

Embrace Excellence: Become a Purple Star Campus

Texas Public Charter Schools Conference

October 6, 2025



Presenters



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High-Level Agenda for Today's Presentation

Introductions (15 minutes)

- Greetings and Purpose
- "Imagine the Move" Guided Reflection Activity

Understanding Military-Connected Students (10 minutes)

- Who are Military-Connected Students?
- Unique Needs and Challenges

Introducing the Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) (10 minutes)

- What is PSCD?
- Why it Matters

Why Charter Schools Should Apply (10 minutes)

- Strategic Benefits
- Success Metrics

Call to Action & Next Steps (15 minute)

- How to Get Started
- Q&A Discussion

Learning Objectives

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

Identify and Describe	The unique characteristics and challenges of military-connected students (MCS), including their demographics, mobility, and emotional and academic needs.
Recognize	Effective school-based supports and community partnerships that positively impact the success and well-being of MCS.
Understand	The purpose, criteria, and benefits of the Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) as a framework for supporting military families.
Evaluate	The strategic advantages of pursuing PSCD, particularly for charter schools, in terms of mission alignment, differentiation, and student outcomes.
Access	Tools, resources, and actionable steps to begin or enhance efforts toward becoming a Purple Star Campus.

"Imagine the Move" 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.

Understanding Military-Connected Students



"Imagine the Move" Guided Reflection - 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?

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

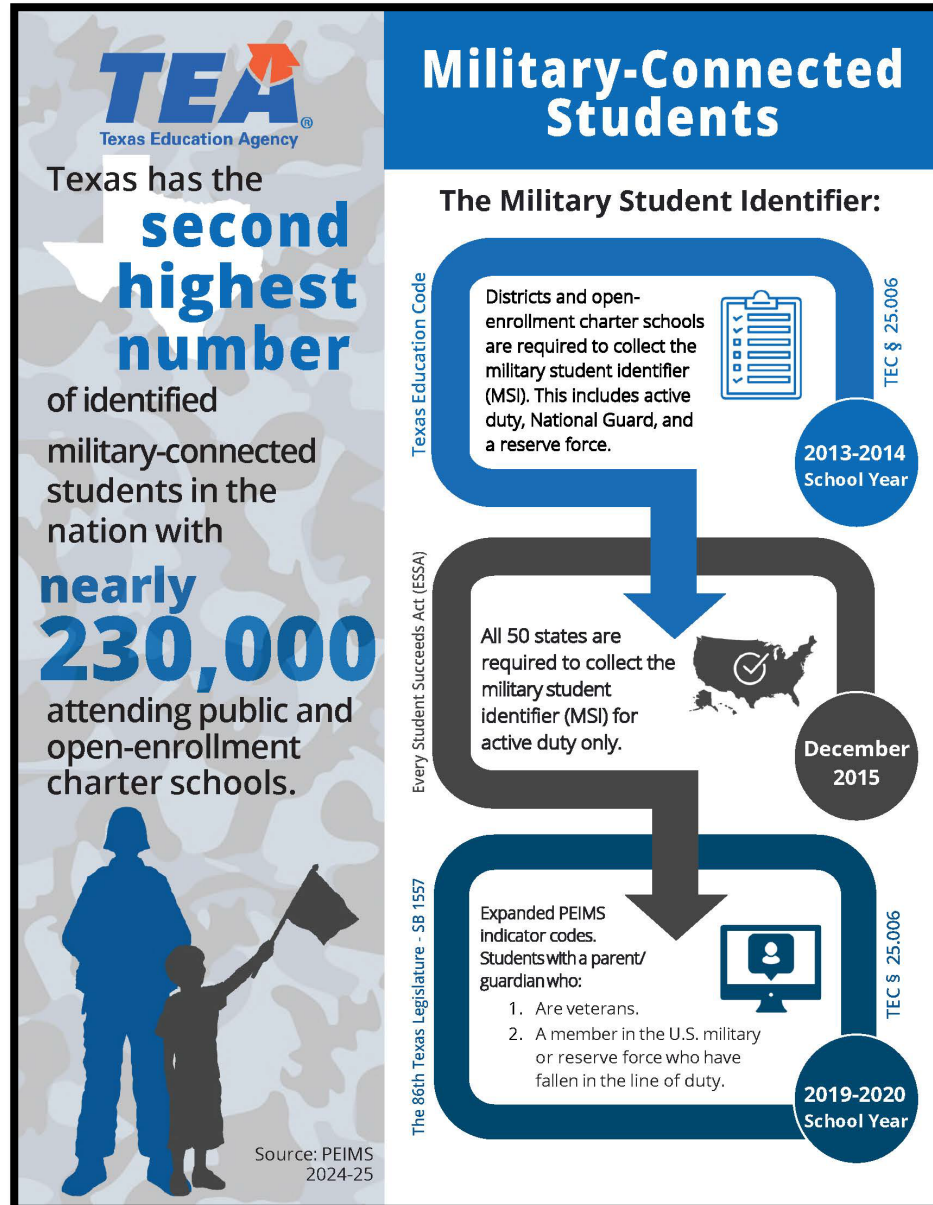
- Schools **may** designate a campus-based military liaison responsible for identifying MCS through PEIMS; serving as a point of contact for MCS and their families; and coordinating appropriate services and supports.

