

**MOVEMENT**  
— MILITARY —

# JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD

## RELOCATION GUIDE

Everything you need to know for a stress-free PCS



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# WELCOME TO JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD

In picturesque Washington state, you'll find one of the largest and most sought-after military installations in the country, Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). Whether this is your first big military move or your next stop on tour, you'll be at home in this scenic posting like no other.

Nestled between the Puget Sound and Cascade Mountains, JBLM offers its residents striking views of Mt. Reiner and the Olympia Mountains as well as an abundance of outdoor recreation.

If you enjoy a great cup of coffee, laid-back lifestyle and outstanding natural exploration, JBLM will suit you well. Just be sure to prepare for the pacific northwest's tendency toward rain - rain that fuels its equally renowned lush landscapes and a greater appreciation for sunny days.

## Joint Base Lewis-McChord Quick Facts:

- JBLM is located on approximately 413,714 acres of land 9.1 miles south of Tacoma, WA
- It is the fourth largest military base in the world, supporting a population of 295,713
- The facility is utilized by multiple military services and consists of four geographical areas: Lewis Main, Lewis North, McChord Field and Yakima Training Center
- Fort Lewis, named after the famed Lewis and Clark expedition, was built in 1917. It wasn't until 2010 that it was established as a joint base when it merged with McChord Air Force Base.

## About JBLM

The "Home of the I Corps and the 62nd Airlift Wing" boasts state-of-the-art training and infrastructure and is one of the largest and most modern military

installations in the country. It is currently the only Army power-projection platform located west of the Rocky Mountains.

JBLM is also home to the 446th Airlift Wing, 7th Infantry Division, 1st Special Forces Group, 75th Ranger Regiment, 66th Theater Aviation Command and Madigan Army Medical Center.

## PCS SUPPORT

### Main Housing Office

(253) 967-3581  
Building 5128, Pendleton Ave  
JBLM, WA 98433

### Military & Family Support Center

(253) 982-1552  
100 Col Joe Jackson Blvd, Suite 3015  
JBLM, WA 98438

### Relocation Assistance Program

(270) 798-6313  
2140 Liggett Avenue, Bldg 2140, Room 201  
Box 339500 MS 20  
JBLM, WA 98433

### Family Advocacy Program

(253) 968-4159  
Liggett Avenue  
JBLM, WA 98433

### Financial Office

(253) 982-3945  
100 Col Joe Jackson Boulevard  
McChord Field, WA 98438

# COMMUTING

## Surrounding Cities and Major Destinations

Given JBLM's convenient location and proximity to major metropolitan hubs, residents here have easy access to a variety of transportation options. Both Olympia and Tacoma are the largest nearby cities that serve this base while Seattle is only a one-hour drive away.

Average commute times to nearby cities and destinations range from 19 minutes to 4 hours. Since multiple major cities are within driving distance, there are plenty of convenient, fast and easy travel options, including Interstate 5 which divides the JBLM installations.



