



# MIC3 MEMBER PROFILE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## 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 District of Columbia adopted the Compact which was signed by the mayor in February 2013, published in the Congressional Register in March 2013, and became law in July 2013. The language of the Compact was modified to fit the unique situation of the District of Columbia. The dues are paid by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education.

**Bill sponsor(s):** The Council of the District of Columbia

**Mayor Signed:** February 11, 2013, 44<sup>th</sup> State to join the Compact

**Location in Statute or Code:** District of Columbia Official Code § 49–1101

<b><u>COMMISSIONER</u></b>	Lakeeshia Fox	2020- Present
	Taneka Miller	2016 – 2020
	Margie Yeager	2015 – 2016
	Celine Fejeran	2013 – 2014

APPOINTING AUTHORITY: Mayor

## STATE COUNCIL

### § 49-1101.03.

*Sec. 21. District of Columbia State Interstate Compact Council.*

*(a) There is established the District of Columbia Educational Opportunity for Military Children State Council. The State Council shall be composed of 7 members. The State Council shall provide for the coordination among its agencies of government, local education agencies, and military installations concerning the state’s participation in, and compliance with, the compact. The members of the State Council shall be:*

- (1) The Chairman of the Council, or his or her designee;*
- (2) The Mayor, or his or her designee;*
- (3) The State Superintendent of Education;*
- (4) A representative from a District military installation appointed by the U.S. Department of Defense;*
- (5) The Chancellor, or his or her designee;*
- (6) A public charter school leader designated by the Chairman of the Public Charter School Board; and*
- (7) A parent representative appointed by the Mayor.*

*(b) Five members of the State Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of official business and the issuance of rules and regulations.*

*(c)(1) The Mayor shall designate a chairman of the State Council from among its members.*

## STATE COUNCIL MEETINGS

The State Council meets at least 3 times each year on the call of its chairman or at the request of a majority of its members.



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### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Office of the State Superintendent established a website aimed at providing military families with information regarding the Compact, the public school and public charter school options available in the District, and other helpful school related information like enrollment and graduation requirement. <http://osse.dc.gov/service/military-families>
- In consideration of the fact that some military families are faced with frequent moves and deployments, the chancellor for the public school system issued a Directive on School Choice that allows school-aged children residing on military bases located within the boundaries of the District, to enroll in District of Columbia Public Schools of their choice at any point during the school year, pending classroom and/or program availability. <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/enrollment-students-military-families>
- The District passed a new law that empowers the Public Charter School Board (PCSB), the District's sole authorizer of charter schools, to approve an application for a public charter school to open that gives a preference in admissions to children of active duty members of the military.