

General Description:

TEA recognizes the unique needs of military-connected students and families and works to support successful school moves for service member families, as they transition in and out of Texas schools. TEA has increased capacity through the new Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs Division to support Texas schools, Military connected families, and related stakeholders with increasing awareness about statutory requirements and available resources; identifying best-practices; and implementing effective strategies to support military connected students and families.

Texas is home to 15 military installations that represent all branches of the Armed Forces (Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Reserve).

Authority:

The federal education law under the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA), passed in December 2015, requires all public schools to collect data on active duty military school age children K-12th; also, known as the military student identifier. Texas began collecting the military student identifier in 2013-2014.

In addition to the military student identifier, the Texas Legislature adopted the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (TEC § 162; 25.006 (c 1-2) Transition Assistance for Military Dependents). As of 2014, all 50 states, including the District of Columbia, have adopted the Compact.

The purpose of the Compact is to decrease transition challenges encountered by military-connected students such as enrollment, eligibility, placement, and graduation.

Objectives:

1. Increase capacity to address the unique needs of military-connected students in Texas public schools.
2. Create technical assistance regarding the implementation of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.
3. Provide educators, military, community, students, and parents with resources and information about overcoming challenges related to the military lifestyle, transitions, deployment and school transitions.
4. Support collaboration and coordination among military personnel, local education agencies and military connected families.
5. Utilize data to create awareness about student outcomes and performance.

Funding:

No state or federal funds are allocated for this program.

Program Impact 2016-2017

- Texas has the second largest population of military-connected students nationally, 89,060*
- Military-connected students move on average of 6 to 9 times during their kindergarten to 12th grade education experience.
- An estimated 80% of military-connected students attend U.S. public schools including charter and magnet schools.
- Military-connected students attend public schools in *every* region of Texas*

**Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Snapshot Standards Reports Data 2016-2017*