

## DUDLEY-CHARLTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### POLICY

**JFABE**

#### Educational Opportunities for Military Children

In order to facilitate the placement, enrollment, graduation, data collection and provision of special services for students transferring into or out of the district because of their parents/guardians being on active duty in the U.S. Armed Services, the district supports and will implement its responsibilities as outlined in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. The Dudley-Charlton Regional School District believes it is appropriate to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of their parents'/guardians' frequent moves and deployment.

#### **Definitions**

***Children of military families*** means school aged children, enrolled in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, in the household of an active duty member of the uniformed service of the United States, including members of the National Guard and a Reserve serving on active duty.

***Deployment*** means the period one month before the service members' departure from their home station on military orders through six months after return to their home station.

***Education(al) records*** means official records, files, and data directly related to a student and maintained by the school including, but not limited to, records encompassing all the material kept in the student's cumulative folder.

Our responsibilities, which must be fulfilled and are applicable to eligible students are listed below. Eligible students are those who are children of: active duty personnel, active duty personnel or veterans who have been severely injured and medically discharged, and active duty personnel who die on active duty within one year of service. Students are not eligible for the provisions of the Compact if they are children of inactive Guard or Reserves, retired personnel, veterans not included above or U.S. Department of Defense personnel and other federal civil service employees and contract employees.

The district's responsibilities to eligible children include the following:

- Sending schools must send either official or unofficial records with the moving students, and the district receiving schools must use those records for immediate enrollment and educational placement.
- Simultaneously, the receiving school must request official records and the ending schools must respond within 10 days with the records.
- Immunization requirements of the district must be met with in 30 days from the date of enrollment (or be in progress).
- Receiving schools must initially honor placement of students in all courses that correspond with those courses from the sending school, if those courses are offered in the receiving school and space is available. Receiving schools are not precluded from performing subsequent evaluation to ensure the placement and enrollment of the students in the appropriate courses and programs.
- In compliance with federal law, special education students must be placed according to the existing IEP with reasonable accommodations in the receiving school.
- Students of active duty personnel shall have additional excused absences at the discretion of the district for visitations relative to leave or deployment.

- An eligible student living with a noncustodial parent or other personal standing in *loco parentis* shall be permitted to attend the school in which he or she was enrolled while living without the custodial parent/guardian tuition free.
- The high school will accept exit or end-of-year exams required from the sending state, national norm-referenced tests, or alternate testing instead of testing requirements for graduation in the district in the receiving state. If this is not possible, the alternative provision of the Interstate Compact shall be followed in order to facilitate the on-time graduation of the student in accordance with Compact provisions.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L 15D;

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity For Military Children  
<https://www.dodea.edu/Partnership/interstateCompact.cfm>

Adopted by the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee:  
First Reading: February 12, 2020  
Second Reading: February 26, 2020