

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

June 2015

Quick Reference Guide

Enrollment: Educational records

What's included:	What's not covered:
Parents can take a copy of unofficial records to the receiving school. The Interstate Commission will determine the definition of "complete set."	The sending school may charge parents a fee for the unofficial records.
Receiving school must accept the unofficial records to enroll and place the student pending reception of the official records.	The Compact does not cover giving parents the right to request a copy of every page in a student's file.
Sending school must send official records within 10 business days, except for any school breaks, of getting a request from the receiving school.	

Note: Unofficial records may contain a letter or transcript showing attendance, academic information and grade placement.

Enrollment: Immunizations

What's included:	What's not covered:
Child is given 30 calendar days from enrollment to obtain the required immunizations.	Tuberculosis testing is a screening test rather than an immunization; the test may be required before enrollment.
A series of immunizations must be started within 30 calendar days of enrollment.	



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Enrollment: Kindergarten and first grade entrance age

What's included:	What's not covered:
A student can continue in the same grade in the receiving state, regardless of entrance age requirements, if he or she has already started kindergarten or first grade in an accredited school in the sending state.	The Compact does not cover a student who has not been enrolled even though he or she was eligible to enroll.
A student may go to the next grade, regardless of age requirements, if he or she has completed kindergarten or first grade in the sending state.	

Note: A child must attend class to be considered enrolled; completing enrollment papers alone is not sufficient.

Placement: Course and education program placement

What's included:	What's not covered:
The receiving state will initially honor placement based on the student's enrollment in the sending state.	The student is not guaranteed placement if he or she is not qualified for that placement.
The receiving state may subsequently perform an evaluation to ensure the appropriate placement and continued enrollment.	Although the receiving school must demonstrate reasonable accommodation, there is no requirement to create a course.

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Placement: Special education services

What's included:	What's not covered:
The receiving state will initially provide the same services identified in the student's individualized education program, or IEP, from the sending state	The receiving state is not required to provide the exact programs as the sending state.
The receiving state may subsequently perform an evaluation to ensure the appropriate placement of the student.	The receiving state is not required to provide anything above the requirements in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Placement: Placement flexibility

What's included:	What's not covered:
The Compact allows flexibility to the local school district to waive, or set aside, course or program prerequisites or other preconditions if similar course work has been completed in another school district.	The Compact does not cover mandatory waivers of prerequisites or preconditions.

Placement: Absences related to deployment activities

What's covered:	What's not covered:
Receiving school districts have the flexibility for additional excused absences for students to visit the parent or legal guardian before, during or immediately after deployment.	<p>The receiving state is not required to offer more than "reasonable accommodation."</p> <p>Note: Some states may not excuse absences during state testing or if the student has already missed so much school that additional absences will be detrimental.</p>

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Eligibility: Eligibility for enrollment

What's included:	What's not covered:
Local school districts cannot charge tuition to military children placed in the care of a noncustodial parent or person serving "in loco parentis."	In situations where a move is within a state, the Compact only covers moves between states and during deployment.
A student can continue to attend his or her current school even if living with a noncustodial parent or person serving "in loco parentis."	
The power of attorney for guardianship is sufficient for enrollment and all other actions requiring parental participation or consent.	

Eligibility: Eligibility for extracurricular participation

What's included:	What's not covered:
The receiving school district provides the opportunity for inclusion in extracurricular activities regardless of deadlines, as long as the child is otherwise qualified.	State student athletic associations, some of which are not affiliated with states or local school districts, are not covered by the Compact.
	Although the receiving school must demonstrate reasonable accommodation, there is no requirement to hold open or create additional spaces.

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Graduation

What's covered:	What's not covered:
The receiving school may waive courses required for graduation if similar course work has been completed in another school district.	Mandatory course waivers are not covered by the Compact; however, the local school district must show good cause for a waiver denial.
The receiving state has flexibility in accepting a sending state exit or end of course exams, national achievement tests or alternative testing in lieu of testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state.	Mandatory waivers of the exam or acceptance of alternative results are not covered by the Compact.
The receiving state may allow a student to receive a diploma from the sending school as an alternative to accommodations for exit exams and graduation requirements that the student doesn't have time to meet.	

Note: If a waiver is denied, the local school district will provide an alternative means for the student to get the necessary coursework to graduate on time.