

**Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about
Assessment Policy under the
Interstate Compact on Educational
Opportunity for Military Children**

Texas Education Code, Chapter 162

**Texas Education Agency
Student Assessment Division
512-463-9536**

1. **Question: Does the compact apply only to students relocating from a state that is a member of the military compact or does it also apply to a student from a military family who transfers from out of the country or a state that is not a member of the military compact?**

Answer: The compact applies only to students relocating from a state that is a member of the military compact or from Department of Defense schools located outside of the country.

2. **Question: A student from a military family relocated from a member state and enrolled in a district as a tenth grader. Is the student required to take the Texas state assessment?**

Answer: Yes. Although the state is a member state, the compact does not address assessment requirements other than those tied to graduation; therefore, the student must take the Texas state assessment tests administered to tenth graders as required under Texas law.

3. **Question: At the beginning of the school year, a student from a military family relocated from a member state and enrolled as a twelfth grader. While in the sending state, the student successfully completed the exit-level assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics required by that state and is on schedule to accumulate the credits necessary to graduate. Is he required to take the exit-level Texas state assessments in science and social studies?**

Answer: Yes, if the student wishes to receive a Texas diploma. However, because the student transferred as a senior and has already met the graduation requirements for the sending state's diploma, the student may elect instead to seek a diploma from the sending state because that state is a member of the compact. In this case, the student would not need to take the exit-level science and social studies assessments in Texas. An answer document does not need to be submitted for the student for the spring administration. Documentation should be maintained locally. However, if you have eligible students for the spring administration, please call TEA's Student Assessment Division (512-463-9536) for coding instructions. Your school district will need to work with the district from the sending state to facilitate the issuance of a diploma.

4. **Question: Are there alternative assessments available to eligible students to whom the military compact applies?**

Answer: Eligible students include those who enroll in a Texas public school for the first time after completing the ninth grade or who re-enroll at or above grade 10 after an absence of at least two years. There are currently both SAT and ACT alternative graduation standards for English language arts and mathematics (more information available at http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/resources/grad/alternate_assessments_xl.pdf). Also, if a sending state administers applicable assessments in the subject areas, a student could use those results in lieu of taking and passing one or more exit-level Texas state assessments.