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	

Current TEA MSI Infographics (2025 Data)



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 ([MCS](#)) 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 questions 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.

[TEA.Texas.gov/mil](https://tea.texas.gov/mil)

MilitaryConnectedStudents@tea.texas.gov

Military Student Identifier SY 2023 - 2025

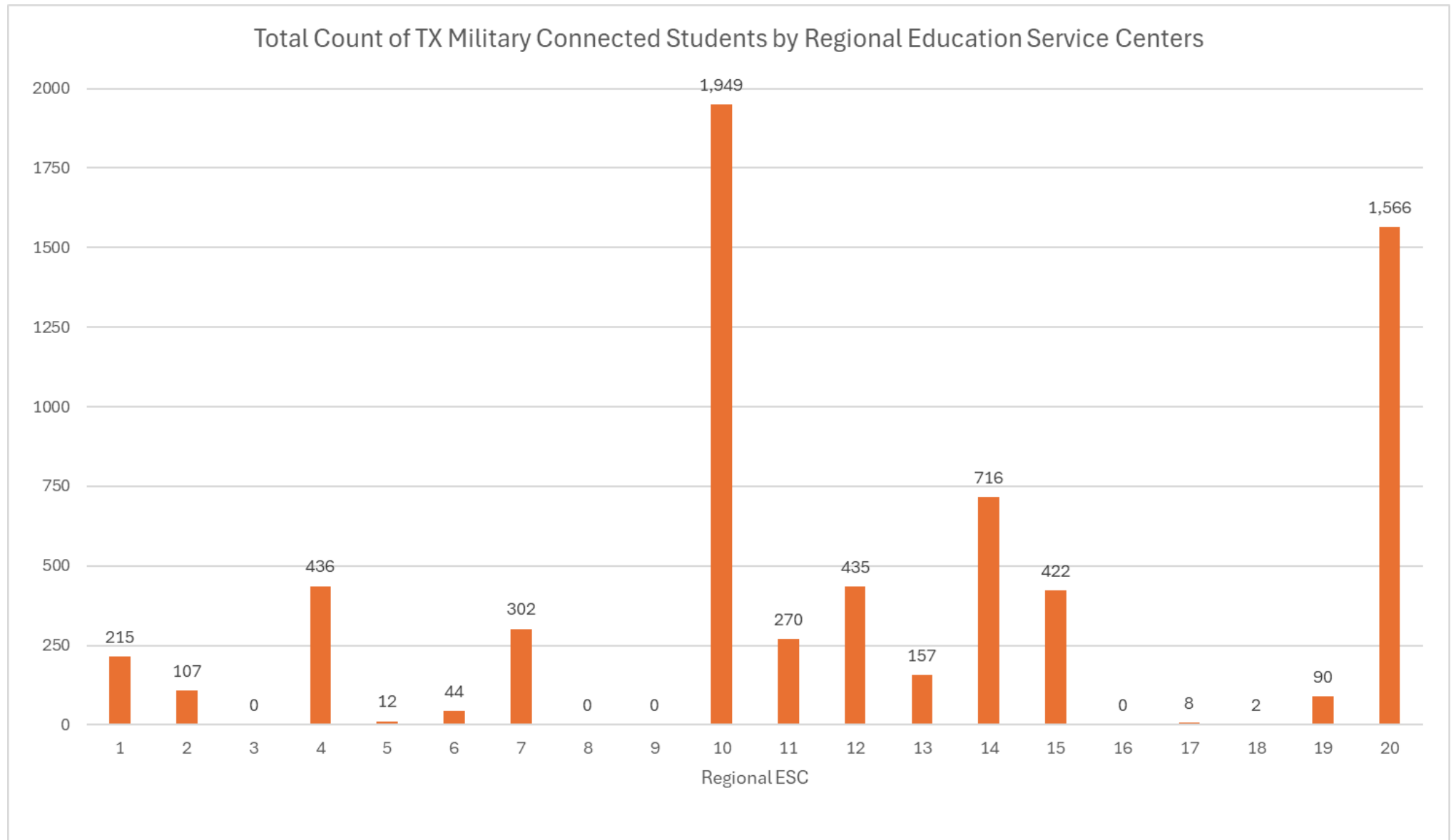


Military Status (PEIMS Code)	2023	2024	2025
Active Duty in US Military (1)	68,103	62,436	60,531
TX National Guard (2)	6,665	6,415	6,848
Reserve Force (3)	11,440	11,248	11,288
Pre-K (4)	8,878	9,102	9,279
Veteran (5)	102,483	121,629	139,479
Fallen in the Line of Duty (6)	1,757	2,208	1,967
Total MCS	199,326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

MCS Data in Texas Charter Schools (2024 PEIMS)

