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.
2. **Create and maintain an easily accessible campus webpage for military families** that includes the **required** information for military-connected students and their families.
3. **Have an active 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.

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

Part I: Campus-based Military Liaisons

The designated campus-based military liaison must be a campus employee, 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.

- ❑ 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.

The campus-based military liaison is responsible for coordinating staff professional development opportunities on issues related to military-connected students.

Topics for consideration include:

- ❑ The TSDS PEIMS military student identifier.
- ❑ Military culture.
- ❑ Deployments and family separations.
- ❑ Military Interstate Compact (MIC) on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.
- ❑ Mitigating the effects of high mobility.
- ❑ The physical and mental effects of military service, including post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and other physical injuries.
- ❑ Supporting students connected to veterans.
- ❑ Supporting students with a parent or guardian in the National Guard or Reserve.
- ❑ Supporting students with a parent or guardian who has fallen in the line of duty.

Part II: Campus Webpage for Military Families

A campus must create and maintain an easily accessible campus webpage that includes the following required information for military-connected students and their families:

- ❑ **Relocation**— The campus webpage for military families is required to include information regarding relocation to the campus, such as:
  - Introductions to the school environment and processes.
  - Enrollment information in extracurricular activites and clubs.

- Tutoring opportunities.
- Student code of conduct.
- Contact information of pertinent school staff.

❑ **Enrollment and registration** — The campus webpage for military families must provide Information regarding the process and requirements for enrollment, including:

- A checklist of required documentation needed to enroll at the campus, which may include information such as copies of student records, transcripts, and residence documentation.
- Eligibility requirements for free public-school prekindergarten as required by Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.153, for a child of an Active-Duty, National Guard, or reserve component of the Armed Forces who is ordered to active duty by proper authority.

❑ **Academic planning** — The campus webpage for military families must provide links to information on:

- Course sequences, graduation requirements, and college and career readiness options.
- Advanced classes (e.g., Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, Dual Enrollment, Gifted/Talented) available on campus.
- Other school programs such as Special Education, and Emergent Bilingual available on campus.
- Information on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, as specified in **TEC §162**.

❑ **Counseling and support services** — The campus webpage for military families must provide information regarding:

- Eligibility, application, and referral for counseling and support services offered specifically to military-connected families on a military installation (e.g., Military and Family Life Counselors (MFLC).
- Eligibility, application, and referral for counseling and support services offered specifically to military-connected families within the community.

❑ **Campus-based military liaison** — The webpage for military families must provide:

- Contact information (email and phone).
- Job description and duties. See **19 TAC §61.1063 Chapter 61, Subchapter FF** (texas.gov)
- Photo (preferred, but optional)

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.

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.

Military Installation School Liaison Officer (SLO) and/or School Liaison (SL):

An individual who works for the federal or state government and serves as the primary point of contact for school related matters on military installations. School liaison officers represent, inform, and assist commanding officers and military families with school issues; coordinate with local school systems; and create collaborative partnerships between the military and schools.

Find my school liaison

For questions or concerns, contact: MilitaryConnectedStudents@tea.texas.gov