Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

MIC3 Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

June 2011
Dr. Kathleen F. Berg
Hawaii State Commissioner

Hawaii was 14th state to join Interstate Compact in June 2009
In June 2011, Governor Abercrombie reauthorized
Hawaii Interstate Compact Law to make Hawaii a permanent member

Compact Overview

- Goal: replace widely varying policies with consistent policy in every school/state
- Addresses key transition issues
  - Enrollment
  - Placement & Attendance
  - Eligibility
  - Graduation
- Note: public schools only

Purpose of Briefing

- Inform schools & families about progress/timeline
  - What Compact does and *does not* cover
- Some schools and families may think Compact
  - Addresses more than it does
  - Will be fully operational from start

Major Gen Michael Terry Complex Area Supt Patricia Park Senator Norman Sakamoto

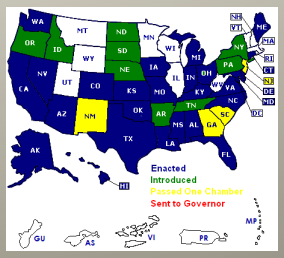
Major Points

- **Compact designed to resolve recognized education *transition* issues**
- **Not intended to impact curriculum or local standards**
  - Recognizes responsibility of states and local education agencies (LEAs)

Background and Status

- Developed by DoD - The Council of State Governments assisted
- Input/assistance from many
- 39 states as of June 2011
- Governing Commission first meeting Oct '08
- Second meeting Nov '09
- States establishing Councils
  - Rules & Executive Committees meeting since 2009
  - Compliance, Finance, & Training Committees began 2010

Process is on track but will take time to be fully operational



Compact Content

- Article I – Purpose
- Article II – Definitions
- Article III – Applicability
- **Article IV – Enrollment**
- **Article V – Placement and Attendance**
- **Article VI – Eligibility**
- **Article VII – Graduation**
- Article VIII – State Coordination
- Article IX – Interstate Commission

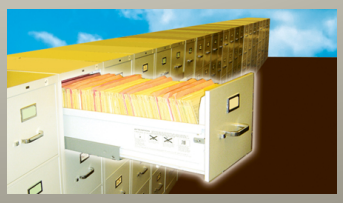
ENROLLMENT
Educational Records

What's included:

- Unofficial records
- Use to enroll and place student
- Sending school responds to request within 10 days

What's not covered:

- Right to request copy of every paper in file
- Receiving unofficial records for free



Immunizations

What's included:

- 30 days from enrollment to get immunizations
- A series must be started within 30 days

What's not covered:

- **TB testing:** a test not immunization; may be required

Kindergarten & First Grade Entrance Age

What's included:

- Continue in same grade regardless of entrance age if already enrolled in K or 1st grade
- May go to next grade regardless of age requirements

What's not covered:

- Student not enrolled in K even though eligible

PLACEMENT & ATTENDANCE
Course/Program Placement

What's included:

- Place in courses/programs based on prior enrollment
- Receiving state *may* subsequently evaluate student

What's not covered:

- Guarantee of continued enrollment if not qualified
- No requirement to create a course or additional space

Special Education Services

What's included:

- Initially same services identified in sending state IEP
- Receiving state *may* subsequently evaluate student

What's not covered:

- Provide exact programs as sending state
- Anything above IDEA requirements

Placement Flexibility

What's included:

- Flexibility to waive prerequisites if similar course completed elsewhere

What's not covered:

- Mandatory waivers of prerequisites/preconditions

Absence Related to Deployment

What's included:

- Flexibility for excused absences due to <u>deployment</u>

  Deployment window = 1 month before departure through 6 months after return

What's not covered:

- More than "reasonable accommodation"

  Provides discretion to schools during state testing or if student already missed too much school

ELIGIBILITY
For Enrollment

What's included:

- Cannot charge tuition if child placement due to deployment
- Can continue at current school even if living with others
- Power of attorney sufficient

What's not covered:

- Situations other than during deployment (e.g., not for PCS)

For Extracurricular Participation

What's included:

- Schools facilitate ***opportunity*** regardless of deadlines as long as otherwise qualified

What's not covered:

- State athletic associations
- No requirement to hold open or create additional spaces

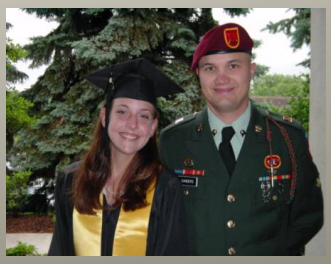
GRADUATION

What's included:

- Waiving required courses
- Flexibility to accept alternatives for graduation tests
- Receive diploma from sending school if no time to meet new requirements
- If waiver not granted and student would have qualified to graduate, receiving school provide alternatives so graduation is on time

What's not covered:

- Mandatory waivers….but schools must show good cause for denial
- Mandatory waiver of exams or acceptance of alternatives
- Right of parents to request change of graduation requirements



Our School Makes the

GRADE

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

Graduation on time

Registration and enrollment

Attendance

Determination of placement

Eligibility for activities

- Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

www.mic3.net

- In Hawaii, the AMFAS website militaryfamily.k12.hi.us/seminar/interstatecompact

Link to Army TV Town Hall briefing with MG Terry's comments

Ms Cherise Imai, HIDOE Military Liaison

Mr Darren Dean, Military Family Education Liaison

- Joint Venture Education Forum (JVEF)
- Military Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) at Radford HS
- School Liaison Officer (SLO)
  - Militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/reference_SLOsexplained.html
- Hawaii State Council for the Interstate Compact
  - Governor, Legislature, Supt, Complex Area Supt, Military Service Representatives, USPACOM
- DoDEA study just completed—to be released soon
- Military Child in Hawaii 3-year study by Johns Hopkins
  - Ongoing—take survey at http://www.hawaiikids.org

Kathleen F. Berg, Brig Gen (Ret), Hawaii State Commissioner
Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
University of Hawaii—CRDG, 1776 University Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96822
Phone: 808-956-4952 Fax: 808-956-9486 Email: kberg@hawaii.edu