Regional ESC	Number of Charter Districts	Total MCS Counts	Total Student Count
1	7	215	85,982
2	4	107	1,002
3	0	0	0
4	40	436	93,260
5	3	12	3,458
6	5	44	1,517
7	7	302	4,698
8	0	0	0
9	0	0	0
10	35	1,949	90,639
11	17	270	17,681
12	4	435	13,565
13	20	157	21,722
14	1	716	16,918
15	1	422	4,075
16	0	0	0
17	3	8	646
18	2	2	1,850
19	7	90	8,900
20	30	1,566	57,017
Total	186	6,731	422,930

MCS Data in Texas Charter Schools by Region ESC



Unique Needs and Challenges



Unique Challenges for Military Children and Youth

Frequent
relocations and
school transitions

Emotional and
social impacts of
deployments

Academic
continuity and
credit transfer
issues

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.

Military-connected students in Texas face a unique set of challenges due to the nature of military life

Frequent School Transitions

Disruption in academic progress, social development, and emotional stability.

Academic Disruptions

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.

Social and Emotional Challenges

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

Lack of Support and Awareness

Educators feel unprepared to support MCS:

Understanding transcript differences

Advocating for graduation waivers

Preparing students for college or careers

Emotional Toll of Military Life

Constant change, uncertainty, and the emotional strain of having a parent in harm's way can significantly affect a child's mental health and academic performance.

Services and Supports That Make a Difference

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.

Introducing the Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD)



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 2020-21 school year (TEA has awarded 6 years of PSCD)
- Awarded annually each Fall
- Designation lasts 2 years
- Campuses must re-apply for the designation





[TEC §33.909](#). Purple Star Campus



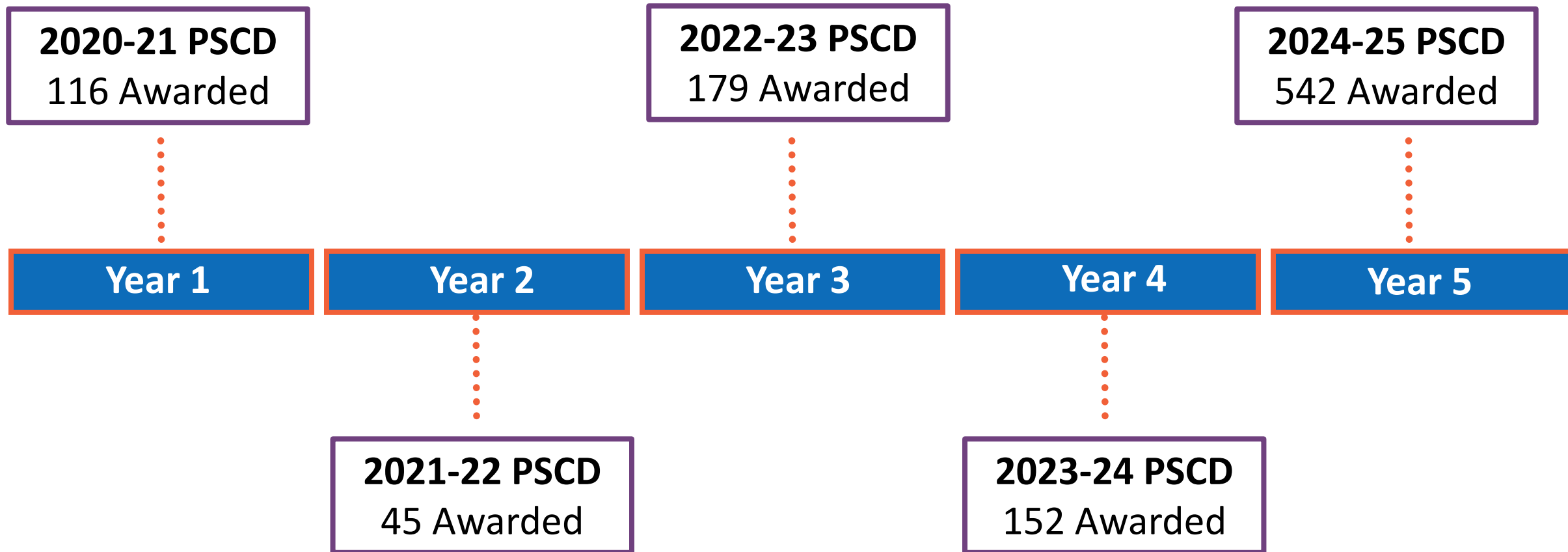
[19 TAC Chapter 61](#)

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

Division 2. Military-Connected Students

§61.1063. Purple Star Campus Designation.

Purple Star Campus Designation Awarded History





2025-26 PSCD Awards Announced!

