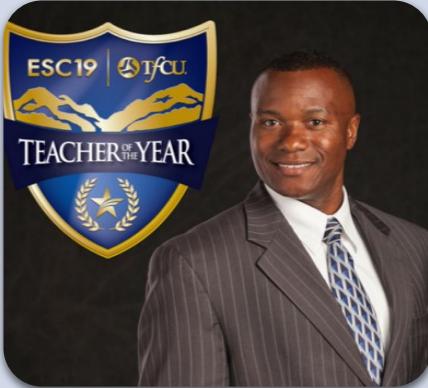




Leveraging Resources for Student Success

Military-Connected Student Support Summit
San Antonio | January 29, 2026

Session Presenters



Dr. Ann Lê

TEA

Manager

*Highly Mobile &
At-Risk (HMAR)
Programs*

**Gabriel
Verrone**

ESC 2

ESC Military
Champion

**Allen R.
Haynes**

ESC 19

ESC Military
Champion

Christy Beck

ESC 20

ESC Military
Champion

High-Level Agenda for Today's Presentation

Introductions (15 minutes)

- Greetings and Purpose
- Guided Reflection Activity

Understanding Military-Connected Students & Best Practices (25 minutes)

- Who are Military-Connected Students?
- Unique Needs and Challenges
- Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD)

Education Service Center Military Champions (25 minutes)

- ESC Capacity Framework Resource
- Personal Reflections and Lessons Learned

Wrapping up & Next Steps (5 minute)

- Additional Capacity Building Opportunities
- Q&A Discussion

Learning Objectives

Identify and Describe

The unique characteristics and challenges of military-connected students (MCS).

Recognize

Effective school-based supports and community partnerships that positively impact the success of MCS.

Understand

The purpose, criteria, and benefits of the Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) as a framework for supporting military families.

Access

Tools, resources, and actionable steps to enhance support for MCS.

Guided Reflection Activity



Let's take a moment to step into the shoes of a military-connected student.



I'll guide you through a short reflection.



You don't need to speak—just imagine.

Guided Reflection Activity Debrief



WHAT CAME TO MIND?

WHAT COULD THAT ONE
ADULT DO TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE?

WITH A SHOW OF HANDS,
WHO FELT A LITTLE
ANXIOUS DURING THAT
SCENARIO?



Understanding Military-Connected Students & Best Practices

Key **Federal** Statutes related to MCS in Education



Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 – Military Student Identifier (MSI)

- Requires all states to include a **MSI in their data systems**.
- Requires reporting of **assessment data** for MCS.
- The goal is to **track academic progress** and **ensure appropriate support** for MCS across states.

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (MIC3)

- All 50 states, including Texas, **participate in MIC3**.
- It addresses **key transition issues** such as: (a) Enrollment; (b) Placement; (c) Attendance; and (d) Graduation
- It ensures **consistency and support** for MCS moving between states and school systems.

Texas Education Code §25.006 – MSI Data Collection

- Requires school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to:
 - Identify and report MCS to the Texas Education Agency (TEA).
 - PEIMS Code (C197) 1 to 6

Texas Education Code §29.153 – Free PreK for Certain Children

(b)(4) Children of active-duty military members or those injured/killed in the line of duty are **eligible for free prekindergarten** in Texas public schools.

Texas Education Code §33.006 – Campus Military Liaison

- Schools **may** designate a campus-based military liaison responsible for identifying MCS through PEIMS; serving as a point of contact for MCS and their families; and coordinating appropriate services and supports.



TEC §33.909. Purple Star Campus



19 TAC Chapter 61

Subchapter FF. Commissioner's Rules Concerning Veterans and Military Dependents

Division 2. Military-Connected Students

§61.1063. Purple Star Campus Designation.

Resource: TX Law & Policy Requirements

Texas Law and Policy Requirements to Support Military-Connected Students

This document provides Texas laws and policy requirements to effectively provide support to incoming military-connected students. Use this document in combination with the [Campus Designation Self-Assessment Application Rubric](#) to ensure the successful evaluation, continuous improvement, and sustainability of the Purple Star Campus Designation.

Below is a chart of key laws and policies meeting the statutory requirements and in practice to support military-connected students throughout the TEA Learn Purple Star Resource Center.

Year	TEC Law	Highlight Summary
2005	TEC §25.006	Transition Assistance for Military Dependents Mitigates and reduces barriers to school transitions for military students when changing schools.
2007	TEC §29.153	Eligibility Requirements for Free Public-School Prekindergarten Eligibility requirements for free public-school prekindergarten members of the armed forces of the United States, including forces, or a reserve component of the armed forces who is on duty by proper authority.
2009	TEC §162	Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MICC) adopted in Texas Education Code The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military (Military Compact) exists to strengthen transitions and close gaps as military families, and their children move to a new state or another state. The Military Compact focus on these key topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational records and enrollment• Course and program placement and attendance• Eligibility (student enrollment and extracurricular participation)• Graduation The Military Compact applies to Active-Duty Service Members, Guard, Reserve, Veterans medically discharged or retired for a year, and members who die on active duty.
2013	TEC §25.006(c)(d)	Military Student Identifier PEIMS Coding Identification Texas schools are required to identify a student's military connected status for PEIMS purposes. Properly identifying and coding students helps to ensure that students are properly supported.

