



# 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 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

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

**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.

<b>COMMISSIONER</b>	Greg Lynch	2009 – Present
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APPOINTING AUTHORITY: Governor

## STATE COUNCIL

The State Council is comprised almost exactly as stated in the model language.

*While each member state may determine the membership of its own State Council, its membership must include at least:*

- *The state superintendent of education*
- *Superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children*
- *Representative from a military installation*
- *One representative from the legislative branch of government*
- *One representative from the executive branch of government*
- *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.*

*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.*

## 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

- Washington hosted the 2015 Annual Business Meeting.
- The State Council includes four state legislators, two State Senators and two State House Representatives.



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- 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.