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

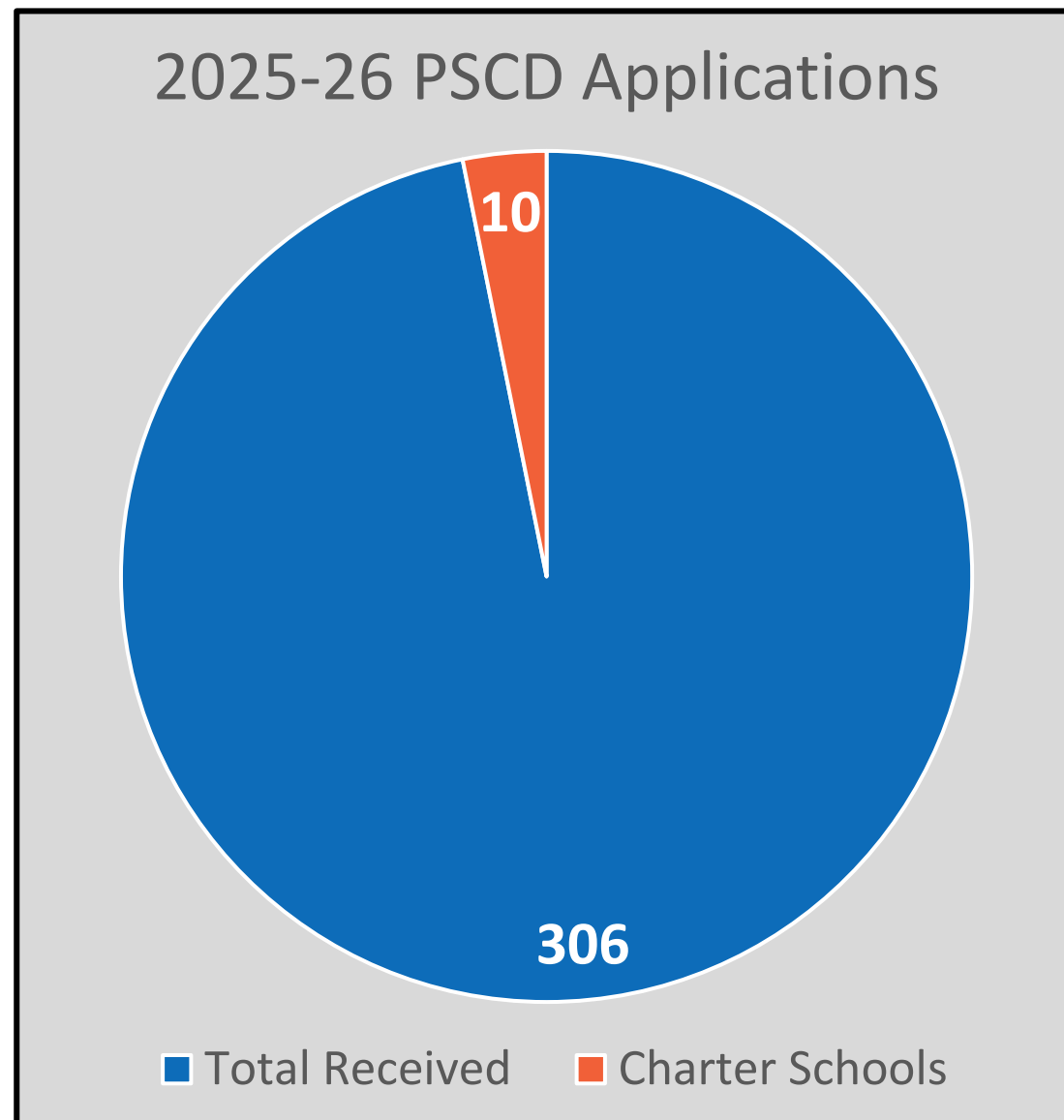
* PSCD Designations are for two (2) years. 2024-25 designees must reapply for the 2026-27 cycle to be considered for redesignation.

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



Charter Schools Who Earned the 2025-26 PSCD

- Total # of Charter Schools who applied: **10**
- Total # of Charter Schools awarded: **2**
- Charter campuses make up **~10.6%** of all public-school campuses in Texas (N = 958 of over 9000)



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	A campus must offer at least one of the following initiatives: A. a resolution showing support for military-connected students and families, B. participation in the Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month, or C. a partnership with a school liaison to encourage and provide opportunities for active-duty military members to engage with local schools.



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.

Includes
resources for
military-
connected
students and
their
families:

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.

Student-Led Campus Transition Program

A coordinated group of student leaders trained to support and provide guidance to incoming military-connected students and help them adjust to their new school environment.



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.

Sharyland ISD Board Approved Resolution

Sharyland ISD Board of Trustees Resolution for the Support of Military Children and Families through the Purple Heart Campus Designation

WHEREAS, our country owes the daily freedoms to the members of our military, their family members and loved ones who share in their service and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the exceptional service, strength, and character of military-connected students and families in Sharyland ISD schools; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that military families face unique challenges due to deployment, reintegration, service in combat zones and frequent relocations based on duty assignments; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Sharyland ISD schools affirms their commitment to providing the resources and programs to support military-connected students academically, socially, and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Sharyland ISD calls for the continued creation of opportunities for military families and community members to purposely partner with Pioneer High School in supporting student achievement, aspirations, and social-emotional development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of Sharyland ISD schools officially supports all military children and families; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of Sharyland ISD schools encourages Pioneer High School be designated as a Purple Star Campus to support military families, ensure a smooth transition, address their needs, and support academic and social-emotional success; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be spread across the official minutes.