Learn More:



Texas Education Code (TEC)

Year	TEC Law	Highlight Summary
	TEC §25.006(c)(d)	Amended to include programming in public and/or open-enrollment charters (c)(1), adding subsections to <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Include dependents of 'current and former' service members, reserve component, and the Texas National Guard (c)(1).• Expand the definition of 'military-connected students' to include dependents of 'current and former' service members (d)(1)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ United States military (d)(1)(A)◦ Texas National Guard (d)(1)(B)◦ Reserve force (d)(1)(C)◦ Those killed in the line of duty (d)(2)(1)• Added TEC §33.909 Purple Star Campus (see below)
	TEC §33.909	Texas Education Agency Commissioner's Rule for Purple Star Campus Designation (TAC §61.1063) Purple Star Campus Designation is a unique distinction that Texas school campuses can apply for and earn. TEC §33.909 provides the statutory authority for TEA to establish rules and criteria for PSCD implementation.
	TEC §25.001(c-1)	Proof of Residence for Military Dependents A person whose parent or guardian is 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, may establish residency for purposes of Subsection (b) by providing to the school district a copy of military orders requiring the parent's or guardian's transfer to a military installation in or adjacent to the district's attendance zone.
	TEC §25.001(c-2)	Residency for Military Dependents A person who establishes residency under subsection 25.001(c-1), must provide to the school district proof of residence within 90 days after the arrival date specified in military orders described by that subsection. For this subsection's purpose, "residence" includes residence in a military temporary lodging facility.
	TEC §25.0344	Transfer of Students Who Are Children of Service Members Extends the privilege of requesting a transfer to any school or district to any service member, including active-duty service members of the Reserve and/or the Texas National Guard, to another campus within their district or an adjoining school district (Effective September 1, 2023): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This request for transfer must be approved according to the guidelines in TEC §25.0344. Parents or guardians are responsible for transportation if their child attends a school under this section.

Capturing the Military Student Identifier in PEIMS (C197)

Students identified as a military-connected student are captured in PEIMS using one of six “military identifier” codes

Table ID	Name	Date Issued	Date Updated
C197	MilitaryConnectedStudent	08/01/2013	09/01/2023
Descriptor	Short Description	Long Description	
1	KG-12 Dependent Active-Duty US Military	Student in grade KG – 12 is a dependent of an active-duty member of the United States military	
2	KG-12 Dependent Current Member of TX National Guard	Student in grade KG – 12 is a dependent of a current member of the Texas National Guard (Army, Air Guard, or State Guard)	
3	KG-12 Dependent Current Member Reserve Force US Military	Student in grade KG – 12 is a dependent of a current member of a reserve force in the United States military	
4	PK Dependent Active-Duty US Military Or Reserve, Killed On Active Duty	Prekindergarten student is: 1) 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, or 2) is the child of a member 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 killed while serving on active duty. Note: A student remains eligible for enrollment if the child's parent leaves the armed forces or is no longer on active duty after the child begins a prekindergarten class.	
5	KG-12 Dependent Former US Military, TX National Guard, Reserve US Military	Student in grade KG – 12 is a dependent of a former member of one of the following: - the United States military - the Texas National Guard (Army, Air Guard, or State Guard) - a reserve force in the United States military	
6	KG-12 Dependent Military Or Reserve US Military Killed In Line Of Duty	Student in grade KG – 12 was a dependent of a member of a military or reserve force in the United States military who was killed in the line of duty	

Military Student Identifier SY 2023 - 2025

Military Status (PEIMS Code)	2023	2024	2025
Active Duty in US Military (1)	68,103	62,436	60,531
TX National Guard (2)	6,665	6,415	6,848
Reserve Force (3)	11,440	11,248	11,288
Pre-K (4)	8,878	9,102	9,279
Veteran (5)	102,483	121,629	139,479
Fallen in the Line of Duty (6)	1,757	2,208	1,967
Total MCS	199,326	213,038	229,392



Resource: TEA MSI Infographics (2025 Data)



TEA
Texas Education Agency

Texas has the **second highest number** of identified military-connected students in the nation with **nearly 230,000** attending public and open-enrollment charter schools.



Source: PEIMS 2024-25

Military-Connected Students

The Military Student Identifier (MSI)

Districts and open-enrollment charter schools are required to collect the military student identifier (MSI). This includes active duty, National Guard, and a reserve force.

All 50 states are required to collect the military student identifier (MSI) for active duty only.

Expanded PEIMS indicator codes. Students with a parent/guardian who:

1. Are veterans.
2. A member in the U.S. military or reserve force who have fallen in the line of duty.

2019-2020 School Year

Texas Education Code
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
The 86th Texas Legislature - SB 1557

MSI Infographics



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).

K-12th grade:

Dependent of a **current** member of one of the following:
- Military
- National Guard (Army, Air Guard, or State Guard); or A
- Reserve force

Dependent of a **former** member of one of the following:
- Military
- National Guard (Army, Air Guard, or State Guard); or A
- Reserve force

Dependent of a member of the U.S. military or reserve force
who has fallen in the line of duty.

Veteran students:

Child of an **active-duty member** of the armed forces of the
United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component
forces who is ordered to active duty by proper authority.

Child of the armed forces of the United States, including the
state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces who
has died or has fallen in the line of duty.

What are the benefits of identifying students as military-connected?
Open-enrollment charter schools will be able to appropriately link
military-connected students and their families to resources, services, and laws
they are eligible for because of their active-duty status.

What are the school's requirements for collecting military student identifier
data?
Open-enrollment charter schools must include the military
student identifier questions in their student enrollment packet.

What do parents/guardians need to provide proof of their military status?
Military status is not required for the purposes of the military
student identifier. Verification may be required if the school has a special
eligibility requirement, such as state-funded tuition. Districts and open-enrollment charter schools should not
ask for proof of military status.

How do the military student identifier (MSI) in the Public Education
Management System (PEIMS) differ from the Federal Impact Aid

What is Impact Aid?
Impact Aid is 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.

TEA
Texas Education Agency



TEA.Texas.gov/mil
MilitaryConnectedStudents@tea.texas.gov



Statewide Military Student Identifier Data Report

HIGHLY MOBILE & AT RISK (HMAR) | MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT PROGRAM



2025-26 Texas Military Student Identifier Data Report

In efforts to strengthen the infrastructure, implementation, and support for military-connected students across Texas, TEA is strategically engaging with stakeholders to increase awareness, build capacity, and strengthen supports for addressing the needs of military connected students and families across Texas.

