



# MIC3 MEMBER PROFILE

## VIRGINIA



### OVERVIEW

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children was developed jointly by The Council of State Governments' National Center for Interstate Compacts and the U.S. Department of Defense, with input from policy experts, national associations, teachers, school administrators, military families, and federal, state, and local officials. The Compact eases interstate education transition challenges encountered by the children of active duty service members such as enrollment, eligibility, placement and graduation. On average, military students will attend six to nine different school systems from kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Initial discussions about the Compact began in 2006, and drafting began early in 2007. First available for legislative consideration in 2008, the Compact was adopted by all 50 states and the District of Columbia in just 6 legislative sessions.

### HISTORY

The model language was adopted with modifications for the Code of Virginia. The Legislature added a section to define the State Council. The dues are paid by the Virginia Department of Education

**Bill sponsor(s):** Delegate Mark Cole

**Governor Signed:** March 27, 2009, 14<sup>th</sup> State to join the Compact

**Location in Statute or Code:** Code of Virginia, Title 22.1, Chapter 24, Section 360-361

<b>COMMISSIONER</b>	Steven Staples	2014 – Present
	Patricia Wright	2009 – 2014
<b>DESIGNEE</b>	Daniel Dunham	2016 – Present
	Melissa Luchau	2014 – 2016
	Anne Wescott	2009 – 2014

APPOINTING AUTHORITY: Governor

### STATE COUNCIL

**§ 22.1-361. Virginia Council on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.**

*In accordance with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, there is hereby created the Virginia Council on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, hereinafter referred to in this section as the "Virginia Council." The Virginia Council shall consist of one member of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; one member of the Senate, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; five nonlegislative citizen members, including the Superintendent of Public Instruction and one representative from a military installation in Virginia, to be appointed by the Governor; the superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children, to be appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and also the Governor, or his designee. The Department of Education shall employ a military family education liaison to provide staff support to the Virginia Council and to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of this compact.*

*Legislative members shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office. Nonlegislative citizen members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. All members may be reappointed. Appointments to fill vacancies, other than by expiration of a term, shall be made for the unexpired terms. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.*

*The Governor shall designate one member of the Virginia Council to serve as compact chairman for a two-year term. The Virginia Council shall meet on the call of the chairman or at the request of a majority of members. A majority of members shall constitute a quorum. The Virginia Council may consider any and all matters related to the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children or the general activities and business of the organization and shall have the authority to represent the Commonwealth in all actions of the Compact.*

*The Virginia Council members shall serve without compensation. All members shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825. The costs of expenses of the legislative members incurred in the performance of their duties shall be paid from appropriations to the Virginia Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation for the attendance of conferences. The costs of expenses of nonlegislative citizen members*



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*incurred in the performance of their duties shall be paid from such funds as may be provided for this purpose in the appropriation act.*

*The chairman of the Virginia Council shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Virginia Council no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.*

### **STATE COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The Virginia Council meets on the call of the chairman or at the request of a majority of members. A majority of members constitutes a quorum. The Virginia Council may consider any and all matters related to the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children or the general activities and business of the organization and has the authority to represent the Commonwealth in all actions of the Compact.

The Council meets at least twice a year.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- By partnering with school liaison officers, military leaders, educators, and community organizations, the Virginia Council provides resources and support for military service children and their families during all stages of transition and deployment.
- The Council provides a forum for the sharing of best practices amongst school divisions, school liaisons, and community organizations, and provides leadership for celebrations such as the Month of the Military Child.
- With support of the Virginia Department of Education, the Council provides guidance documents to school divisions on issues that military students routinely face, and conducts trainings for school personnel in working with military students and implementing the Compact.
- The Council has recently taken on an advocacy role in supporting the implementation of a military student identifier.

### **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING ATTENDANCE**

Virginia attended every meeting from 2009-2015 by the Commissioner Designee. Virginia did not attend in 2016 due to a scheduling conflict.