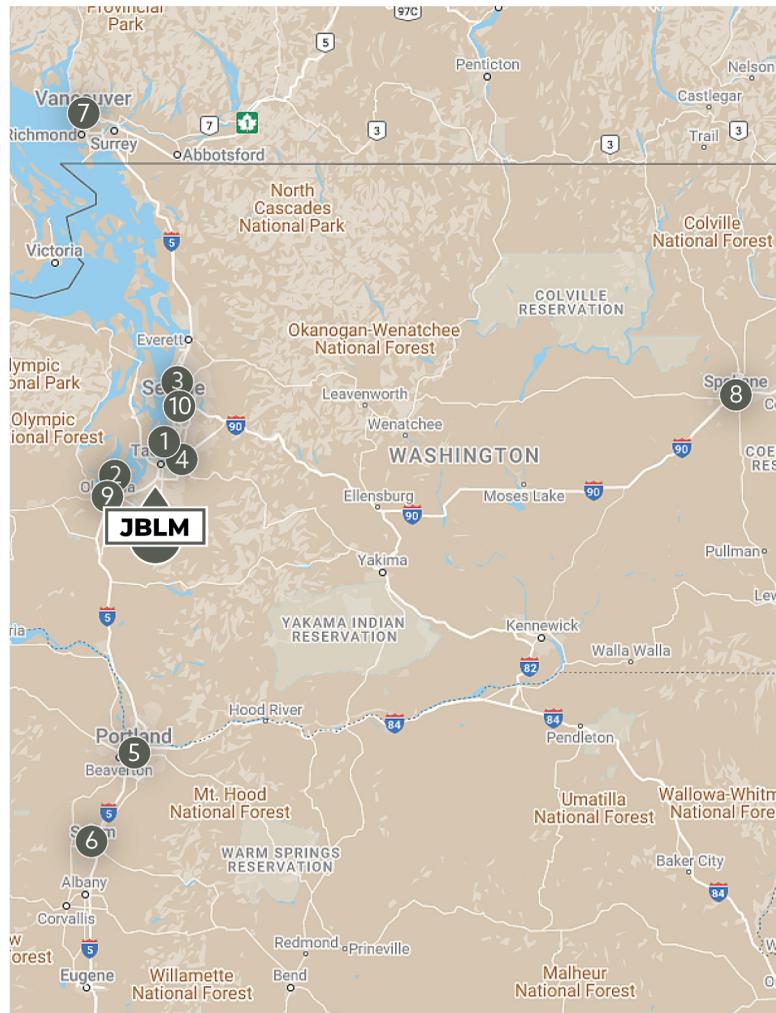
## AVERAGE COMMUTE TIMES

1. Tacoma, WA - 19 Minutes
2. Olympia, WA - 23 Minutes
3. Seattle, WA - 57 Minutes
4. Puyallup, WA - 27 Minutes
5. Portland, OR - 2 Hours 9 Minutes
6. Salem, OR - 3 Hours
7. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada - 3 Hours 39 Minutes
8. Spokane, WA - 4 Hours 50 Minutes

## LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

9. Olympia Regional Airport - 30 Minutes
10. Seattle-Tacoma (SEA) International Airport - 48 Minutes
11. Tacoma Amtrak - 19 Minutes (#1 on map)
12. Greyhound Bus Station - 18 Minutes (#1 on map)

NOTE: Commute times are approximate



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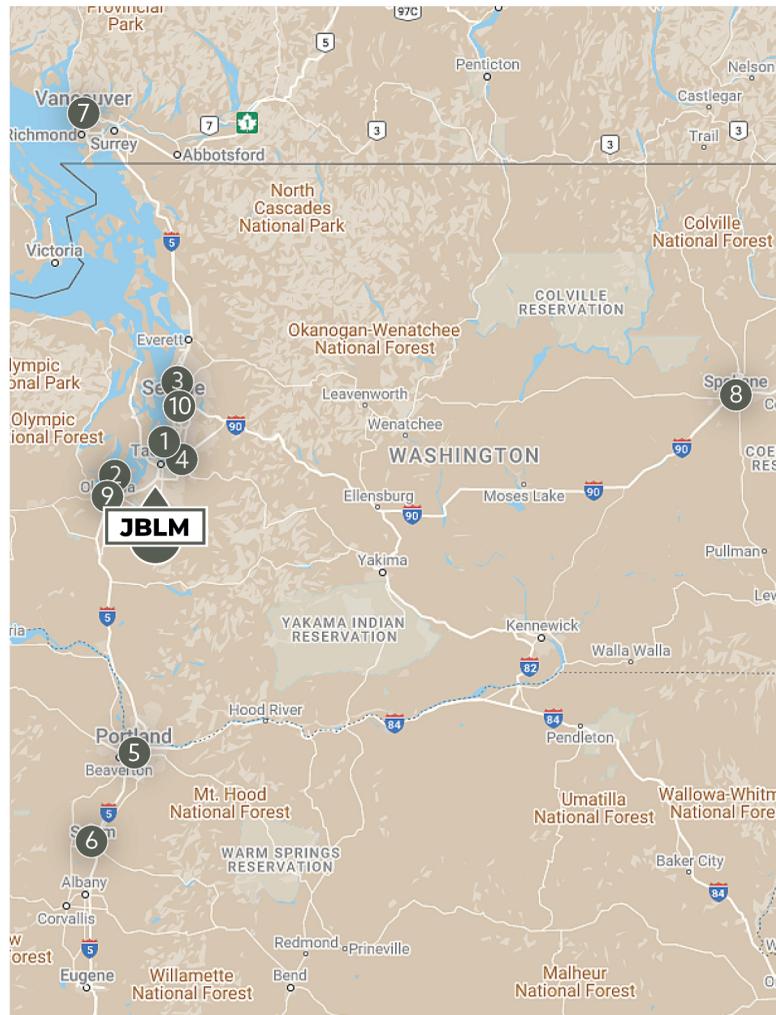
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# NEIGHBORHOOD SNAPSHOT