This data report was prepared using PEIMS Fall Snapshot Data (C197) as an opportunity for state and regional partners to:

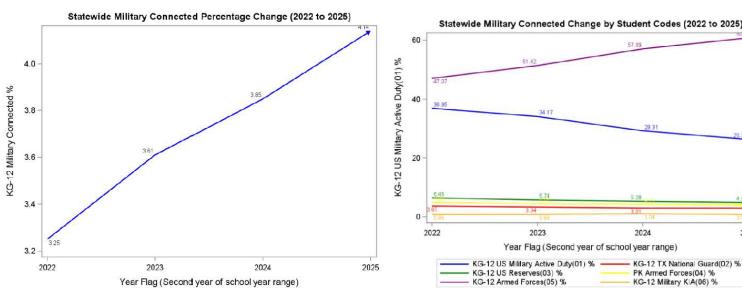
- Gain understanding of statewide and regional data trends regarding Military-Connected Student (MCS);
- Understand implementation of Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD);
- Identify areas for strengthening and improvement;
- Discuss and determine ways to enhance implementation strategies for supporting MCS

The following data report provides high-level information regarding the Texas Military Student Identifier (MSI) for 2025-26 SY, including overall statewide counts and trends of military connected students by MSI type, ESC Region, and information on PSCD.

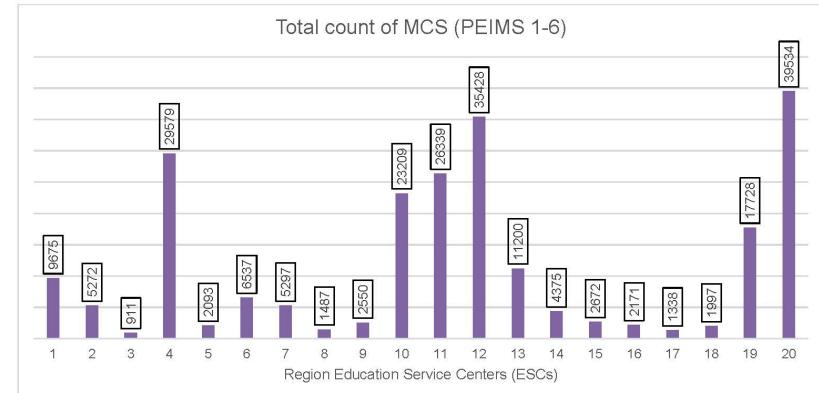
Statewide Military-Connected Student Count (4-Year Trend)

Military Status (PEIMS Code)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Active Duty in US Military (1)	65,236	68,103	62,436	60,531
TX National Guard (2)	6,476	6,665	6,415	6,848
Reserve Force (3)	11,404	11,440	11,248	11,288
Pre-K (4)	8,817	8,878	9,102	9,279
Veteran (5)	83,112	102,483	121,629	139,479
Fallen in the Line of Duty (6)	1,514	1,757	2,208	1,967
Total Military-Connected Students	176,556	199,326	213,038	229,392

Statewide Military-Connected Student Change (4-Year Trend)



2025 Statewide Military-Connected Student Count by ESC Region



Statewide Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) – 6 Year Trend

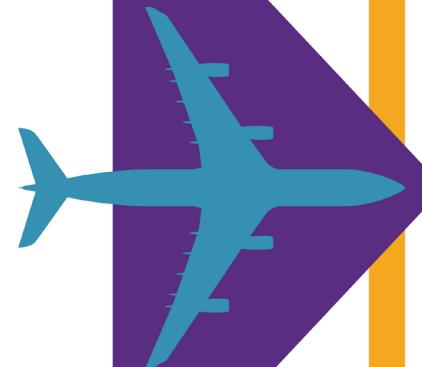
ESC	Area	Total Count MCS (Fall 2025 PEIMS)	25 – 26 PSCD Campuses	24 – 25 PSCD Campuses	23 – 24 PSCD Campuses	22 – 23 PSCD Campuses	21 – 22 PSCD Campuses	20 – 21 PSCD Campuses
1	Edinburg	9,675	4	36	4	4	1	6
2	Corpus Christi	5,272	0	24	17	5	3	1
3	Victoria	911	0	1	0	0	0	0
4	Houston	29,579	3	35	4	0	1	0
5	Beaumont	2,093	0	3	0	0	0	0
6	Huntsville	6,537	3	7	7	0	0	0
7	Kilgore	5,297	0	2	0	0	0	0
8	Mount Pleasant	1,487	0	1	0	0	0	0
9	Wichita Falls	2,550	0	5	1	6	0	7
10	Richardson	23,209	1	8	2	0	0	0
11	Fort Worth	26,339	2	8	13	1	7	3
12	Waco	35,428	8	48	11	27	2	18
13	Austin	11,200	3	11	2	6	0	1
14	Abilene	4,375	3	9	1	7	1	0
15	San Angelo	2,672	0	7	5	2	5	1
16	Amarillo	2,171	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Lubbock	1,338	0	1	0	0	1	2
18	Midland	1,997	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	El Paso	17,728	32	117	37	52	9	50
20	San Antonio	39,534	39	219	48	69	15	27
TOTAL		229,392	98	542	152	179	45	116



Unique Needs and Challenges

Unique Challenges for Military Children and Youth

**MILITARY-CONNECTED
CHILDREN
MOVE 6-9X
DURING THEIR K-12 EDUCATION**



**Military-connected children move
and change schools **3 TIMES**
more often than their civilian peers.**

(A) Frequent
relocations and
school transitions

(B) Emotional and
social impacts of
deployments

(C) Academic
continuity and
credit transfer
issues

Unique Challenges & the Impact (A)

**Frequent relocations
and school transitions
disrupts:**

Academic
progress

Social
development

Emotional
stability

Unique Challenges & the Impact (B)

Emotional and social impacts of deployments

Making new friends and adjusting to new school cultures can be difficult

May feel isolated, unaccepted, or disconnected from peers

The stress of parental deployment or reintegration can lead to anxiety, depression, or behavioral issues

Academic continuity and credit transfer issues

Inconsistent curricula

Different graduation requirements and academic standards between schools/states

Missed opportunities of AP courses or extracurriculars due to mid-year moves

Disruption of IEP plans for students with disabilities at new schools

Additional Challenges with Support and Awareness



Educators feel unprepared to support MCS:

Understanding transcript differences

Advocating for graduation waivers

Preparing students for college or careers

Best Practices in Supporting MCS

- Transition programs and student ambassadors
- Dedicated military family liaison or point of contact
- Social-emotional learning and counseling supports

Community and Military Partnerships

- Collaborations with local bases, military installations, military family organizations, and nonprofits.

