

COMPACT VALUE

State membership on the Commission demonstrates commitment for our military-connected students and support for successful educational transitions.

Background

What is an Interstate Compact? Essentially a contract between states, which allows governments to work collaboratively to address issues or concerns across boundaries. Compacts are an effective mechanism for states to utilize and solve problems, often avoiding federal intervention. The MIC3 is the fourth Compact in 50 years to be adopted by all 50 states and D.C. A compact commissioner is appointed by each member state, who works with the state council to oversee the administration, management, and compliance of the Compact within the state.

Consistency and Reciprocity

The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) provides consistency across states and was drafted with the intent to avoid conflict with existing state codes where possible. It replaces widely varying policies that affect transitioning military students and supports uniform treatment for military-connected students as they transfer between school districts and member states. While the Compact is not exhaustive in its coverage, it addresses the key issues encountered by military families: in the areas of eligibility, enrollment, placement and graduation.

Governance and Legal Assistance

MIC3 is governed by model language that was used as the framework to adopt the Compact into legislation by all States and the District of Columbia. The Commission follows a specific set of rules and bylaws to conduct its business and ensure compliance among states, unfortunately, not all issues can be resolved at the local and state level. The enforcement provisions of the Compact allow the Commission to intercede, mediate issues, and assist states in finding equitable solutions. Assistance is available and can be requested on issues such as: clarification of rules and bylaws, state statute interpretation, legal questions, and annual state dues payments.

Annual Business Meeting

The Commission conducts an Annual Business Meeting in the Fall. This provides experienced and recently appointed Commissioners an opportunity to come together and provide input on issues facing their states, attend workshops, vote on rules and bylaws changes that may have an impact on their state, gain ideas and listen to best practices on how to manage Compact issues. Funding for this meeting is covered for the Commissioner by MIC3 as part of the state's membership in the Compact.

Training and Resources

Training is available for states through the National Office which includes: briefings, presentations and assistance at State Council meetings. Website resources include training videos, printed and digital publications, and presentations.