

State Superintendent/Commissioner of Education
Memorandum on the Interstate Compact

This draft template is provided for State Department of Education and Office of Public Instruction Superintendents/Commissioners to inform public school district superintendents about the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission. The template should be used as a baseline and modified to meet your state needs/requirements. It is highly recommended a letter be disseminated annually to schools at the beginning of the school year. Additional information on the Compact can be found at: <https://mic3.net/>.

MEMORANDUM DATE: (Insert Date)

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: (State Superintendent/Commissioner Name)

SUBJECT: Military Dependent Children Transfers

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform school districts that the state of (insert state) is a member of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (ICEOMC) under (add statute or code). The (Department of Education or Public Instruction) strongly believes in helping all students to navigate and successfully attain their life, career, and academic goals. As a member of the MIC3, (insert state) remains committed to supporting and easing the education transitions of military students of the active-duty services, as well as the national guard and reserves.

Background

The average military family will move, under assignment orders, every two to three years. Most military children will attend six to nine different school systems and sometimes will transition at least twice during their high school years. Enrollment and placement of children of active-duty military families is under the ICEOMC with oversight by the MIC3.

All 50 states and the District of Columbia signed onto the Compact by adopting state statute, and the Compact rules are applicable to all U.S. public schools, and through a memorandum of agreement, with the U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity schools worldwide.

The Compact seeks to ease transitions for military children, youth and teens so they are afforded the same opportunities for educational success as other students and are not penalized or delayed in achieving their educational goals.

Who is covered by the Compact?

The Compact applies to students transitioning between public schools and through a memorandum of agreement, the Department of Defense Education Activity schools nationwide.

The children of active-duty members of the uniformed services, National Guard and Reserve on active-duty orders, uniformed members of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and United States Public Health Services are eligible for assistance under the Compact. The children of members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired, as well as members who perish while on active duty are also eligible for one year following the death of the service member.

State Superintendent/Commissioner of Education
Memorandum on the Interstate Compact

What does the Compact provide for students?

The Compact addresses the challenges of military children and their frequent relocations and provides military children when they transfer interstate. The Compact defines children of military families as children enrolled in grades K-12 within the household of an active-duty member. An active-duty member must be in full-time duty status in the uniformed services and can be a member of the National Guard or Reserves. While the Compact is not exhaustive in its coverage, it does address the key transition issues encountered by military families: eligibility, enrollment, placement, and graduation.

- *Eligibility* - Transitioning military children shall have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities, if qualified, regardless of application deadlines.
- *Enrollment* - Special power of attorney or relative with guardianship can enroll a child. The Compact provides that transitioning military children may continue to attend the school in which they were enrolled.
- *Placement* - Receiving school shall honor placement based on student's previous enrollment and/or educational assessments. The receiving school is not barred from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment.
- *Graduation* - A school district must waive specific courses required for graduation if similar course work has been satisfactorily completed in another school district or shall provide reasonable justification for denial. If a waiver is not granted to a student who would qualify to graduate from a school of the sending state, the school of the receiving state must provide an alternative means of acquiring the required course work so that graduation may occur on time.

How can my district and/or schools be prepared to support military families under the Compact?

- Ensure your personnel are familiar with the Compact rules and regulations. Compact 101 and 201 Training (in-person and virtual) is offered by the Commission at no cost to member states and stakeholders.
 - View the online [calendar](#) for monthly virtual options.
 - Register at [mic3training.net](#) for the self-paced online course.
 - Review the [flyer](#) for other opportunities or inquire at mic3info@csg.org.
- Request free rules books, parent guides and brochures to share with personnel and parents [here](#).

I have a question about a rule or concern from a parent. Whom should I contact?

If there are questions about the rules or a possible case, contact the state commissioner [here](#) and/or view our state website [\(add the link\)](#). You may also contact the MIC3 National Office directly at mic3info@csg.org or visit the website at [MIC3.net](#).