

STUDENTS

Children of Military Families

It is the intention of the District to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families transitioning to and from school because of frequent moves and/ deployment of a parent on active duty in the regular Armed Forces, National Guard, or Reserves.

Educational Records and Enrollment

In the event that official education records cannot be released prior to the transfer of a child of a military family to another school district, the District shall prepare and furnish to the parent a complete set of unofficial educational records, including but not limited to records encompassing all material maintained in the student's permanent and cumulative files (general identifying data, records of attendance and academic work completed, records of achievement and results of evaluative tests, health data, disciplinary status) and special education records. The District shall process and furnish the official educational records to the school in which the child of a military family has transferred within 10 days.

In the event that a child of a military family seeks to enroll in the District, the District shall enroll and appropriately place the student as quickly as possible based upon information in the unofficial educational records pending receipt of the official records. The trustees shall assign and admit a child whose parent or guardian is being relocated to Montana under military orders to a school in the district and allow the child to preliminarily enroll in classes and apply for programs offered by the district prior to arrival and establishing residency.

Tuition

The District shall not charge tuition in relation to a child of a military family transferring into the District who has been placed in the care of a noncustodial parent or other person through a special power of attorney so long as that noncustodial parent or other person resides within the District.

Placement

The District will initially honor the placement of a child of a military family transferring into the District in the educational courses and educational programs based on the child's enrollment in the previous school or educational assessments of the previous school provided the courses and programs are offered and space is available. Course placement includes, but is not limited to, honors, international baccalaureate, advanced placement, vocational, technical, and career pathways courses. Educational programs include, but are not limited to, gifted and talented programs. If appropriate, the District may perform subsequent evaluations to ensure the child continues to be appropriately placed.

The Superintendent may waive course or program prerequisites or other preconditions for a child of a military family's placement in any courses or programs.

### Extracurricular Activities

The District shall facilitate the opportunity for a child of a military family transferring into the District to participate in extracurricular activities, regardless of application deadlines, provided that the child is otherwise qualified.

### Graduation

The District may waive specific courses required for graduation of a child of a military family who has transferred into the District if similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed at the child's previous schools. If the District refuses a request for a waiver from a child of a military family who has transferred into the District regarding courses required for graduation, it shall provide a reasonable justification for the denial and shall provide an alternative means of acquiring the required coursework so that the child may graduate on time.

In the event a child of military family who transfers at the beginning of or during the child's senior year and is ineligible to graduate from a school within the District despite alternative means being offered, the District shall coordinate with the school from which the child transferred for the child to receive a diploma from that school.

### Children of Military Families with Disabilities

The District shall initially provide comparable services to a child of a military family transferring into the District who is receiving special education and related services pursuant to an individual education program under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The District shall make appropriate accommodations and modifications to address the educational needs of children of military families transferring into the District who qualify for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, subject to any existing Section 504 plan. If appropriate, the District may perform subsequent evaluations to ensure the child continues to be appropriately placed.

Legal References:	§ 20-1-230, MCA	Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
	§ 20-5-101, MCA	Admittance of child to school ( <i>Revised by House Bill 68</i> )
	House Bill 68	Early school enrollment for children of relocated military families

Cross Reference:	2040	Special Education and Accommodations
	2050	Section 504 Procedural Safeguards
	2085	High School Graduation
	2090	Credit Transfer/Assessment for Placement

3010	School Admissions
3015	Attendance and Truancy
3025	Discretionary Nonresident Student Attendance Policy
3065	Co-Curricular Participation Code
3085	Transfer of Student Records

Policy History:

Adopted on: 10.22.2013

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