Family-friendly neighborhoods, scenic mountain views and small-town charm with nearby city amenities are just a few of the reasons JBLM is one of the most coveted postings. The difficult part of finding a home here may be which great option to pick. Here are three we recommend looking into for your family.

## DuPont

Living in the idyllic and historic community of DuPont is all about location, location, location. Popular among military families, this friendly community with a “Mayberry” feel is located just 5 minutes from base, 15 minutes from Olympia and 20 minutes from Tacoma. Yes, the commute times are hard to beat but what will really sell you on this area are the stunning views, quaint communities and considerable small-town charm.

### Average Price Range:

\$400,000 - \$600,000

### Distance to Base:

4.2 miles to JBLM Main Gate

### Neighborhood Highlights

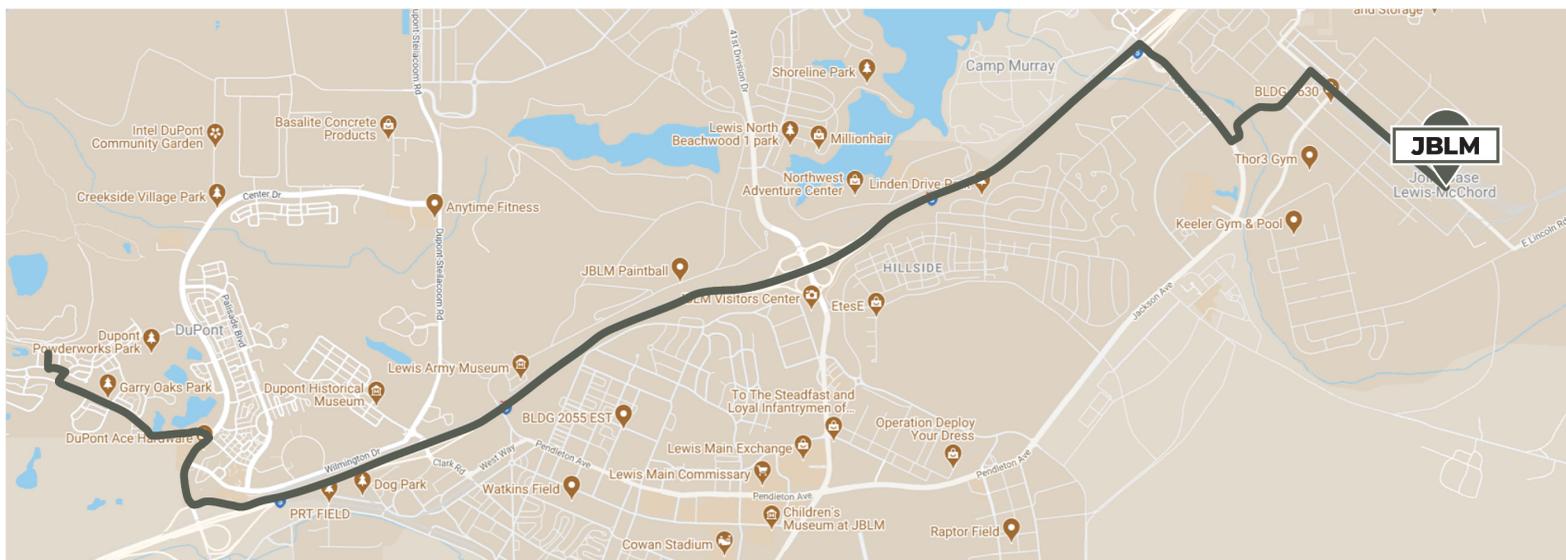
- Family-friendly
- Proximity to base and easy access to nearby cities
- Proximity to national parks and outdoor recreation
- Good schools

