

Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunities for Military Children

1. **Purpose:** The intent of this legislation (SSB 5248, 2009 Session) is to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents by facilitating timely enrollment; facilitating the student placement process; facilitating the on-time graduation; providing uniform collection of sharing of information between and among states, schools, and military families in the compact; and promoting overall flexibility and cooperation between the educational system, parents, and the student in order to achieve education success for the student.

The Interstate Compact was developed in an effort to reduce the educational and emotional issues encountered when children of military personnel are required to transfer from schools in one state to another. The Compact was drafted by a group of educators, parents, state education officials, and military personnel under the sponsorship of the Council of State Governments (CSG). It addresses differences in requirements among states including immunization requirements, the entrance ages for kindergarten and first grade, exit exams, and graduation requirements. It also includes provisions that pertain to the issues military children who transfer schools encounter in participating in extracurricular activities, course placement, and enrollment in highly capable programs, Advanced Placements (AP), and career and technical education (CTE).

2. **Description of services provided:** The Compact is designed to facilitate the transfer of students of military personnel between schools/states. It is designed to alleviate barriers to students, especially those of high school age, graduating on time along with facilitating enrollment in schools for all grades, including where age requirements differ between states (usually at the kindergarten and first grade levels).
3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:** When problems arise with the acceptance of students from military families, parents/schools contact OSPI (Dixie Grunenfelder) or the state liaison for assistance in working through the problems.

Beneficiaries in 2017-18 School Year:

# of School Districts:	295
# of Schools:	
# of Students:	28,197
Other:	Support of the state liaison

# of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs):	0.06
# of contractors/other staff associated with this funding:	Dixie Grunenfelder

FY 18 Funding:	State Appropriation:	\$61,000
	Federal Appropriation:	\$0.0
	Other fund sources:	\$0.0

TOTAL (FY18) \$61,000

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding? If yes, explain.** Yes. Washington State signed on as a member of the Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunities for Military Children in 2009. One of the requirements is the payment of annual dues based on the number of military children enrolled in Washington schools.
5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY18	\$61,000	\$58,829
FY17	\$61,000	\$47,128
FY16	\$61,000	\$48,605
FY15	\$45,000	\$39,687
FY14	\$46,000	\$42,359
FY13	\$45,000	\$40,841
FY12	\$45,000	\$40,740
FY11	\$45,000	\$43,597
FY10	\$44,000	\$38,148

6. **Number of beneficiaries (e.g., schools, students, districts) history:**

Fiscal Year	# of Students
FY18	28,197
FY17	28,756
FY16	30,380
FY15	32,095
FY14	32,844
FY13	32,844
FY12	31,687
FY11	30,894
FY10	28,952

7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):** Support is given to the Compact council chair to cover expenses involved with his Military Compact duties. Student-level data collection is now required.
8. **Evaluations of program/major findings:** The Compact provisions have made the educational and emotional transitions for military children easier. Fewer problems have arisen in the last year than previously. Calls usually involve graduation requirements in Washington vs. graduation requirements in sending states, program placement issues (IEP, gifted, etc.), participation in sports, and kindergarten entry.

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:** Continued support for military children as they transfer between educational settings.
10. **Future opportunities:** Maintaining support for the Compact is important because of the increase in the number of military personnel with children moving to different postings throughout the country, changing requirements in Washington and other states, analysis of student-level data for a better understanding of this student group

11. **Statutory and/or Budget language:**

Budget Proviso: SSB 5883 Section 501(7) - \$61,000 of the general fund--state appropriation for fiscal year 2018 and \$61,000 of the general fund--state appropriation for fiscal year 2019 are provided solely for the implementation chapter 380, Laws of 2009 (enacting the interstate compact on educational opportunity for military children).

12. **Other relevant information:**

13. **For information regarding provisions of the Compact and resources available:** See OSPI [website](#).

14. **Program Contact Information:** Dixie Grunenfelder
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