

## Commission Hosts Webinar with Defense State-Liaison Office

### Supporting Military Children: Education Insights from DoD's 2026 Priorities

Due to the government shutdown, Defense-State Liaison Office (DSLO) representatives were unable to attend the 2025 ABM and provide a brief on the Department of War (DoW) 2026 State Policy Priorities, specifically the education-related priorities. On January 27, 2026, the Commission hosted a private, live webinar with DSLO personnel.

As part of the Military Community and Family Policy team, DSLO partners with state leaders to remove barriers affecting military families. DSLO Director Sarah Stein gave an overview of their work to bridge the gap between the federal and state governments to improve the quality of life for service members and their families. Based on input from various sources, DSLO develops state policy priorities and advances legislative solutions by identifying barriers, promoting best practices, and supporting informed policymaking.

Developing the state policy priorities entails a two-year planning and development process. For more information on the 2026 DoW State Policy Priorities, click the line at the bottom of this section.

During the presentation, Defense State Regional Liaisons, Christopher Arnold, Kelli May Douglas, Tammie Perreault, Michelle Richart, and Melissa Willette, briefed on the following five State Policy Priorities:

1. Occupational Licensure Interstate Compacts
2. Open Enrollment Flexibility
3. State Support of Military Families with Special Education Needs
4. Education Policy Implementation and Information Enhancements
5. Solutions for Military Homeschoolers

To contact your Regional Defense State Liaison, please visit Military OneSource.

[2026 DoW State Policy Priorities](#)

## Empowering Student Voices: Using Collaboration to Address Education Concerns for Military Children

Following the Blue Star Families presentation at the ABM and discussion of the Ought to be a Law Program in Hillsborough County Public Schools, Florida which resulted in the passage of Florida House Bill 1255 related to Compact training, the Commission wanted to highlight this impactful initiative. The program demonstrates a powerful model for elevating

student voices and illustrating how young voices can drive change and engage key stakeholders in their states.

This webinar will focus on development of the program, how this piece of legislation moved through Florida's legislative process, and how it has been implemented in the state of Florida.

**This hour-long webinar will take place on March 3, 2026 at 4:00 PM ET.**

To register, scan the QR code or click [here](#).

**MIC3** MILITARY INTERSTATE  
CHILDREN'S COMPACT  
COMMISSION

2026 WEBINAR SERIES

**EMPOWERING  
STUDENT VOICES:  
USING COLLABORATION  
TO ADDRESS EDUCATION  
CONCERNS FOR MILITARY  
CHILDREN**

**MARCH 3, 2026  
4:00 PM ET**



## Welcome to the Commission!

### Education Commission of the States

*José Muñoz*  
Ex-Officio Representative

Welcome to the Commission's newest ex-officio organization! At the 2025 Annual Business Meeting, the Commission voted to add Education Commission of the States (ECS) as an ex-officio organization. The ex-officio page of mic3.net has been updated to include ECS. We are excited about the opportunity to partner with this great organization!

José Muñoz is the ninth president of ECS and will serve as ex-officio representative to the Commission. He brings nearly 30 years of cross-sector experience leading initiatives that elevate policy adoption to create meaningful change in communities across the United States. In their free time, José and his family like to serve their community in New Mexico through their church and by leading community groups.



**EDUCATION  
COMMISSION**  
OF THE STATES



## Did you know?

**Has your student completed a course, then after your family PCSed, the receiving school placed them back into the same course?**

**Did you know that under *Compact Rules SEC 4.101*, local education authorities shall waive specific courses required for graduation if similar coursework was completed in another LEA or provide reasonable justification for denial?**

### **Compact Rule, SEC. 4.101 Waiver Requirements**

*(a) LEA administrative officials shall waive specific courses required for graduation if similar course work has been satisfactorily completed in another LEA or shall provide reasonable justification for denial. Should a waiver not be granted to a student who would qualify to graduate from the sending school, an LEA shall provide an alternative means of acquiring required coursework so that graduation may occur on time. If the receiving LEA requires a*

graduation project, volunteer community service hours, or other State or LEA specific requirements, the receiving LEA may waive those requirements.

[Rules Book](#)

## Month of the Military Child Toolkit Updated

The Communications and Outreach Committee has updated the Month of the Military Child Toolkit for 2026. The toolkit contains:

- Sample Letters from/to: Commission Chair, State Superintendent, Commissioners, and State Councils
- Purple Up! Celebration Ideas
- Downloadable Posters
- Sample Proclamations
- Downloadable Social Media Posts and Captions

Month of the Military  
Child Toolkit



## New State Spotlight Videos Available Now!

Following the State Spotlight panel at the 2025 Annual Business Meeting, the Commissioners from North Carolina, Delaware, Kentucky, and Massachusetts recorded individual State Spotlight videos. These short videos highlight the innovative work across the Commission.

To access the new State Spotlights videos, click on the "Implementing the Compact" dropdown. Then, scroll down to "State Spotlights (2026)."



State Spotlights

## Ex-Officio Corner

### NMFA

It's officially time to apply for Operation Purple® Camp! **The application will be open until**

### DoD

**OneOp Upcoming Webinars:**

**March 11.** Applications received after March 11 will be placed on the waitlist.

Operation Purple Camp builds community, connection, and resilience with the support of Military and Family Life Counselors, camp counselors, and military kids of all service branches.

### **Questions?**

See [frequently asked questions](#), or register for the upcoming informational [Zoom meeting](#) on **Wednesday, February 25, at 8pm ET**. If you still have questions, email [OPC@MilitaryFamily.org](mailto:OPC@MilitaryFamily.org).