### Nearby Schools

- Chloe Clark Elementary School
- Pioneer Middle School
- Steilacoom High School

### Things to Consider

While living in DuPont will offer easy access to base and everyday essentials, you’ll likely have to head out to nearby Lakewood or Olympia for more modern amenities and big box stores. Given the popularity of this area, neighborhoods can feel a bit crowded with “cookie-cutter” style homes that sell quickly. As long as you like getting to know your neighbors, DuPont is a great option.



# LAKWOOD

If you're searching for a community that checks all the boxes, Lakewood is it. Located just outside JBLM and considered the base's host community, this attractive location boasts several lakes, parks, golf courses, shopping, dining and even has a summer farmer's market. Best of all, you'll be happy to find this neighborhood is only 5-10 minutes from base. If you live an active lifestyle and love the great outdoors - especially water sports - Lakewood is a great option!

## Average Price Range:

\$200,000 - \$400,000

## Distance to Base:

3.5 miles to JBLM Main Gate

## Neighborhood Highlights

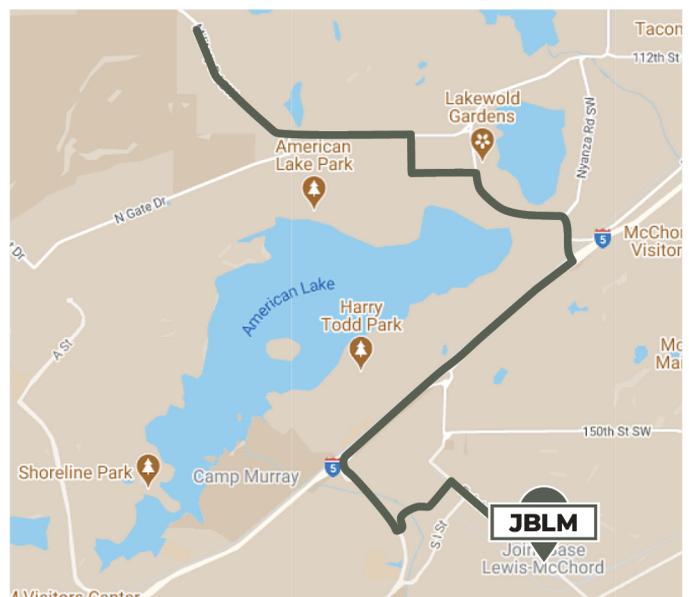
- Family-friendly
- Proximity to base
- Affordable Homes
- Lake Living

## Nearby Schools

- Custer Elementary School
- Hudtloff Middle School
- Lakes High School

## Things to Consider

Living in Lakewood means enjoying the exciting opportunities that come with lakeside living - fishing, boating, water sports/recreation - as well as the modern-day conveniences of having everything you need close by. Home prices are more affordable here considering most homes have been built in the nineties and are in need of some TLC. This is something you may want to consider if you're not interested in a fixer-upper. Another consideration is the wide variety of education options - 17 local schools in fact - so be sure to do your research before deciding where to settle.



# YELM

If you dream of country living and scenic mountain views, check out the well-established community of Yelm, otherwise known as the “Pride of the Prairie.” Located just south of JBLM in the shadow of Mt. Rainer, you’ll enjoy peace and quiet in an area rich in history that will take you back in time to frontier beginnings. Yelm is quickly becoming a more popular option among military families seeking affordable housing in a smaller, tight-knit community.

