

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

Reflecting an interstate compact devised by The Council of State Governments in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Defense, this policy addresses key issues encountered by military families. The term “military children” applies to the children of

- Active duty members of the uniformed services, including members of the National guard and Reserve on active duty orders;
- Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one (1) year after medical discharge or retirement; and
- Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one (1) year after death.

Enrollment

- **Educational Records**

The compact provides that schools must share records in a timely manner in order to expedite the proper enrollment and placement of students. If the sending school cannot provide the parent a copy of the official record, an unofficial copy will be provided that may be hand carried to the school in lieu of the official record. This unofficial record will be used for preliminary placement while the school sends for the official record. Once requested, the sending school must provide the receiving school with records within ten (10) days.

- **Immunizations**

Students will have thirty (30) days from the date of enrollment to obtain required immunizations.

- **Age of Enrollment/Course Continuation**

In the receiving state, students will be allowed to continue their enrollment at the same grade level as in the sending state.

Eligibility

- **Power of Attorney**

Power of Attorney shall be sufficient for the purposes of enrollment and all other actions requiring parental participation and consent.

- **Tuition**

A local education agency cannot charge tuition for a military child placed in the custody of a district resident to attend school within that district.

- **Non-custodial Parents**

A military child placed in the care of a non-custodial parent or guardian may continue to attend school in the same district as he/she was enrolled while residing with the custodial parent.

Placement

- **Course Placement/Educational Program Placement**
When a military student transfers during the course of the school year, the receiving school shall honor placement of the student in courses based on course enrollment in the sending state and/or educational assessments conducted at the receiving school.
- **Special Education Services**
In compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the receiving district shall provide comparable services to a student with disabilities based on his/her current Individual Education Plan (IEP). Likewise, in compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the receiving district shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of incoming students with a 504 Plan equal access to education.
- **Absence as related to Deployment Activities**
A military student shall be granted additional excused absences at the discretion of the LEA's superintendent to visit his/her parent or legal/guardian prior to the latter's leave or deployment.

Graduation

- **Waiver Requirements**
The LEA administrators may waive specific courses required for graduation if similar course work has been satisfactorily completed in the student's former school.
- **Transfers during Senior Year**
If a military student does not meet the requirements for graduation in the receiving state/district but does meet the requirements in the sending state, the LEA shall secure and present a diploma from the sending state.

Adopted 4/28/09

Reviewed 11/10/14, 4/8/19