### **No camp near you?**

NMFA offers a virtual [Operation Purple Summer Challenge](#) offers military families all around the globe the opportunity to connect, have fun, and try new things all from the comfort of their home. Registration starts in March and is open to all who sign up. [Subscribe](#) to NMFA's email to be notified when sign-ups are open.

***Applications are open for military connected kids of all service branches. Both active duty and veteran families are eligible.***

### **February 19th: Multidisciplinary Evidence-Based Approaches to Problematic Sexual Behavior in Children**

This webinar is focused on increasing the knowledge base around problematic sexual behavior in children for all multidisciplinary team members.

### **February 24th: Exercise is Medicine: Promoting Health and Well-Being Across the Lifespan**

In this session, we will explore how regular exercise can optimize physical and brain health, support healthy aging, and enhance overall quality of life across the lifespan.

### **March 5th: The Importance of Engaging Caregivers in Clinical Services**

This webinar focuses on common factors that impact engagement for families in clinical services, from that critical first appointment through ongoing participation.

### **March 18th: Key Ethical Implications of Substitute Decision-Making and Guardianship**

This webinar provides an in-depth examination of the ethical, legal, and clinical complexities that emerge when individuals cannot make decisions for themselves.

For more information and to register for upcoming webinars, [click here!](#)

## **MCEC**

### **MCEC Upcoming Webinars:**

#### **February 24th: Life Skills: Helping Elementary Children Develop Life Skills**

This webinar equips families with practical ways to build everyday life skills that help elementary children grow, connect, and succeed.

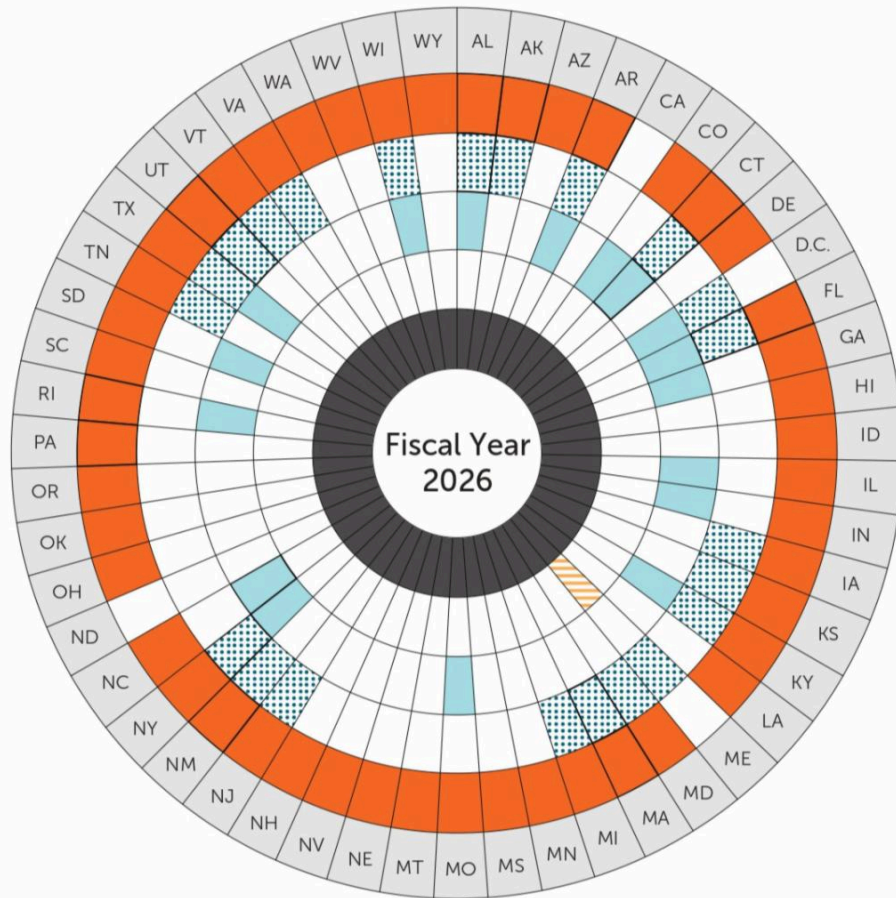
#### **February 25th: Test Taking for Military-Connected Elementary School Children**





From classroom assignments to standardized tests, test-taking is essential to a student's academic journey. This session explores the purpose of tests, effective study habits, and ways to manage test anxiety to boost performance and build lifelong skills.

To register for upcoming webinars, [click here!](#)

# State Compliance and Coordination

Current as of February 17, 2026



-  Paid Annual Dues
-  Submitted End-of-Year Report
-  Held a State Council Meeting
-  Submitted Conflict of Interest & Code of Conduct Forms

-  Commissioner Appointment
-  Extension
-  Pending

- Reporting Deadline**  
**June 30**
- Conflict of Interest
  - Code of Conduct
  - Annual Dues
  - State Council Meeting
  - End-of-Year Report

## Upcoming Events

### Committee Meetings

- EXCOM — February 19
- Training — February 24
- Ex-Officio — March 5
- Communications & Outreach — March 11
- Leadership Nomination — March 16
- Rules — March 17
- Finance — March 25



### Compact 101 Training

February 26 at 12:00 PM ET

### Webinars

- Through Our Eyes: Bloom Teens Talk Compact Protections with Parents
- Exploring When Knowing About the Compact Could Have Made a Difference* — February

Visit our Website



MIC3 | 1776 Avenue of the States | Lexington, KY 40511 US

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