciate the local programs that embrace them.”

Defense communities and regions that are home to active military installations are eligible to apply each year. This year’s selected communities will be honored throughout the year,

including special recognition at the Installation Innovation Forum in San Antonio, Texas November 1-3, 2021.

About ADC

ADC is the connection point for leaders from communities, states, the military and industry on community-military issues and installation management to enhance knowledge, information sharing and best practices. With nearly 300 communities, states, regions, and affiliated industry organization as members, ADC represents every major defense community/state in the nation. To learn more, visit defensecommunities.org.

About USAA

The USAA family of companies provides insurance, banking, investments, retirement products and advice to nearly 13 million current and former members of the U.S. military and their families. Known for its legendary commitment to its members, USAA is consistently recognized for outstanding service, employee well-being and financial strength. USAA membership is open to all who are serving our nation in the U.S. military or have received a discharge type of Honorable – and their eligible family members. Founded in 1922, USAA is headquartered in San Antonio. For more information about USAA, follow us on Facebook or Twitter (@USAA), or visit usaa.com.

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