RESOLVING EDUCATION TRANSITION ISSUES FOR MILITARY FAMILIES



Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission Council of State Governments 2760 Research Park Drive Post Office Box 11910 Lexington, KY 40578-1910

Phone: 859-244-8000 Fax: 859-244-8001 www.mic3.net





MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S COMPACT COMMISSION



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What Are the Issues?

Military families encounter school challenges for their children for enrollment, eligibility, placement and graduation due to frequent relocations in service to our country.

What Is the Compact?

The Compact provides for the uniform treatment of military children transferring between school districts and states. It was developed by The Council of State Governments' National Center for Interstate Compacts, the Department of Defense, national associations, federal and state officials, departments of education, school administrators and military families.

What Happens After a State Joins the Compact?

Each state must adopt the Compact through their legislative process. Participation is voluntary. Each state appoints representation to a governing commission responsible for enacting rules to implement the Compact. Each participat-

ing state also creates a state council based on the requirements of their state legislation.

How Do I Learn More About the Compact?

You should visit the Interstate Commission's Web site at: <u>www.mic3.net</u>



What Children Are Eligible for Assistance Under the Compact? Children of:

- Active duty members of the uniformed services, National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders
- Members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for (1) year
- Members who die on active duty

What Children Are Not Eligible for Assistance Under the Compact?

Children of:

- Inactive members of the National Guard and Reserves
- Members now retired not covered above
- Veterans not covered above
- Department of Defense personnel, federal agency civilians and contract employees not defined as active duty



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What Are Some of the Specific Educational Issues that the Compact Covers?

Enrollment

Educational Records Immunizations Kindergarten & First Grade Entrance Age

Placement & Attendance

Course & Educational Program Placement Special Education Services Placement Flexibility Absence Related to Deployment Activities

Eligibility

Eligibility for Student Enrollment Eligibility for Extracurricular Participation

Graduation

Waiving courses required for graduation if similar course work has been completed

Flexibility in accepting state exit or end-of-course exams, national achievement tests, or alternative testing in lieu of testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state

Allowing a student to receive a diploma from the sending school instead of the receiving school

Who Do I Contact in my State or School District to Learn More About What Is and Is not Covered in the Compact?

You should contact your State Compact Commissioner. Contact information for each State commissioner can be found on the Commission Web site at: <u>www.mic3.net</u>



What happens if the Member State does not Comply with the Compact?

Is There a Person at the

The Compact provides for a governance structure at both the state and national levels for enforcement and compliance.

Where is the Compact in Terms of Implementation at the National and State Levels?

Thirty-five states have adopted the Compact. The Department of Defense will continue to work with the Commission, Council of State Governments, national organizations, and state leaders to bring the remaining states on board. Member states are beginning to form their State Councils and inform school districts of the terms of the Compact. The Commission has met twice and is working to implement and communicate the requirements of the Compact.





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