Texas has the second highest number of identified military-connected students in the nation with over 100,000 attending public and open-enrollment charter schools.

Source: PEIMS 2019-2020

The Military Student Identifier:

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

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

3. New 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.

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

TEC § 25.006

2013-2014 School Year

2015 December

2019-2020 School Year
Strengthening Military Student Identification

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.

**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 is injured or 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 (MIC3 - www.mic3.net) they are eligible for because of their active duty status.

- **What are a school’s requirements for collecting military student identifier data?**
  Districts and open-enrollment charter schools must include the military student identifier question in their student enrollment packet.

- **Does the parent/guardian need to provide proof of their military status?**
  Verification of military status is not required for the purposes of the military student identifier. Verification may be required if the school has a special program for which there is an eligibility requirement, such as state-funded prekindergarten. Districts and open-enrollment charter schools, should not make copies of Department of Defense (DoD) identification cards.

- **How does the military connected student identifier 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. 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.