



Darci Hodges

School Liaison Program Manager



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As you transition from Dyess AFB, I am here to support your family and offer some assistance to ensure that your military-connected child is prepared for success at their new school.

Being proactive will minimize school-related stressors, so start early. If possible, provide an official withdrawal date to your child's school 45 days prior to PCSing. At that time, request an unofficial copy of your child's cumulative school record with state standardized assessment scores, report cards/withdrawal grades, and special program records (special education, gifted services/advanced placement, and/or ESL services). These will be picked up on the withdrawal date. HAND CARRY these documents while traveling. Contact me if this is an issue with this request (MIC3-Sec 3.101).

Each state has their own set of laws related to school enrollment and placement. However, the Military Interstate Compact (MIC3) exists to strengthen transitions and close educational gaps as military families and their children move to a new school district in another state. Some of the specific educational issues the Compact covers include enrollment, placement & attendance, eligibility, and graduation. Familiarize yourself with the rules to ensure your child's rights are being protected during your PCS: <https://mic3.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/MIC3-Rules-Book-WEB.pdf>. If you experience any issues related to the outlined topics, please contact me or the School Liaison at your new duty station. Not sure who the School Liaison is at your next base? All School Liaisons are listed at <https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/search?program-service%3D12%2Fview-by%3DALL>. Keep in mind, no matter where you enroll, the following documents are required during new student enrollment: birth certificate, social security card, immunization record, proof of residency, copy of parent driver's license, and copy of military orders.

SchoolQuest (schoolquest.militarychild.org) is an interactive tool specially designed to support highly mobile military families and students. It allows parents to house important enrollment documents in a digital portfolio, research schools around the country, create a graduation checklist, and seek scholarship opportunities. If your child is in grades 6-12th, check it out!

If you are a homeschool family, make sure to refer to the legal requirements in your new state. Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) is a great resource to seek information related to homeschooling, and they have a section dedicated to military families: <https://hsllda.org/explore/military-families>.

School transitions can take a toll on children. There are several mental health support services available for families. Military Family Life Counselors and Military One Source (militaryonesource.mil/non-medical-counseling) offer free, confidential non-medical counseling for families. Sensible Care (sensiblecare.com) offers personalized teletherapy and telepsychiatry for patients 9+ in CA, TX, FL, NV, NC, VA, and WA. They are Tricare approved and do not require a referral for dependents.

Lastly, Military One Source has created a personalized checklist tool for families to use during PCSing: planmymove.militaryonesource.mil. Please reach out to me with any questions you have regarding school-related issues. It is my privilege to support your child until they have successfully enrolled in their new school.

Sincerely,


Darci Hodges
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