The Ultimate Guide to Maintaining Consistency in Your Child’s Education
THE BASICS

There’s plenty to consider when getting ready to move to a new location, and although there are often more unknown than known factors, there are ways to get in front of the PCS process. Moving can create hiccups for students transitioning to new schools, like starting in the middle of the school year, or missing sports tryouts or placement exams.

It’s important to create a stable educational structure despite the frequent interruptions, and the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children was created to help establish that baseline.

WHAT IS IT …

The Interstate Compact is a policy, now accepted by all 50 states, that works to help military kids K-12 (including active duty, National Guard, Reserve, and recently retired or medically discharged) maintain uniformity and minimal disruption in their education despite frequent moves. The Compact takes on common issues that come along with transitions, like enrollment, eligibility and graduation. It also guarantees: access to school records, immunization, and flexibility with issues of placement and attendance.

GET FAMILIAR …

The Interstate Compact Commission has representatives from each state tasked with implementation and compliance of the Compact. Even before you get to your new post, familiarize yourself with your local Interstate Compact Office and school liaisons and what they can do for you.

• Army School Liaison Officers by installation
• School Liaison Officers by other service branches
• Locate your State Commissioner

To make sure your student hits the ground running at your new location, we invite you to learn more about your state’s Interstate Compact Office. We’ve included important links and resources to keep you fully involved in the process of keeping the high quality of education your student deserves.

RESOURCES

The Interstate Compact DoDEA Brief
Toolkit for Parents and Guardians
Military Families for High Standards
Military Child Education Coalition
The Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission
National Military Family Association
ZERO TO THREE