Resource: Campus Transition Programs

Campus Transition Program Best Practices

The Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) includes the requirement of a Campus Transition Program (CTP), including a peer-led student transition team. Schools can effectively support incoming military-connected students and promote a positive, inclusive school culture by clearly defining campus transition programs and implementing peer-led student transition teams. This element of PSCD is crucial for helping new military-connected students develop a sense of belonging and connectedness in their new school. This document outlines the requirements and best practice strategies for implementing a CTP. This document aligns and should be used in conjunction with the [PSCD Self-Assessment Application Rubric](#) to identify opportunities to strengthen campus transition programs and for continuous improvement.



This resource accompanies module 4 of the *Purple Star Rise* course.



Campus Transition Program Requirements:

- Introduction to the school environment and school processes by the campus-based military liaison or by peer-led student leaders or ambassadors, if determined appropriate by the campus-based military liaison, must be provided to new military-connected students.
- Peer-led student leaders or ambassadors should be supported or sponsored by a campus-based staff member, such as:
 - The campus-based military liaison.
 - A campus counselor.
 - A teacher.
 - A campus administrator, such as a principal or an assistant principal.
 - Another staff member who supports highly mobile students.
- Peer-led student leaders or ambassadors should participate in the following activities:
 - Organizing and hosting newcomer social events throughout the school year that give military-connected students and families an opportunity to learn about campus culture, processes, and the community.



What is the Campus Transition Program (CTP)?

The CTP is an organized group that hosts newcomer social events throughout the school year designed to support military-connected students and families by providing an opportunity to learn about the campus culture, processes, and community. The CTP is led by the campus-based military liaison, a campus counselor, teacher, administrator, or other staff member who actively supports highly mobile military-connected students.

Use this document to:

- Understand best practice strategies for implementing a Campus Transition Program.
- Assist in effectively supporting incoming MCS and promoting a positive, inclusive school culture.
- Help new MCS develop a sense of belonging and connectedness in their new school.





Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD)

Purple Star Campus Designation

Recognizes campuses for demonstrating support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families



- Created by 86th Legislature (SB 1577)
- Began 2020-21SY (TEA has awarded 6 years of PSCD)
- Awarded annually each Fall
- Designation lasts 2 years
- Campuses must re-apply for the designation



2025-26 PSCD Awarded Campuses

Current Purple Star Campus Designations

Overview by Education Service Centers (ESC)

Region ESC	*2024-25 PSCD Awarded Campuses	2025-26 PSCD Awarded Campuses	Total Number of Designated Campuses
1	36	4	40
2	24	0	24
3	1	0	1
4	35	3	38
5	3	0	3
6	7	3	10
7	2	0	2
8	1	0	1
9	5	0	5
10	8	1	9
11	8	2	10
12	48	8	56
13	11	3	14
14	9	3	12
15	7	0	7
16	0	0	0
17	1	0	1
18	0	0	0
19	117	32	149
20	219	39	258
TOTAL	542	98	640

* PSCD Designations are for two (2) years. 2024-25 designees must reapply for the 2026-27 cycle to be considered for redesignation.

- 306 applications received and reviewed
- 98 awarded
- 2-year designation
- First Time/New: 40
- Renewal: 58

PSCD Program Requirement Overview

PSCD Criteria	Definition
Campus-based Military Liaison	A campus must designate an assigned staff member as a military liaison.
Webpage for Military Families	A campus must create and maintain an easily accessible webpage for military families that includes information for military-connected students and their families.
Campus Transition Program	A program that provides support to military-connected students through a campus-based military liaison or peer-to-peer mentoring program.
Military Initiatives	<p>A campus must offer at least one of the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="719 865 1973 908">A. a resolution showing support for military-connected students and families,<li data-bbox="719 923 1973 966">B. participation in the Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month, or<li data-bbox="719 980 2383 1081">C. a partnership with a school liaison to encourage and provide opportunities for active-duty military members to engage with local schools.

To see the Purple Star Campus Designation rule in its entirety, visit: [19 TAC, Chapter 61. School Districts, Subchapter FF. Commissioner's Rules Concerning Veterans and Military Dependents. Division 2, Military-Connected Students, §61.1063.](#)

The campus-based military liaison must support military-connected students and their families by:

- Serving as the point of contact and working collaboratively between military-connected students and their families.
- Maintaining familiarity with enrollment processes, records transfer, existing community resources, and student supports.
- Collaborating with school leaders to ensure military-connected students are identified and properly coded in the Texas Student Data System (TSDS) Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS).
- Coordinating campus-based supports and services available to military-connected students.
- Coordinating campus-based programs relevant to military-connected students.
- Attending annual professional development or training to learn and understand topics related to the transition of military-connected students and their families.