## Average Price Range:

\$350,000 - \$450,000

## Distance to Base:

14.8 miles to JBLM East Gate

## Neighborhood Highlights

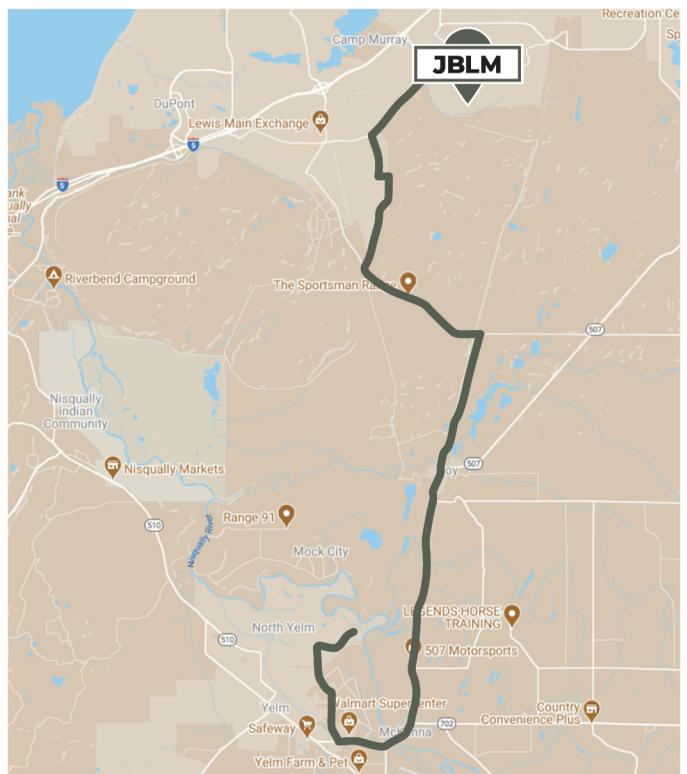
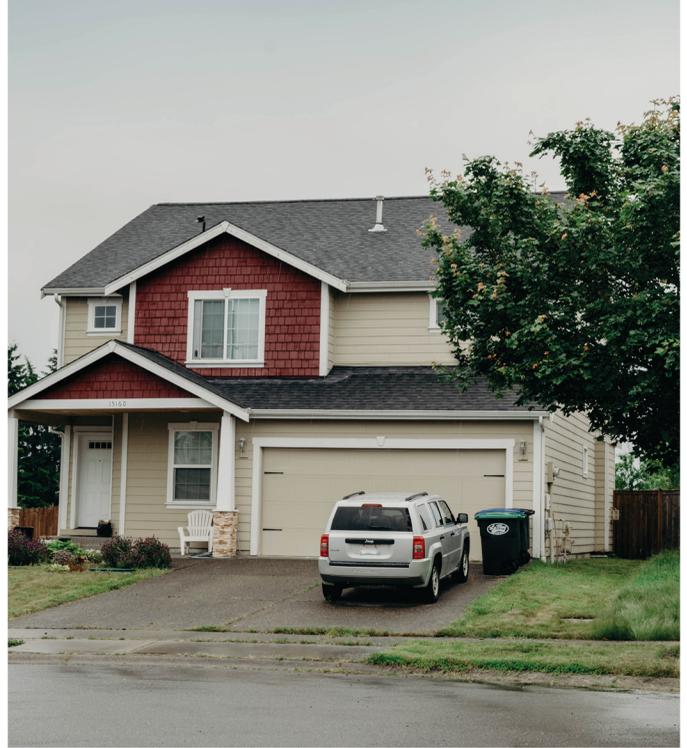
- Well established community
- Family-friendly
- Affordable homes
- Scenic commute with proximity to Olympia

## Nearby Schools

- Southworth Elementary School
- Yelm Middle School
- Yelm High School
- Mill Pond Intermediate School

## Things to Consider

While you may have to drive a little further to base, you likely won’t mind given the scenic views and back roads that offer an easy commute. If you choose to settle in Yelm, you’ll be happy to find a welcoming community that’s home to a mix of friendly locals as well as military families. Here, you will certainly enjoy the perks of small town living and it’s nice to know you’re only a short drive away from big cities and JBLM.



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