



MIC3 MEMBER PROFILE WASHINGTON



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 12th 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

Washington adopted the Compact in May 2009. The model language was adopted with modifications for the Code of Washington. The dues are paid by the Office of the state Superintendent for Public Instruction.

Bill sponsor(s): Representative Deb Wallace and Senator Steve Hobbs

Governor Signed: May 7, 2009, 18th State to join the Compact

Location in Statute or Code: Revised Code of Washington, Chapter 28A.705

Reauthorization: RCW 28A.705.020 Review of implementation—Recommendation.

By December 1, 2014, the State Council, created in accordance with RCW 28A.705.010, shall conduct a review of the implementation of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and recommend to the State Legislature whether Washington should continue to be a member of the Compact and whether any other actions should be taken. The Compact was reauthorized by the state legislature during the 2015 legislative session.

COMMISSIONER	Greg Lynch	2009 – Present
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APPOINTING AUTHORITY: Governor

STATE COUNCIL

ARTICLE VIII

STATE COORDINATION

A. Each member state shall, through the creation of a state council or use of an existing body or board, provide for the coordination among its agencies of government, local education agencies, and military installations concerning the state's participation in, and compliance with, this compact and interstate commission activities. While each member state may determine the membership of its own state council, its membership must include at least: The state superintendent of public instruction, a superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children, a representative from a military installation, one representative each from the legislative and executive branches of government, and other offices and stakeholder groups the state council deems appropriate. A member state that does not have a school district deemed to contain a high concentration of military children may appoint a superintendent from another school district to represent local education agencies on the state council.

B. The state council of each member state shall appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of this compact.

C. The compact commissioner responsible for the administration and management of the state's participation in the compact shall be appointed by the governor or as otherwise determined by each member state. The governor is strongly encouraged to appoint a practicing K-12 educator as the compact commissioner.

D. The compact commissioner and the military family education liaison designated herein shall be ex officio members of the state council, unless either is already a full voting member of the state council.

STATE COUNCIL MEETINGS

The State Council has been meeting annually, at least. There were several years where the Council met at least three times per year.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



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- Washington hosted the 2015 Annual Business Meeting.
- The State Council includes four state legislators, two State Senators and two State House Representatives.
- MIC3 related information is continuously refreshed, there is a webpage dedicated exclusively for “Military Kids” and posted on the state’s education website, Office of the State Superintendent for Public Instruction (OSPI).
<http://www.k12.wa.us/MilitaryKids/Resources.aspx>
- The State Council includes a number of other Ex Officio members: e.g. Washington Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Executive Director, and the Washington Governor’s Office Director for Education Ombuds.
- A comprehensive Compact progress report prepared by the State Council was submitted to the state legislature in December 2014 leading to Compact reauthorization in 2015.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING ATTENDANCE

Washington has attended every meeting since 2009.



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