RESOURCE: [Professional Development Resources and Tools](#) (Component of Criteria 1)

Includes resources for military-connected students and their families:

RESOURCE: [Webpage Requirements for Military Families \(Criteria 2\)](#)

Relocation

Enrollment and Registration

Academic Planning

Counseling and Support Services

Campus-Based Military Liaison

Part III: Campus Transition Program

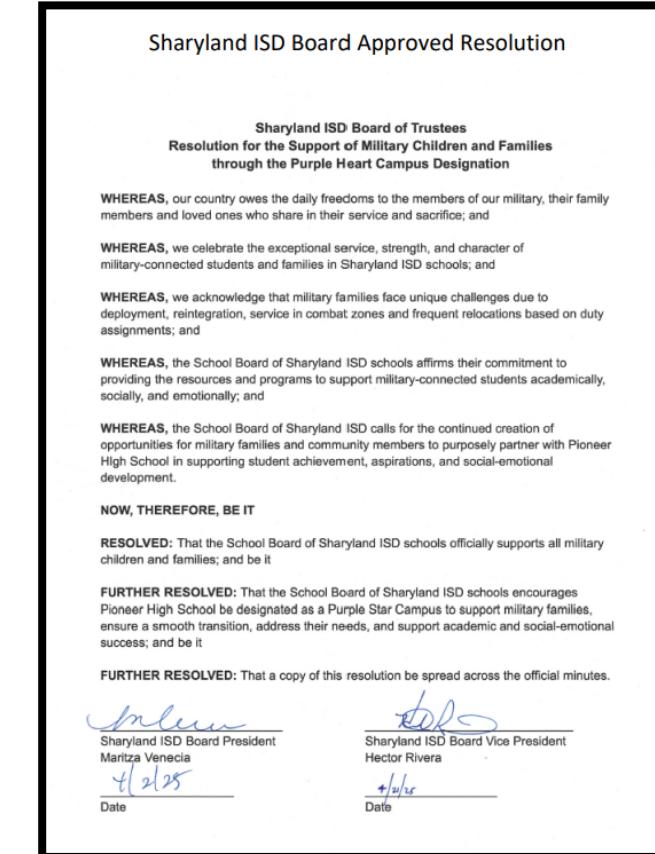
- Introductions to the school environment and school processes by the campus-based military liaison or by peer-led student leaders or ambassadors to provide new military-connected students.
- Any peer-led student leaders or ambassadors should be supported or sponsored by a campus-based staff member such as:
 - The campus-based military liaison.
 - A campus counselor.
 - A teacher.
 - A campus administrator such as a principal or an assistant principal.
 - Another staff member who supports highly mobile students.
- Any peer-led student leaders or ambassadors should participate in the following activities:
 - Organize and host newcomer social events throughout the school year that give military-connected students and families an opportunity to learn about campus culture, processes, and the community.
 - Provide guided campus tours including the library, nurse's office, counseling office, gym, cafeteria, and other common areas.
 - Accompany the new student to lunch the first day or week of school.

RESOURCE: Campus Transition Program Best Practices (Criteria 3)

Part IV: Military Initiatives

A campus must offer at least one of the following military initiatives:

- A resolution showing support for military-connected students and families
- Participation in the Month of the Military Child or Veteran and Military Family Month
- Partnership with the local installation school liaison to encourage and provide opportunities for active duty military members to volunteer in the local schools, speak at a school assembly, or host a school field trip.



RESOURCE: [Military Initiatives](#) (Criteria 4)

Why Purple Star Campus Designation Matters?

Recognition of commitment to military families

Builds trust and enrollment appeal for military families

Enhances school culture and inclusivity





Key Benefits for Schools to Consider PSCD 1:

Enhanced Support for Military Families:

Schools with this designation demonstrate a **commitment to easing transitions** for students who frequently relocate due to military service



Key Benefits for Schools to Consider PSCD 2:

Recognition & Visibility:

Designated campuses receive a special **Purple Star recognition** to display on their website and campus, signaling their dedication to military families





Key Benefits for Schools to Consider PSCD 3:

Access to Resources:

Schools gain access to **professional development, tools, transition program best practices, and other resources** to better serve military-connected students



Key Benefits for Schools to Consider PSCD 4:

Community & Stakeholder Engagement:

The designation **fosters stronger relationships** between schools, military families, and local communities, **improving overall student success**



Key Benefits for Schools to Consider PSCD 5:

Improved Student Outcomes:

By addressing the unique challenges military-connected students face—such as frequent relocations and varying academic standards—**schools help ensure students stay on track for college and career readiness**

Resources: PSCD Webpage

Applying for the Purple Star Campus Designation

If your campus is interested in earning the Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD), this section provides everything you need to get started. Here, you'll find application details, essential resources to help you understand the designation criteria, and tools to support a successful submission. Whether you're new to PSCD or looking to strengthen your application, these materials are designed to guide you through the process and highlight what it means to be recognized as a Purple Star Campus. Additionally, previous communications and updates related to PSCD are available below for your reference.

Expand All

Upcoming 2026-27 SY PSCD Application Window

The 2026-27 SY Purple Star Campus Designation application window will open in **late Spring 2026**. The 2026-27 PSCD awardees will be announced in Fall 2026.

- Applications **MUST** be submitted using the Qualtrics Survey Link: *Coming Soon*.
- Potential applicants **SHOULD** pre-plan their responses and required evidence using the [PSCD Application Planning Document \(PDF\)](#).

SY 2026-27 PSCD Application Information

- Spring 2026 PSCD Interest Webinar: March 4, 2026 @ 1:00 - 2:30 PM CST | [Registration Link](#)
- Spring 2026 PSCD Office Hours
 - April 15, 2026 @ 1:00 - 2:00 PM CST | [Registration Link](#)
 - May 20, 2026 @ 1:00 - 2:00 PM CST | [Registration Link](#)

