

Fort Meade adverse weather operating status details

OPM Status: Fort Meade does NOT follow the OPM adverse weather guidance as the OPM-NCR announcements target agencies inside the “Washington Capital Beltway”. OPM announcements are taken into consideration as part of the Fort Meade decision-making process but only decisions made by the Garrison Commander are announced in the Fort Meade adverse weather status.

EARLY RELEASE: An early release may be announced when driving conditions within the Fort Meade commuting area are forecasted to be hazardous. Personnel will be released from duty in time to avoid the hazardous travel conditions. Early release does not apply to personnel deemed to be in critical positions.

DELAYED ARRIVAL: Delayed arrival is authorized when roads in the commuting area are hazardous and employees are authorized additional time to safely commute from home to the workplace. Delayed arrival is based on the employee’s normal commuting time. For example, when a two-hour delayed arrival is announced, an employee with a normal 7:30 a.m. start time would be required to arrive by 9:30 a.m. and the employee would be granted up to two hours excused absence (LV).

Child Development Center Policy for Delayed Arrival

- When Garrison implements a Delayed Arrival, children of emergency personnel will be given priority service. The center will only accept children of non-emergency personnel during the delayed arrival time as staffing permits. Additional time to allow garrison personnel to safely commute from home to the workplace given a normal commute start time. This time is charged as administrative leave.

DELAYED OPENING: A delayed opening is announced when roads and parking lots on post are deemed very hazardous and installation snow removal operations require additional time to make travel on post as safe as possible. A specific time of arrival will be announced and employees should not report to work until the scheduled time of arrival. For example, when a 10 a.m. opening is announced, an employee who normally starts at 7:30 a.m. should not arrive until 10 a.m. Employees will be granted administrative leave (LV) for the period of work they missed between their normal scheduled arrival time and the time of the delayed opening.

CDC Policy for Delayed Opening

- Only children of emergency personnel will be serviced before the designated opening. Children of non-emergency personnel may be accepted 30 minutes prior to reporting time or earlier if staffing permits.

REDUCED OPERATIONS: Reduced operations are announced when weather and road conditions become so severe or unsafe that all but specified functions are curtailed or closed. Critical personnel are still required to report to duty. All other personnel are granted excused absence (LV).

CDC Policy for Reduced Operations

- All child care facilities will be closed. **However, FCC care will be available for those children whose parent (s) have made prearrangements to be considered Adverse Weather Emergency Personnel. FCC homes have been identified to care for children. Your manager of your center will have the designated list of FCC homes and will provide you with that list.** If you would like to pre-visit an FCC home, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with the FCC office (please call 301-677-1160, they will be happy to make arrangements for a One on One pre-arranged meeting for you). **CYS Services will credit your account for the difference in fees. You will need to provide your receipt for care to your center in order to receive credit.**

Unscheduled Leave or Unscheduled telework. When unscheduled leave or unscheduled telework is authorized, employees with permission from their supervisor, may take leave or perform telework from home.

Gate hours of operation: Unless a Delayed Opening is ordered which specifies a specific time for the installation to open, gates will not close and hours of operations will not change during weather events. **During Delayed Opening**, entrance to the installation may be restricted until installation roads and parking lots can be prepared for use.

The Post Exchange, Shoppettes and The Commissary strive to stay open for the public during weather events. Current status of these operations will be posted on the Fort Meade Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ftmeade.

Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center Weather Policies

Inclement weather operational status at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center (KACC) is determined by the KACC Commander. These decision typically, but not invariably, mirror the installation's status. Once a weather decision is made, the KACC status is posted on the **Kimbrough Facebook page** (<https://www.facebook.com/KimbroughCARES>).

- **Delayed opening or Delayed arrival**, KACC employees are expected to arrive by 0900 with clinic activities resuming at 0930. Upon arrival, administrative personnel in individual clinics will begin telephoning patients with cancelled early morning appointments in order to reschedule them. Similarly, administrative personnel will attempt to reschedule patients (for the same day whenever possible) who arrived in person and whose appointments were cancelled.
- **Surgical or GI procedure patients** scheduled to arrive prior to the announced opening time, will be contacted by telephone once the decision for delayed/late opening or closure is made by the command and given a new report time. If an early release decision is made, the staff will attempt to contact surgical/procedure patients who have not yet arrived.
- **Early release**, KACC administrative personnel will immediately begin attempts to contact patients whose appointments will be affected in order to prevent a wasted trip and reschedule their appointments.

Any patients whose procedures were cancelled due to weather closure, will be contacted the next duty day to facilitate rescheduling.

Partner Organization Responsibilities.

Operating status announcements made due to adverse weather by USAG Fort Meade are binding for only Garrison organizations. Partner organizations must make their own weather decisions in regard to the status of their personnel. Historically most partner organization decisions have mirrored those made by the installation.

Adverse weather announcements can be accessed by dialing **(301) 677- MEAD (6323)**. Announcements will also be broadcast on most local television and radio stations, as well as on installation social media.

There may be times, due to technical issues, that the Fort Meade Home Page <http://www.ftmeade.army.mil>, cannot be updated in a timely manner. However, the latest installation status can always be found on our Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/ftmeade> or our twitter feed, at <http://www.twitter.com/ftmeademd>. You can sign up to receive text alerts by texting "follow ftmeadealert" to 40404.