

What is the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children?

The Compact deals with the challenges of military children and their frequent relocations. It allows for uniform treatment as military children transfer between school districts and states. Each participating state must adopt the Compact through legislation. Each Compact state will appoint representation to an on-going governing Commission which will enact necessary rules. The Compact calls for the development of State Councils in each member state. Each State Council may be tasked with development of policy concerning operations and procedures of the Compact within the state.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SENDING / RECEIVING SCHOOL

“Receiving state”: the state to which a child of a military family is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought.

“Sending state”: the state from which a child of a military family is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought.

Educational and Enrollment Records

Unofficial or “hand-carried” education records

Custodian of Records sends unofficial records to parents.
School shall enroll and appropriately place student pending validation of official records.

Official Education Records/Transcripts

Receiving state shall request student’s official education records from sending state.
Sending state’s school will furnish official education records within ten (10) days or reasonably determined time promulgated by the Interstate Commission.

Immunization

Student is given thirty (30) calendar days from the date of enrollment.
Series Immunization.
For a series of immunizations, initial vaccinations must be obtained within thirty (30) calendar days.

Kindergarten and First Grade Entry Age

Receiving state shall allow student to continue their enrollment at grade level from sending state and promote student that satisfactorily completed prerequisite grade level in sending state, regardless of age.

Student transferring after school year starts shall enter school on their validated level from accredited sending school state.

Eligibility for Enrollment

Special power of attorney or relative to the guardianship of child can enroll a child.

LEA shall not charge local tuition when transitioning military child resides in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent.

Transitioning military child may continue to attend school in which he/she was enrolled.

Transitioning military children shall have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities, if qualified, regardless of application deadlines.

WHAT SCHOOLS AND ADMINISTRATORS SHOULD KNOW:



Graduation

Waiver Requirements

Specific required courses shall be waived if similar course work has been satisfactorily completed.

If waiver is denied, LEA shall provide an alternative means of acquiring required coursework so child may graduate on time.

Exit Exams

States shall accept:

Exit or End-of-Course exams.

National Norm-Referenced Achievement Test.

Alternative Testing.

If the above alternatives cannot be accommodated then the provisions of Article VII, Section C shall apply.

Transferring beginning or during senior year:

If student is ineligible to graduate after all alternatives have been considered, the sending and receiving LEAs shall ensure the receipt of a diploma if student meets graduation requirements of sending LEA.

If one of the states in question is not a member of the Compact, the member state shall use best efforts to facilitate the on-time graduation in accordance with the Waiver Requirements and Exit Exams.

Placement and Attendance

Course Placement

Receiving school shall honor placement based on student's previous enrollment and/or educational assessments.

Receiving school not barred from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment.

Educational Program Placement

Shall honor placement based on current educational assessments.

Receiving school not barred from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement.

Special Education Services

Comply with IDEA.

Shall provide comparable services based on his/her current IEP.

Comply with Section 504 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications of incoming students with disabilities.

Receiving school not barred from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement.

Placement Flexibility

LEA officials shall have flexibility in waiving course/program prerequisites.

Absence as Related to Deployment Activities

Shall be granted additional excused absences at the discretion of LEA superintendent.

How can schools get support to help in this process?

Member states each have a State Council designed to serve as an advisory body of state policy makers concerning operations and procedures of the compact. Individual states' language may differ but all operate within the rules of the Interstate Compact.

For additional resources and assistance, please visit our website at: <http://www.mic3.net>