PSCD Resource Center: Apply, Learn, and Lead

25-26 SY PSCD News & Awardee Announcements

Archived PSCD Awardees & Communications

General PSCD Resources

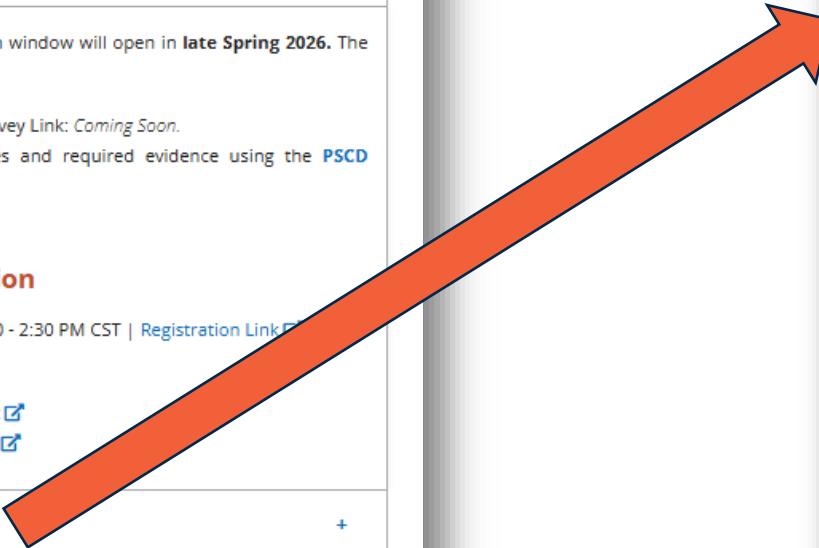
1. TEA Learn Course: [Purple Star Rise](#) (Released January 2025) | A self-paced course designed to introduce educators to the PSCD framework and best practices.
2. [PSCD Annual Calendar and Timeline Recommendations \(PDF\)](#) | Suggested planning milestones to help campuses stay on track throughout the year.
3. Commonly used key terms, definitions, and acronyms for educators [\(PDF\)](#) | A helpful glossary to support a clear understanding of PSCD-related language.
4. [Texas Law and Policy Requirements to Support Military-Connected Students \(PDF\)](#) | A summary of relevant legislation and policy expectations.

PSCD Application Support

1. [PSCD Application Guide \(PDF\)](#) | A step-by-step guide to completing the application process.
2. [PSCD Application Overview and Checklist \(PDF\)](#) | A quick-reference tool to ensure all components are addressed.
3. [PSCD Campus Self-Assessment: Application Rubric \(PDF\)](#) | A rubric to help campuses evaluate their readiness and alignment with PSCD criteria.
4. [PSCD Frequently Asked Questions \(PDF\)](#) | Answers to common questions about the application and designation process.
5. [PSCD Application Exemplar PDF](#) | Crucial resource that walks applicants through each application question and sample responses from previously awarded campuses.

PSCD Criteria Support

1. Supporting Military-Connected Students: [Professional Development Resources and Tools](#) (Component of Criteria 1) | Training and tools to help educators better serve military-connected students.
2. [PSCD Webpage Requirements for Military Families](#) (Criteria 2) | Guidance on creating a campus webpage that meets PSCD standards.
3. [PSCD Campus Transition Program Best Practices](#) (Criteria 3) | Examples and strategies for supporting student transitions effectively.
4. [PSCD Military Initiatives](#) (Criteria 4) | Highlighted programs and partnerships that align with PSCD goals.





Education Service Center (ESC) Military Champions

Texas ESC Military Champions



Activity | The Graduation Crisis Huddle



The Conflict: A family with a high school **senior** just arrived from another state due to an urgent Permanent Change of Station (PCS). The previous school is withholding transcripts over a \$20 book fee; the local counselor refuses enrollment without them.



The Roadblock: Your campus policy says, "no transcript, no enrollment." The student is in tears; the student's parent is scheduled to deploy in 48 hours.



The Task: Determine the **single most impactful move** that you can take right now to help the student/family.

Activity Debrief

MIC 3 Focus

Social-Emotional Focus

Logistics Focus

*If Needed, Your ESC Military Champion
is the next level of support!*



Resource: Military Champion Student Support Framework



Education Service Center (ESC) Military Champion Student Support Framework

The purpose of this resource is to empower ESC Military Champions with the knowledge, tools, and resources to effectively advocate for military-connected students and families.

An ESC Military Champion is a voluntarily designated staff member at an Education Service Center who serves as a regional point of contact for school systems and military stakeholders to support the needs of military-connected students and their families.



1. Voluntary liaison and point of contact between ESCs, military installations, and school systems:

- Build your military-connected staff and volunteers
- Create an ESC regional military-connected support webpage (navigation menu tab) to include, but not limited to:
 - ESC Military Champion contact information
 - Military-connected resources/links
 - Texas Education Agency (TEA) Military-Connected Student Programs
 - Military Child Education Coalition® (MCEC®)
 - School system military liaison contact information*
 - Military installation school liaison
 - Calendar of events, activities, and upcoming meetings
 - Develop a month-to-month planning checklist
 - Create a newsletter or one-pagers
 - Create flow chart of services
- Collaborate with other ESC specialists/groups to share military information (e.g., counselors, HMAR, superintendents, campus-based school liaisons/military installation school liaisons, VFW, JROTC programs, military recruiters, Texas Veterans Commission)
- Create a flyer/informational poster to share in meetings and trainings

*Not all school systems will have a designated military liaison.

Education Service Center (ESC) Military Champion Student Support Framework

2. Provide awareness and implementation of Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD):

- Maintain awareness of current data on Purple Star Campus Designations to better support school systems
- Visit Purple Star campuses and potential Purple Star campuses
- Prioritize during Purple Star Campus Designation application period

3. Coordinate professional learning and capacity building opportunities for educators:

- Attend TEA and MCEC Professional Development Trainings:
 - Professional Learning Community Series (PLC)
 - TEALearn PurpleStar Rise Course
 - Military-connected student support trainings
- Attend MCEC Parent Support Webinars
- Attend State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children meetings
- Engage in mentorship opportunities (Internal staff that are veterans or military-connected)
- Educate districts on the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) provisions to ensure consistent implementation across schools

4. Utilize data to inform supports, service, and outreach:

- Locate and identify your resources: PEIMS information, regional data reports, district assessment results.
- Data sharing: Assist school systems track and analyze academic and attendance data of military-connected students to identify and address achievement gaps.