Sharyland ISD Board President
Maritza Venecia
4/2/25
Date


Sharyland ISD Board Vice President
Hector Rivera
4/2/25
Date

Sample Military Initiative - Celebration



PSCD Site Visits – Flour Bluff & Waller ISDs



Sample Military Initiative - Partnership



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



Why Charter Schools Should Apply





Enhanced
Support
for Military
Families:

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



Recognition & Visibility:

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

A large orange circle with a slight shadow, containing the text "Access to Resources:".

**Access to
Resources:**

A large, light pink arrow pointing to the right, containing the text "Schools gain access to professional development, tools, transition program best practices, and other resources to better serve military-connected students".

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



**Community
&
Stakeholder
Engagement:**

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

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**

Purple Star Campus Designees Will Receive...



A letter from the Commissioner of TEA recognizing them as a Purple Star Campus



A high-resolution logo to use on the school's campus and webpage



A searchable designation on their TxSchools.gov profile

SY 2025-26 Purple Star Campus Designations



To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

1701 North Congress Avenue • Austin, Texas 78701-1494 • 512 463-9734 • 512 463-9838 FAX • tea.texas.gov

DATE:	September 19, 2024
SUBJECT:	Purple Star Campus Designation Awardees SY 2024-25
CATEGORY:	Notice
NEXT STEPS:	Share with appropriate staff

The Purple Star Campus Designation recognizes Texas school districts and open-enrollment charter school campuses that show support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) accepted applications for the 2024-25 school year from April 1, 2024, through June 7, 2024, for campuses to apply for the designation and demonstrate they have met the established criteria:

1. Designate a campus-based military liaison;
2. Create and maintain an easily accessible web page that includes information for military-connected students and their families;
3. Implement a campus transition program;
4. Conduct professional development for campus staff on topics related to military-connected students; and
5. Offer at least one of the following initiatives:
 - o A resolution showing support for military-connected students and families;
 - o Participation in Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month; or
 - o Partnership with a school liaison officer to encourage and provide opportunities for active-duty military members.

A total of 541 campuses across Texas met the established criteria and have earned Purple Star Campus Designations for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years. This is a 202% increase from the PSCD's that were awarded in 2023-24 and represents incredible growth in the program and Texas schools' commitment to supporting military-connected students and families. To see the list of this year's awardees, you can visit the link below:

- [2024-25 Purple Star Campus Designation Awardee List](#)

Any Texas public school can become a Purple Star Campus, regardless of the size of the military-connected student population. School systems are encouraged to support campuses and help them meet the criteria for Purple Star Campus Designation status. Applications are accepted on an annual basis, and the designation lasts for two years. After the two-year period, campuses that were previously awarded the designation must re-apply to maintain their special designation as a Purple Star Campus.

For a full list of the Purple Star Campus Designation criteria, visit [Purple Star Campus Designation](#). To see the rule that supports this designation, visit: [19 TAC Chapter 61, Subchapter FF, Commissioner's Rules Concerning Veterans and Military Dependents](#).

For the list of previously awarded campuses that received the designation, please visit the [Purple Star Campus Designation](#) website.

Questions

If you have any questions concerning the Purple Star Campus application process and supporting Military-Connected Students, please contact us at MilitaryConnectedStudents@tea.texas.gov.



Commissioner Mike Morath

1701 North Congress Avenue • Austin, Texas 78701-1494 • 512 463-9734 • 512 463-9838 FAX • tea.texas.gov

Purple Star Campus Designation 2024-25

Date: October 7, 2024

Subject: Purple Star Campus Designations in McAllen ISD for SY 2024-2025

Dear Superintendent Gutierrez,

The Texas Education Agency is pleased to announce [Christa McAuliffe Elementary School](#) in McAllen ISD has fulfilled the criteria for earning the Purple Star Campus Designation for the 2024-2025 school year. This special designation, created by the 86th Texas Legislature, [TEC §33.909](#) recognizes campuses for demonstrating support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. The designation is effective for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years.

To receive the Purple Star Campus Designation, applicants must have met the following eligibility criteria:

1. Designate a campus-based military liaison;
2. Create and maintain an easily accessible web page that includes information on military-connected students and their families;
3. Have a campus transition program; and
4. Offer at least one of the following initiatives:
 - A resolution showing support for military-connected students and families;
 - Participation in Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month; or
 - Partnership with a school liaison officer to encourage and provide opportunities for active-duty military members.

Recipients of the award have received the following:

- Purple Star recognition to display
- Recognition by the [Office of the Governor](#) and [TEA](#) for earning the Purple Star Campus Designation

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](#).

