

## **State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children**

**April 14, 2025**

**The meeting agenda is below:**

1. Call to order
2. Public comment. The State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children will hear comment from the public pertaining to topics related to any agenda items. Members of the public must register prior to the start of the meeting if they wish to address the council. Individuals are limited to three minutes each. An individual may provide written and verbal comments to the council, in which case notification must be provided by the individual to [jessica.snyder@tea.texas.gov](mailto:jessica.snyder@tea.texas.gov) by 12:00 p.m. on April 14, 2025. The request must contain your name, the organization you are representing or if you are speaking as a private citizen, and your direct phone number.
3. Council membership
4. Operating procedures
5. Council priorities
6. Council member and staff reports
7. Upcoming events
8. Adjourn

## **State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children**

**April 14, 2025**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### Attendance

Dr. John Craft, Superintendent, Northside ISD, San Antonio Col.

Col. Damon Dalby, Goodfellow Air Force Base, San Angelo

CAPT Beau Hufstetler, Naval Air Station Fort Worth

Dr. Burnie Roper, Superintendent, Lackland ISD, San Antonio

Simone Wendlandt-Hendricks, School Liaison Officer, Fort Bliss

Anne H. Le, Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs Unit Manager, TEA

John Dobbins, Highly Mobile At-Risk Specialist, TEA

Jessica Snyder, Senior Director, Curriculum Standards and Student Support, TEA

1. Call to Order
  - Jessica Snyder, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. Public Comment
  - There were no comment registrations.
3. Council Membership
  - Ms. Snyder explained that the council had approved at its April 2025 meeting the inclusion of a representative from the Texas National Guard and a representative from the reserve

component of any military branch as ex officio positions and that the council would need to approve the conforming amendments to its operating procedures. She presented the operating procedures as amended for the council's approval and will send a communication to the installation for each branch of the armed services to request a nomination. There was no objection from council members in attendance to the proposal that TEA would select these ex officio members from the pool of candidates with the expectation that there would be a rotation of the military branches to the extent possible.

- Ms. Snyder explained that the Highly Mobile and At Risk Division has undergone reorganization and the council position "Highly Mobile Student Coordinator" position has been phased out. She suggested updating the vacant position in the operating procedures as "TEA Military Family Education Liaison" to provide additional flexibility in designating this representative and there were no objections.
- Next, Ms. Snyder provided an update on two additional positions that are to be filled or appointed by the chairs of the house and senate committees on public education. She stated that the initial request for appointments have been shared with TEA's Government Relations Division and she hopes that the requests will be prioritized after the 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature adjourns.
- Ms. Snyder explained that certain positions serve one two-year terms with the option to extend one additional year. Other positions serve consecutive terms unless there is a replacement. Ms. Snyder will send notification to members with expiring positions.

#### 4. Council Priorities

- Ms. Snyder stated that the council has not identified new priorities for 2025. She shared the priorities from 2024 and initiated a discussion among the members regarding where they thought the council should focus its efforts for the remainder of the year. Ms. Simone Wendlandt-Hendricks indicated that while the council should explore new priorities, disseminating information and raising awareness regarding the Compact will always be an area of focus. She also indicated that the beginning of school year may be a critical time for revisiting this information. Dr. Burnie Roper agreed that continuing to highlight the existence of the compact is important and should be focused on counselors. Dr. Craft stated that there may be opportunities through the Purple Star Campus process to communicate the importance of the compact. Ms. Snyder indicated that she would focus on filling vacancies and would bring the discussion back to the council at its next meeting.

#### 5. TEA Update: Military-Connected Student Program Updates

- Dr. Anne H. Le and Mr. John Dobbins provided a military-connected student program update covering the following topics:
  - o Updated Military Student Identifier Infographics (attached)
  - o New Statewide and Regional Data Briefs
  - o Purple Star Rise
    - TEA Learn Course
    - 2025-2026 application timelines
    - Professional learning communities series
    - Office hours: April 16
  - o 2024 Texas Military Student Identifier Data Report
  - o Counts of military connected students by ESC region.