Resources

General PSCD Resources

- TEALearn Course: [Purple Star Rise](#)
- PSCD [Annual Calendar and Timeline Recommendations](#) (PDF)
- [Commonly Used Key Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms for Educators](#) (PDF)
- [Texas Law and Policy Requirements to Support Military-Connected Students](#) (PDF)

PSCD Application Support

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- PSCD [Application Overview and Checklist](#) (PDF)
- PSCD Campus Self-Assessment: [Application Rubric](#) (PDF)
- PSCD [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (PDF)
- 25-26 PSCD Application [Exemplar Training](#) (PDF)

Education Service Center (ESC) Military Champion Student Support Framework

Resources (con't)

PSCD Criteria Support

- Supporting Military-Connected Students: [Professional Development Resources and Tools](#) (PDF)
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- PSCD [Campus Transitions Program Best Practices](#) (PDF)
- PSCD [Military Initiatives](#) (PDF)

Professional Learning Resources

[Military Child Education Coalition - Professional Development Opportunities](#)

MCEC offers training for educators and professionals on topics such as school transitions, deployment, and social-emotional support for military and veteran-connected students.

[Military Interstate Children's Compact \(MIC3\)](#)

The Compact 101 Training provides participants with a brief history of how the Compact began followed by an overview of the legal requirements applicable to public and DoDEA schools educating military-connected children.

[Texas Education Agency \(TEA\) Military-Connected Student Programs](#)

[State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children](#)

PEIMS & Military Student Identifier (MSI) Resources

[Military-Connected Student Identifier \(MSI\) Infographics Resource](#)

This one-pager provides guidance for schools on collecting military student identifier (MSI) information and includes updated PEIMS data regarding the number of military-connected students in Texas.

[Statewide \(Texas\) Military Student Identifier Data Report](#)

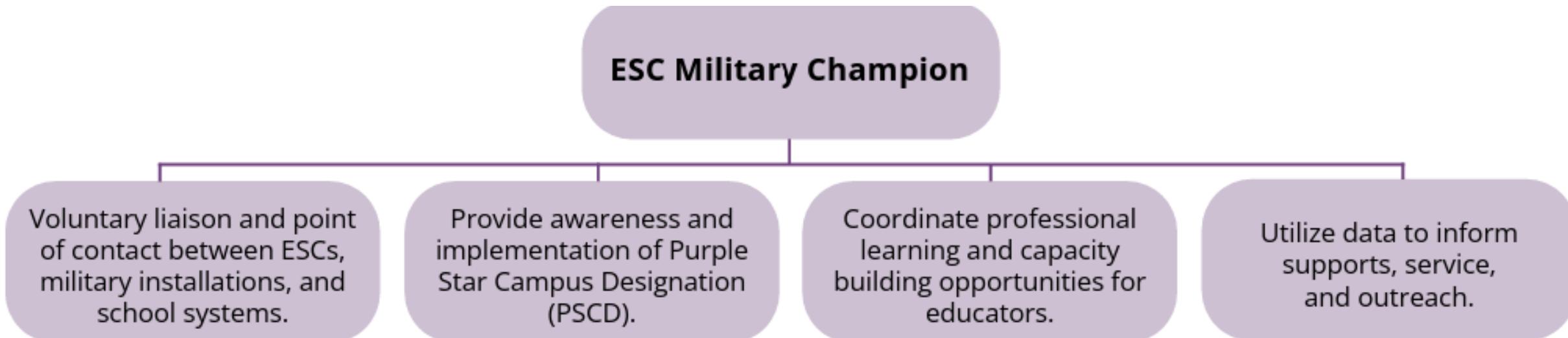
This data report utilizes PEIMS data (C197) as an opportunity for state and regional partners to gain an understanding of statewide and regional data trends regarding military-connected student and Purple Star Campus Designation.

[Military Student Identifier FAQs](#) | Explains the ESSA requirement for identifying students with active-duty military parents and how this data supports educational outcomes.

[PEIMS Code Table C197](#) | The Texas Student Data System (TSDS) [PEIMS Data Standards](#) (TWEDS) provides a breakdown of the military-connected student indicator codes and their descriptions.

[Student Program and Special Population Reports](#) | Access MSI totals by region, district, or campus.

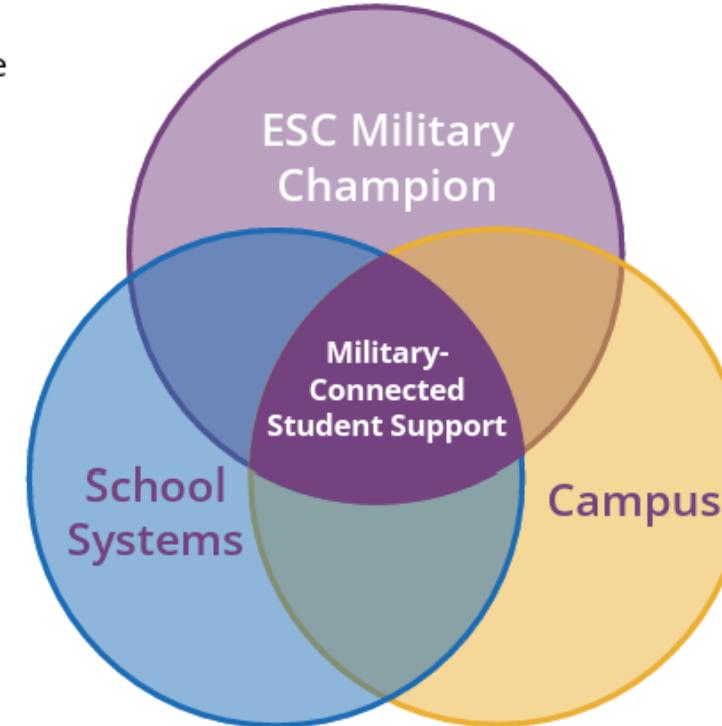
- A voluntarily designated staff member at an Education Service Center
- Serves as a regional point of contact for school systems and military stakeholders to support the needs of military-connected students and their families.



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Campus Military Liaison

To focus on the individual student and family immediately in front of them. Ensure proper PEIMS Coding.

ESC Military Champion

To utilize aggregated data and advocate for systemic changes and regional opportunities to build capacity and supports.