For questions regarding the Purple Star Campus Designation, please contact militaryconnectedstudents@tea.texas.gov in the Office of Special Populations and Student Supports.

Sincerely,

Mike Morath
Commissioner of Education



San Antonio / Politics & Govt



TEXAS TRIUMPHS AS 541 SCHOOLS EARN PRESTIGIOUS PURPLE STAR DESIGNATION FOR COMMITMENT TO MILITARY FAMILIES

By Susan O'Brien



Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District (PSJA ISD) school Dr. William Long Elementary has earned the prestigious Purple Star Campus Designation for the 2024-2025 school year. This honor recognizes the school's dedication to supporting military-connected students and their families. Image source: psja.us. Image for illustration purposes

CONGRATULATIONS!

Purple Star Campus Designation SY 2024-26



The Purple Star Campus Designation is a two-year distinct honor created by the Texas Legislature to recognize Texas public schools and open-enrollment charter schools that show their support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families.

Published on September 20, 2024



29 Killeen ISD schools newly recognized as Purple Star schools

38 total Killeen ISD schools now hold the designation for their service to military students and families.



- Barnes Elementary
- Dawson Elementary
- Kolda Elementary
- Windsor Park Elementary
- Grant Middle School
- King High School
- Moody High School
- Ray High School



EDUCATION

Copperas Cove ISD named 100% Purple Star district

All 11 of Copperas Cove ISD's campuses have been awarded Purple Star designations, recognizing the district's commitment to military students and families.



Call to Action & Next Steps



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[®]



Overview: Purple Star Rise TEA Learn Course

- To assist school systems in implementing effective Purple Star Campus programs.
 - Resources, tools, videos, and asynchronous professional development 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



Helpful Resources – PSCD Webpage

SY 2025-26 Purple Star Campus Application Information

- 
- 25-26 PSCD Application Interest Meeting (March 19, 2025): [Recording](#) | [Interest Meeting PDF](#)
 - ****NEW**** 25-26 PSCD Application Exemplar Training: [Exemplar Recording](#) | [Exemplar PDF](#)
 - 25-26 PSCD Application Office Hour | April 16, 2025 @ 10:00 - 11:00 AM CST | [Registration Closed](#)
 - 25-26 PSCD Application Office Hour | May 21, 2025 @ 10:00 - 11:00 AM CST | [Registration Link](#)
 - 2025-26 Purple Star Campus Designation Application and Month of Military Child (MOMC) To The Administrator (TAA)

Relevant Tools and Resources

• General PSCD Resources

- 
- ****NEW**** TEA Learn Course: [Purple Star Rise](#) - Released January 2025
 - 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

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

• PSCD Criteria Support

- Supporting Military-Connected Students: [Professional Development Resources and Tools](#)
- PSCD [Webpage Requirements for Military Families](#)
- PSCD [Campus Transition Program Best Practices](#)
- PSCD [Military Initiatives](#)

PSCD Application Guide

Purple Star Campus Designation Application Guide

The purpose of this guide is to provide a high-level overview of the Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) application and key tips, resources, and reminders for successfully submitting your campus's application and supporting military-connected students within your local education agency (LEA). The guide also provides key-action steps and important reminders for schools once they receive the Purple Star Campus Designation.



Criteria at a Glance

TEA Purple Star Campus Designation



This special honor was created by the 86th Texas Legislature, [TEC §33.909](#) and further described in agency rule, [19 TAC, §61.1063](#), effective April 9, 2020.

1. Designate a **campus-based military liaison**.
2. Create and maintain an **easily accessible** webpage for military families.
3. Have an active **Campus Transition Program** and **student-led program**.
4. Offer at least **one of the following military** initiatives:
 - a. A campus or district resolution showing support for military-connected students and families.
 - b. Participation in Month of the Military Child (April) and/or National Veteran and Military Family Month (November).
 - c. Partnership with an (installation) school liaison officer* to encourage and provide opportunities for active duty military members to volunteer in the local schools, speak at a school assembly, or host a field trip.

**Includes school liaisons from all military branches.*

Use this document to:

- Gain an overview of the PSCD application process and key steps involved.
- Utilize key tips and reminders to ensure a successful application submission.
- Follow the detailed guidance to prepare and submit your application.
- Understand action steps to follow after receiving PSCD.

PSCD Application Overview and Checklist

Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) Application Overview & Checklist

This document provides PSCD criteria and a program checklist, offering concise guidance and details for schools aiming to attain the Purple Star Campus Designation. Use this document with the [PSCD Self-Assessment Application Rubric](#) to ensure the successful implementation, evaluation, continuous improvement and sustainability of the Purple Star Campus Designation on your campus.



Criteria at a Glance

1. Designate a campus-based military liaison that:

- Supports military connected students and their families.
- Offers professional development opportunities for staff members on issues related to military-connected students.



To see the Purple Star Campus Designation rule in its entirety visit:

[Commissioner's Rules Concerning Veteran and Military Dependents, Division 2. Military-connected Students, 19 TAC §61.1063](#)

2. Create and maintain an easily accessible webpage for military families that includes information for military-connected students and their families.

