



# MIC3 MEMBER PROFILE WEST 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

West Virginia adopted the Compact in May 2009. The model language was adopted with modifications for the Code of West Virginia. Additional modifications were made to the Article VIII - State Coordination. The dues are paid by the West Virginia Department of Education.

**Bill sponsor(s):** Representative Richard Inquinta

**Governor Signed:** March 23, 2011, 36<sup>th</sup> State to join the Compact

**Location in Statute or Code:** Code of West Virginia, §18-10F-1 and §18- 10F-2

<b><u>COMMISSIONER</u></b>	COL(R) Christopher Cmiel, USA	2017 – Present
	MG James Hoyer, WVARNG	2011 – 2017
<b><u>DESIGNEE</u></b>	COL(R) Christopher Cmiel, USA	2014 – 2017
	COL James Runyon, WVARNG	2011 – 2013

APPOINTING AUTHORITY: Governor

## STATE COUNCIL

### **ARTICLE VIII. STATE COORDINATION**

*(a) The West Virginia Council for Educational Opportunity for Military Children is hereby established for the purpose of coordinating entities in this state regarding participation in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.*

*(b) Membership of the Council consists of at least six members as follows:*

*(1) The State Superintendent of Schools;*

*(2) The superintendent of a county board in the state which has a high concentration of military children, appointed by the Governor. If the Governor determines there is not a county school district that contains a high concentration of military children, he or she may appoint a superintendent from any county school district to represent county boards on the State Council;*

*(3) An individual representing a military installation in this state appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. This member serves a term of four years, except that the term of the individual initially appointed expires June 30, 2015. Each subsequent term begins on July 1 in the year of appointment.*

*(4) An individual representing the executive branch of government, appointed by the Governor;*

*(5) One member of the West Virginia Senate, appointed by the President of the West Virginia Senate; and*

*(6) One member of the West Virginia House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the West Virginia House of Delegates.*

*(c) The Governor shall appoint a Compact Commissioner who is responsible for administering and managing the state's participation in the compact. The Governor may select the Commissioner from members appointed to the Council as provided in subsection (b) of*



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*this Article VIII, or may appoint another individual to serve in this capacity. A individual who is not already a full voting member of the Council becomes an ex officio member of the Council if appointed as Commissioner.*

*(d) The West Virginia Council has and may exercise all powers necessary or appropriate to carry out and effectuate the purpose and intent of this compact, including, but not limited to the following:*

*(1) Facilitate coordination among state agencies and governmental entities of West Virginia, including county boards and military installations, concerning the state's participation in, and compliance with, this compact and Interstate Commission activities; and*

*(2) Appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating implementation of the compact. This individual becomes an ex officio member of the West Virginia Council if he or she is not already a full voting member of the Council when so appointed or designated.*

### **STATE COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The State Council meets annually.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission through the West Virginia Department of Education sends an annual detailed message to all state superintendents explaining the purpose and intent of the Compact.