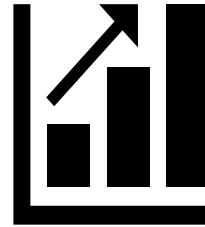
Other Key Data Sources

- PEIMS Indicators
- Student Mobility Data
- District Assessment Data
- Attendance Data
- Purple Star Campus Data
- Family Input

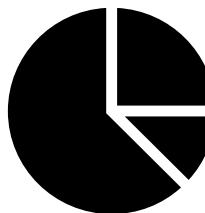
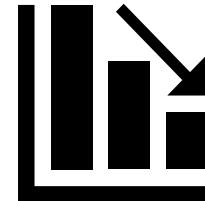


How ESC Military Champions Use Data

- Understand regional MCS demographics
- Customize outreach



- Monitor for changes in needed services
- Monitor PSCD trends



- Monitor PEIMS coding changes
- Identify academic and attendance trends

- Drive training topics and resource development
- Dissemination of critical updates

ESC Military Champions as Advocacy Coordinators

Support and empower districts

Clarify policy and support compliance

Connect families to local supports

Solve systemic issues regionally

Elevate district success stories

Streamline approach across all districts in the region



*Data isn't all about numbers—it's about knowing
where to focus our time so military-connected students
receive consistent, effective, and timely support.*



Wrapping Up

Purple Star Rise:

Supporting Our Military-Connected Students in Texas

A self-paced, comprehensive training for educators and campus points of contact supporting the Purple Star Campus Designation program in Texas.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Purple Star Rise Course.



MCEC[®]

TEA
Texas Education Agency



TEA Learn Course: Purple Star Rise

- To assist school systems in **implementing effective** PSCD programs.
- Resources, tools, videos, and asynchronous PD training modules to **strengthen** Purple Star in Texas.
 - **Introductions:** Purple Star Campus Overview
 - **Module 1:** Purple Star Campus Designation
 - **Module 2:** Campus-Based Military Liaison
 - **Module 3:** Webpage for Military Family
 - **Module 4:** Campus Transition Program
 - **Module 5:** Military Initiatives
 - **Course Conclusion:** CPE Certificate



Completed (Recording & Deck posted)

Purple Star Designated:
What's Next?

Identifying Military-
Connected Students

Developing a Purple Star
Advisory Committee

Activities and Event
Planning

Upcoming:

Preparing for
Redesignation

February 18, 2026

Purple Star Campus Support Professional Learning Community & Office Hours



Save the Dates!



Wednesdays
2:00 – 3:30 p.m. CST

(Purple Star Office Hours are held in the last 30 minutes of each PLC session)

- September 17, 2025
- October 22, 2025
- November 19, 2025
- January 21, 2026
- February 18, 2026

Register Here!



To register for this series, open the camera app on your mobile phone and hover over the QR code, or click here:

[REGISTER](#)

 MCEC®

TEA Purple Star Campus Designation




Texas Education Agency

Completed

Supporting Military
Children Through School
Transitions: Foundations

College Bound- Financial
Aid & College Preparations
for Military Families



Upcoming

We Serve, Too- National Guard
and Reserve Children

Coming 2/4/26

TEA's PSCD Interest Meeting

Coming 3/4/26

When Military Service Ends:
Supporting the Children of
Veterans

Coming 3/25/26

We Serve, Too- National Guard and Reserve Children



- Discover strategies and resources to provide meaningful support to students during extended periods of a National Guard or Reserve parent's or caregiver's absence.
- This virtual session is conducted live and includes PDF resources, and guided discussion.

We Serve, Too: National Guard and Reserve Children



February 4, 2026
2:30 - 3:30 p.m. CST

No cost to attend.
Register in advance:



To register, open the camera app on your mobile phone and hover over the QR code, or click [here](#).

REGISTER

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), in collaboration with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) is excited to invite you to a series of professional development trainings for the 2025-26 school year. These trainings are thoughtfully designed to equip professionals with valuable insights, practical tools, and best practices to effectively support military-connected students.

We are proud to present our second training, *We Serve, Too: National Guard and Reserve Children*. This course equips educators and professionals with the knowledge and tools to understand and address the unique experiences of children with a parent or caregiver serving in the National Guard or Reserves.

What to Expect:

- Discover strategies and resources to provide meaningful support to students during extended periods of a National Guard or Reserve parent's or caregiver's absence.
- This virtual session is conducted live and includes PDF resources, and guided discussion.

MCEC is approved ACEP, by the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC), to offer Continuing Education (1 clock hour = 1 CE). Please contact pd@militarychild.org for more information.

How to Subscribe | Sign Up for Updates!



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Texas Education Agency

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About TEA Texas Schools Academics Finance & Grants Reports & Data Student Assessment Texas Educators

89th Legislature Updates
The Texas Education Agency is sharing information on legislation from the 89th regular legislative session that Texas public school systems need to know. Check back for new resources as they are released.
[LEARN MORE](#)

89th Legislature Updates TEA Annual Report 2024 Bluebonnet Learning

The Latest TEA News
The latest news from the Texas Education Agency is available through [news releases](#), [online correspondence](#), [mailing lists](#), and other posted information.

Annual Report & Pocket Edition
The Texas Education Agency is pleased to announce the release of its [2024 Annual Report](#) and [Pocket Edition](#) to the general public.

Special Student Populations

At-Risk and Highly Mobile Student Program Division [i](#)

Early Childhood Education [i](#)

Emergent Bilingual [i](#)

Foster Care and Student Success [i](#)

Gifted/Talented Education [i](#)

Languages Other Than English [i](#)

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education

Mental and Behavioral Health

Military Connected Students

Pregnancy Programs [i](#)

Spanish Curriculum Standards

Special Education Updates [i](#)

Contact TEA's Military Connected Students Program



MilitaryConnectedStudents@tea.texas.gov



Tea.texas.gov/mil



When we support military-connected students, we honor not only their service but also their sacrifice.

Education becomes the bridge between their resilience and their future.