3. Have a Campus Transition Program that includes:

- Introduction to school environment and processes.
- Student leaders or ambassadors supported or sponsored by a campus-based staff member.
- Organizing and hosting newcomer social events, facilitating guided tours of the campus, and accompanying new students to lunch the first week of school.

4. Offer at least one of the following military initiatives:

- A resolution showing support for military-connected students and families
- Participation in April Month of the Military Child and/or November National Veteran and Military Family Month
- Partner with a school liaison officer (SLO) or school liaison (SL) 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(s).

Part I: Campus-based Military Liaisons

The campus-based military liaison must be an employee of the local education agency such as:

- A campus counselor.
- A teacher.
- A campus administrator such as a principal or assistant principal.
- Another campus staff member who supports highly mobile students.

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.



MCEC

1 | TEA Purple Star Campus Designation



Use this document to:

- Understand the specific requirements for the PSCD
- Ensure all steps are completed by following the detailed checklist provided.
- Gather and organize the required evidence to support your application.
- Access resources and training materials to help successfully complete the application process.



PSCD Application Rubric

Purple Star Campus Application Rubric



Purple Star Campuses must meet **all** requirements listed in [19 TAC § 61.1063](#). This rubric is intended to inform Purple Star Campus Designation candidates how their application will be evaluated against these requirements. Campus activities must be clearly articulated and supported by evidence. Please utilize this document as a guide when completing your application to ensure the quality of your submission meets the expectations set forth by TEA.

Note: Applications will not be graded on a scale. The overall determination of awards is contingent on TEA's final review. The purpose of this rubric is to allow campuses to self-assess the quality of their applications. Applicants are responsible for submitting detailed information to ensure TEA is able to make accurate determinations.

	Developing	Satisfactory	Exemplary
Scoring Key	Does not meet the criterion	Meets the criterion	Meets the criterion

Campus-based Military Liaison

A campus must designate a campus-based staff member as a military liaison who supports military-connected students and their families.

Duties	Developing	Satisfactory	Exemplary	Score
Serves as the point of contact and works collaboratively between military-connected students and their families and the campus staff.	It is unclear how the military liaison performs this duty . The work performed by the military liaison may not provide adequate support to families and students.	The military liaison performs this duty as expected . The work performed by the military liaison provides adequate support to families and students.	The military liaison performs this duty above and beyond expectations . The work performed by the military liaison provides significant support and explicitly includes family engagement practices .	☐ Developing ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Exemplary
Maintains familiarity with enrollment processes, records transfer, use of the military student identifier (MSI), existing community resources, and student support.	It is unclear how the military liaison performs this duty . The work performed by the military liaison may not provide adequate support to families and students.	The military liaison performs this duty as expected . The work performed by the military liaison provides adequate support to students and families utilizing a feedback survey.	The military liaison performs this duty above and beyond expectations . The work performed by the military liaison provides significant support to students and families utilizing a feedback survey link to address enrollment concerns on your campus webpage.	☐ Developing ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Exemplary

Use this document to:

- Review the criteria for each designation category to ensure all requirements are met.
- Evaluate your campus activities and support for military-connected students.
- Understand documentation clarity needed for each criterion.
- Guide you as you complete your application.

PSCD Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

PURPLE STAR CAMPUS DESIGNATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) recognizes Texas district and open-enrollment school campuses that show their support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. Below are answers to common questions TEA receives during the application period to support local education agencies (LEAs) as they work on their Purple Star applications.

For more information on the application process, established criteria, and timeline, please visit [Texas Education Agency Purple Star Campus Designation website](#). The current year's application window is posted.

Q1: Does the campus-based military liaison have to be an employee of the local school district?

A1: Yes. All campus-based military liaisons need to be an employee of the LEA. See the [Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 61, §61.1063](#).

Q2: Is it important to consult with my district webmaster to establish and regularly update the campus webpage for military families?

A2: Yes. Collaborating with the district webmaster ensures a systematic process for webpage maintenance, guaranteeing regular updates to the campus webpage for military families. PSCD campuses bear the responsibility of creating, sustaining, and tailoring information on the webpage for military families. Linking individual campus webpages to district-level webpages ensures coherence, accessibility, consistency, and accuracy in messaging across all webpages, benefiting both the PSCD and military-connected families.

Q3: When can I expect to know if our application has been approved to earn the Purple Star Campus Designation and what will I receive from TEA?

A3: The Purple Star Campus Designation is awarded annually in August-September. An announcement notification letter from the commissioner of the TEA is shared with the campus principal and superintendent. TEA also distributes a To the Administrator Addressed (TAA) letter with a list of the campuses that earned the designation. Additionally, the campus will be acknowledged as a Purple Star campus in the searchable [TXSchools.gov](#) campus profile, further highlighting their commitment to supporting military-connected students and families.

Q4: What TEA Purple Star Campus resources are available to assist with completing my campus application?

