

Family Emergencies

We understand that many parents and family members can be curious and/or worried about how their loved one is doing at BMT. Please understand that trainees are kept very busy and as a result, they may not be able to write you everyday or call you very often. There will also likely be a delay before you start to receive letters or phone calls beyond the initial "I am here safe" call and address post card. The key word to remember is PATIENCE.

Families may begin to get worried that "something is wrong" if they do not hear from their loved one often. There is an important phrase to remember when these thoughts start to pop up. "No News Is Good News".... This phrase is 100% true when it comes to trainees in BMT. BMT is structured to keep trainees very busy and there just is not a lot of time to write letters and trainees are not given a lot of time to make phone calls. One thing that does happen is if the trainees' graduation date is going to change or if the trainee is having a medical issue, the trainee will be told to call their family and update them on what is going on. So, if you start to get concerned about your loved one, but have not received a call to say something is wrong... remember... No News Is Good News.

Family Emergencies

In the case of a family emergency you need to contact your local Red Cross to make contact with your trainee. Emergencies include:

- Death in the immediate family.
- Serious illness in the immediate family.
- Birth announcement (wife of trainee)

The Red Cross has protocols they will follow to get the information to your trainee. This is the case not only for BMT but also for the entire time your loved one is in the Air Force.

How to contact the Red Cross for assistance:

Call (877) 272-7337 (toll-free) if you are an Active duty service member stationed in the United States, or a family member residing with them.

You can also contact your local Red Cross Chapter which is listed in your local telephone directory. When calling the Red Cross be prepared to provide the following information about the Service Member as is known:

- Full Name
- Rank/Rating
- Branch of Service
- Social Security Number or Date of Birth
- Military Address

(The American Red Cross web site is located at <http://www.redcross.org/>)