



## REFERRAL AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE EDWARDS AFB CA

Developing a sense of community here starts before you arrive at Edwards AFB. We recognize the efforts behind this transition and want to make sure you are satisfied with the detail of your move. To obtain referral and relocation assistance, we encourage you to reach out for personalized services provided by the Housing Management Office (HMO) staff.

There are several communities surrounding Edwards AFB; Lancaster and Palmdale to the south and California City, Mojave, North Edwards, and Boron to the north, Rosamond to the west and Tehachapi to the northwest. Distances from main base vary from 20 to 45 miles.

**Boron** – Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 23 – Web address: [www.boronchamber.org](http://www.boronchamber.org)

Located northeast of Edwards along California State Highway 58, the community of Boron is the site of a giant open-pit mine from which the extracted element, borax, lends the town its name. The pit, the largest in the Western Hemisphere, is owned and operated by the U.S. Borax and Chemical Corporation and, along with Edwards Air Force Base, employs a great deal of the community. The town is also home of the Col. Vernon P. Saxon Jr. Aerospace Museum. The town's people tuck themselves into the preservation of the rich history of both Boron and Edwards. Kern County provides the community's branch library, fire station and sheriff department. The U.S. Post Office is centrally located on Boron Avenue.

**California City** -- Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 17 -- Web address: [www.californiacityca.us](http://www.californiacityca.us)

Begun as a private commercial development, the community was incorporated in 1965 and ranks as the third largest incorporated city in terms of land area in California. Located northwest of the base along Highway 58 and a northern jaunt on California City Boulevard, the small community offers all the enhancements of the original developer's grand vision: easy shopping, an 18-hole golf course and a central park, offering swimming, boating, fishing, illuminated tennis courts, basketball and volleyball courts, picnic facilities, barbecue pits, children's playgrounds and a marina facility.

**Lancaster** -- Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 29 -- Web address: [www.cityoflancasterca.org](http://www.cityoflancasterca.org)

A thriving, civic spirited community, Lancaster has enjoyed unprecedented growth and prosperity in the last decade. During this time, Lancaster has grown to be the commercial and business center of the Antelope Valley and promises to continue such growth. With proximity to the Los Angeles metropolitan area and yet clean air and blue skies, the community is an affordable choice conveniently located to much of Southern California's attractions and aerospace industry employment. Lancaster has a council manager/administer form of government. All public safety services, including police and fire, are

provided by the County of Los Angeles, while the sheriff's department performs contract-based services, and the fire department performs under a Fire Protection District approach.

**Mojave** -- Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 35 -- Web address: [www.mojave.ca.us](http://www.mojave.ca.us)

Mojave sits at the junction of California State Highways 14 and 58, and to some is a gateway to such popular spots as Mammoth and the Eastern Sierras, Las Vegas, Eastern Mojave Desert and to the Los Angeles Basin. But Mojave itself is the location of several natural wonders and historical sites that include mining ghost towns and more. Anyone driving through Mojave is certain to notice the Mojave Airport. Known to many as the civilian flight test center and the launching spot of Space- Ship One, the airport is unique in its locale and environmental conditions and is known both for its flight test activities and for the maintenance and storage services provided to the airline industry.

**North Edwards** -- Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 9

North Edwards is an unincorporated bedroom community just north of Edwards along California State Highway 58. School-age children go to school at Edwards. Housing is affordable, although shopping convenience is limited.

**Palmdale** -- Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 39 -- Web address: [www.cityofpalmdale.org](http://www.cityofpalmdale.org)

Palmdale's biggest industry, and employer, is aerospace. Thousands of residents are employed at Air Force Plant 42 Production Flight Test Installation and Edwards Air Force Base. Plant 42 is a huge complex including more than eight million square feet of covered space. Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Co., Northrop Grumman and The Boeing Co. have billions of dollars in aerospace projects there. Producers, manufacturers, wholesalers, government and business services comprise 76 percent of the city's employment force. Natural resources also provide employment in the fields of sand, gravel, rock and cement production. The film industry finds Palmdale's high desert locations very attractive and spends millions of dollars here annually. A community of 136,734 residents, Palmdale has a civic foundation in the Larry Chimbole Cultural Center, Palmdale Playhouse and Poncitlan Square, a park fashioned after one in Poncitlan, Mexico, Palmdale's sister city.

**Quartz Hill** -- Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 35 -- Web address: [www.quartzhillchamber.org](http://www.quartzhillchamber.org)

Quartz Hill, a small, primarily residential, unincorporated community, is situated just four-and-a-half square miles west of Lancaster and Palmdale. Residents enjoy the rustic qualities of the town with horseback riding on many trails, fishing in the nearby California Aqueduct and a view

of nature. The community is known for its almond orchards and the annual almond festival parade.

**Rosamond** -- Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 19 -- Web address: [www.rosamondtowncouncil.org](http://www.rosamondtowncouncil.org)

Just a straight shot west of Edwards along Rosamond Boulevard, the small community of Rosamond is a mecca for rock-hounds with its cradling and abundant hillside landscape of beautiful rocks—especially at Gem Hill, located four miles north of the community. Kern County provides fire and police protection in addition to supporting a community recreation building and three parks with a lighted baseball diamond. Agriculture pertinent to the area includes alfalfa, sugar beets, potatoes and onions. The community also has a community/senior center. The community is the home of Willow Springs Raceway and the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound.

**Tehachapi** -- Miles from Air Force Test Center Headquarters Building: 45 -- Web address: [www.tehachapicityhall.com](http://www.tehachapicityhall.com)

For those seeking a fresh alternative, the City of Tehachapi, a community where the Central Valley meets Southern California, is a charming, invigorating mountain setting that energizes and elevates the quality of life. Located outside of Southern California's congested, highly populated areas, and outside of the drier, hotter deserts and valleys surrounding it, living in Tehachapi is like a breath of fresh air. Its higher elevation and mountain locale epitomizes outdoor living at its best. People here, whether resident or visitor, relish their time spent outside enjoying the scenic beauty and recreational opportunities that Living Up has to offer. Tehachapi offers an alternative to the Southern California attitude. —It is like a little slice of the Midwest in the middle of California. The area has been and continues to lead in renewable, alternative energy sources. Tehachapi offers an alternative to the Los Angeles area with more affordable real estate and distinguished schools.



## REFERRAL AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE EDWARDS AFB CA

Military members are entitled to various allowances to ensure the transition to a new location is as smooth and as stress free as possible. If you have any questions about the allowance listed, please contact the HMO.

### **Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)**

Military members assigned to Edwards AFB receive Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH). The purpose of the BAH program is to provide housing allowances to service members based on median housing costs in local civilian markets. The DoD determines the correct housing allowance to enable members to afford suitable housing within a reasonable distance of their duty location. The allowance is set based on geographic duty location, pay grade, and dependent status and is adjusted each year.

For more information about your BAH, visit the [Defense Travel Management Office](#) website.