A4: Resources including the application preview, self-assessment rubric, previously recorded application training videos, and copies of the presentation are available on [TEA's Purple Star Campus Designation website](#). TEA released a free, comprehensive TEA Learn Purple Star Rise Course in January 2025 with numerous modules, tools, and training resources to support LEAs with earning and implementing the Purple Star Campus Designation.

Answers to common questions arising during the application period.

Topics such as:

- Military liaison requirements
- Web page for military families
- Application process
- Uploading evidence

Plan for 2026-27 PSCD Application Window



Application will be submitted through **Qualtrics Survey**.



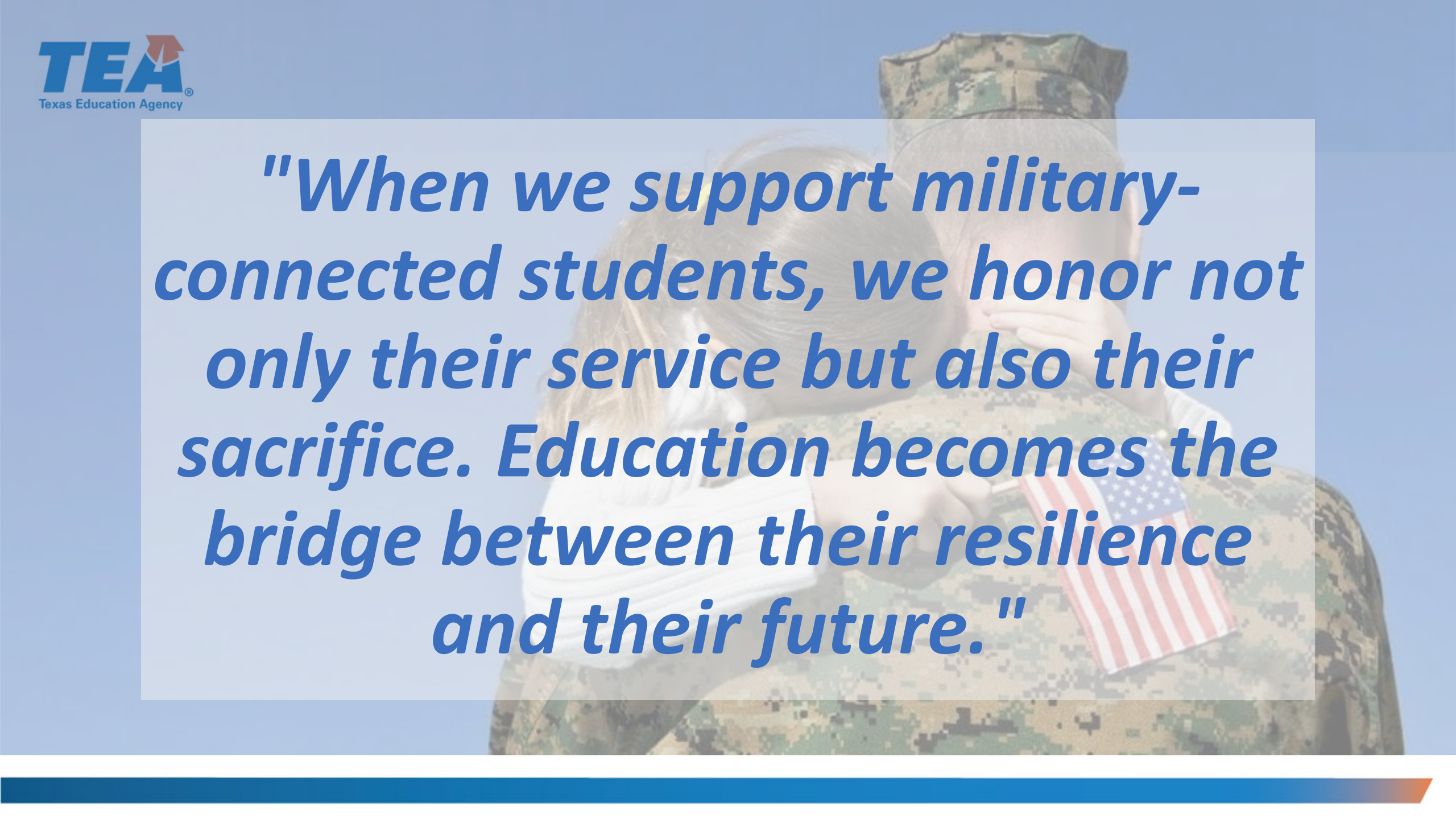
Link will be posted to the [TEA PSCD website](#).



Application window: **TBD** (Late Spring)



You can begin preparation activities **now**.

A soldier in camouflage uniform and cap is holding a young girl in a white shirt. An American flag is pinned to the soldier's chest. The background is a clear blue sky.

"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."

Military Family Resources



- Email:
militaryconnectedstudents@tea.texas.gov
- Website:
Tea.texas.gov/mil
- Sign-up for TEA Military Newsletter:
<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTEA/subscriber/new>
- Please complete the feedback survey!