#### 6. Council member and staff reports

- Col. Dalby announced this would be his last meeting, retiring in June.
- Ms. Snyder shared that she would be inviting a representative from the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) National Headquarters to provide an update at a future State Advisory Council meeting, tentatively scheduled for the July meeting.

7. Upcoming events

- Next council meeting is 1:00 p.m. Central Monday, July 21, 2025.

8. Adjourn

- Jessica Snyder adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.



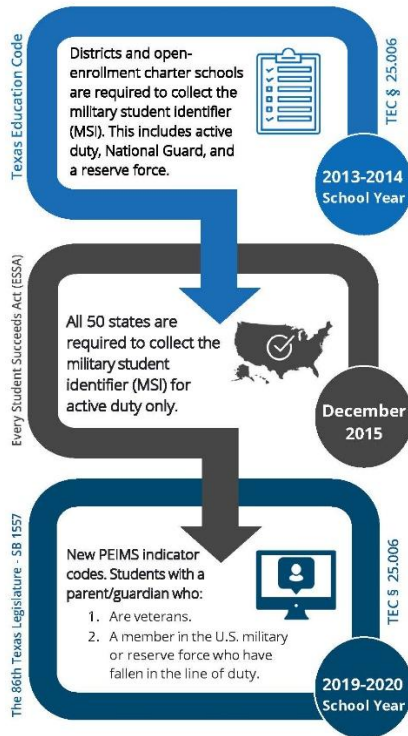
Texas has the  
**second  
highest  
number**  
of identified  
military-connected  
students in the  
nation with  
**nearly  
215,000**  
attending public and  
open-enrollment  
charter schools.



Source: PEIMS  
2023-24

## Military-Connected Students

### The Military Student Identifier:



## Strengthening Military Student Identification (MSI)

Texas Education Code §25.006 requires districts and open-enrollment charter schools to collect data to identify their military-connected student population and submit to the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

### Students in K-12th grade:

- ☐ Student is a dependent of a current member of one of the following:
  - ☐ U.S. military;
  - ☐ Texas National Guard (Army, Air Guard, or State Guard); or A reserve force.
- ☐ Student is a dependent of a former member of one of the following:
  - ☐ U.S. military;
  - ☐ Texas National Guard (Army, Air Guard, or State Guard); or A reserve force.
- ☐ Student was a dependent of a member of the U.S. military or reserve force who has fallen in the line of duty.

### Prekindergarten students:

- ☐ A dependent of an active-duty member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces who is ordered to active duty by proper authority.
- ☐ A dependent of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces who was injured or has fallen in the line of duty.

### FAQs

- What are the benefits of identifying students as military-connected?**  
District and open-enrollment charter schools will be able to appropriately link military connected students and their families to resources, services, and laws (MICS) they are eligible for because of their active-duty status.
- What are a school's requirements for collecting military student identifier (MSI) data?**  
Districts and open-enrollment charter schools must include the military student identifier question in their student enrollment packet.
- Does the parent/guardian need to provide proof of their military status?**  
Verification of military status is not required for the purposes of the military student identifier. Verification may be required if the school has a special program for which there is an eligibility requirement, such as state-funded prekindergarten. Districts and open-enrollment charter schools should not make copies of Department of Defense (DoD) identification cards.
- How does the military student identifier (MSI) in the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) differ from the Federal Impact Aid Survey?**  
PEIMS allows the TEA to collect data from districts and open-enrollment charter schools regarding their military connected student population, also known as the military student identifier (MSI). Districts and open-enrollment charter schools may choose to apply for Impact Aid funds based on the number of military-connected students; however, the collection of the Impact Aid survey is not connected to the PEIMS military student identifier. Districts and open-enrollment charter schools should ensure they are collecting the PEIMS military student identifier through their enrollment process.



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