

New Policy #73-A: Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

This policy implements the obligations of CWC Kansas City under the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

Definitions

1. Active Duty: full-time duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active-duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Section 1209 and 1211.
2. Deployment: the period one (1) month prior to the service members' departure from their home station on military orders through six (6) months after return to their home station.
3. Education(al) records: those official records, files, and data related to a student and maintained by the school or local education agency including but not limited to records encompassing all the material kept in the student's cumulative folder such as general identifying data, records of attendance and of academic work completed, records of achievement and results of evaluative tests, health data, disciplinary status, test protocol and individualized education programs.
4. Extracurricular activities: a voluntary activity sponsored by the school or local education agency or an organization sanctioned by the local educational agency. Extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to, preparation for and involvement in public performances, contests, athletic competitions, demonstrations, displays, and club activities.
5. Military installation: a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense, including any leased facility, which is located within any of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas Islands and any other U.S. Territory. Such term does not include any facility used primarily for civil works, rivers and harbors projects, or flood control projects.
6. Receiving state: the state to which a child of a military family is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought.
7. Sending state: the state from which a child of a military family is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought.
8. Transition: 1) the formal and physical process of transferring from school to school or 2) the period of time in which a student moves from one school in the sending state to another school in the receiving state.

Applicability

This policy applies to the children of:

1. Active duty members of the uniformed services, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Section 1209 and 1211;

2. Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one (1) year after medical discharge or retirement; and
3. Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one (1) year after death.

This policy shall not apply to children of:

1. Inactive members of the National Guard and military reserves;
2. Members of the uniformed services now retired, except as provided for in Section 2.1;
3. Veterans of the uniformed services, except as provided for in Section 2.1; and
4. Other United States Department of Defense personnel and other federal agency civilian and contract employees not defined as active duty members of the uniformed services.

Student Eligibility and Enrollment

Upon receipt of the unofficial education records by CWC Kansas City, the School shall enroll and appropriately place the student based on the information provided in the unofficial records pending validation by the official records, as quickly as possible.

Simultaneous with enrollment and conditional placement of student, CWC Kansas City shall request the student's official education record from the school in the sending state. If CWC Kansas City is the school in the sending state, CWC Kansas City will process any such request and furnish the official education records to the school in the receiving state within ten (10) days.

A special power of attorney, relative to the guardianship of a child of a military family and executed under applicable law shall be sufficient for the purposes of enrollment and all other actions requiring parental participation and consent.

CWC Kansas City is prohibited from charging tuition to a transitioning military child placed in the care of a noncustodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent.

A transitioning military child shall have thirty (30) days from the date of enrollment to obtain any required immunization(s).

A transitioning military child, placed in the care of a non-custodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent, may continue to attend CWC Kansas City if he/she was enrolled while residing with the custodial parent.

Students shall be allowed to continue their enrollment at grade level in the receiving state commensurate with their grade level (including Kindergarten) in the sending state at the time of transition, regardless of age. A student who has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in the sending state shall be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level in the receiving state, regardless of age. A student transferring

after the state of the school year in the receiving state shall enter the school in the receiving state on their validated level from an accredited school in the sending state.

CWC Kansas City shall facilitate the opportunity for transitioning military children's inclusion in extracurricular activities, regardless of application deadlines, to the extent they are otherwise qualified.

Placement and Attendance

When the student transfers before or during the school year, CWC Kansas City shall initially honor placement of the student in educational courses on the student's enrollment in the sending state school and/or educational assessment conducted at the school in the sending state if the courses are offered. Continuing the student's academic program from the previous school and promoting placement in academically and career challenging courses should be paramount when considering placement. This does not preclude CWC Kansas City from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the course(s).

CWC Kansas City shall initially honor placement of the student in educational programs based on current educational assessment conducted at the school in the sending state or participation/placement in like programs in the sending state. Such programs include, but are not limited to: 1) gifted and talented programs, and 2) English as a second language (ESL). This does not preclude CWC Kansas City from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student.

CWC Kansas City shall initially provide comparable services to a student with disabilities based on his/her current Individualized Education Program (IEP). CWC Kansas City shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of incoming students with disabilities to provide such students with equal access to education. This does not preclude CWC Kansas City from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student. Nothing in this section exempts CWC Kansas City from the requirements of federal and state law.

CWC Kansas City may waive course/programs prerequisites, or other preconditions for placement in courses/programs.

A student whose parent or legal guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in this policy, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, shall be granted additional excused absences at the discretion of CWC Kansas City to visit with his or her parent or legal guardian relative to such leave or deployment of the parent or guardian.