

AR 5119 CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES

Qualifying Students

Children of military families are school-aged children in the household of:

1. members who are full-time duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States, including any member of the National Guard and Reserve ordered to active duty;
2. members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and have been medically discharged or retired, for one year after the medical discharge or retirement; or
3. members of the uniformed services who have died while on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty, for one year after their death.

Enrollment

Children of military families may not be disadvantaged in enrollment due to delay in transfer of their education records. Children should be immediately enrolled upon presentation by the parent/guardian of "hand-carried" or "unofficial" education records. Upon enrollment, the Superintendent or designee, shall immediately request the student's records from the student's previous district.

Children of military families shall have 30 days from the date of enrollment to obtain all immunizations required by the State of Alaska.

When a child of a military family is transferring out of the district, the Superintendent or designee, shall provide the student's parents/guardians with a complete set of the student's records or, if the official records cannot be released, an unofficial or "hand-carried" record. Upon request from the new district, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the student's record to the new district within 10 days.

A special power of attorney related to guardianship of a child of a military family is sufficient for the guardian to enroll the student and to consent to other educational matters requiring parental consent.

Placement and Attendance

Kindergarten and first grade students of military families who transfer mid-year shall be enrolled in the same grade level they had been enrolled in at the prior school, regardless of age. Students who successfully completed kindergarten or first grade at the prior school shall be advanced to the next grade level, regardless of age.

The district shall initially place the child of a military family in the grade level, educational courses, and programs based on the child's enrollment and/or assessment in his/her previous school. Course placement shall be consistent with the courses taken at the previous school, including placement in special programs such as Gifted or ESL. The district may conduct further assessments as deemed appropriate.

The Superintendent or designee, may waive course or program requirements, preconditions, and/or application deadlines when making decisions regarding placement of children of military families, and their eligibility for extracurricular, academic, athletic, and social activities.

When a child of a military family transferring into the district has been identified as a child with a disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Superintendent or designee, shall provide comparable services to the student based on his/her current individualized education plan (IEP). In addition, for students eligible for Section 504 services, the Superintendent or designee, shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of the student subject to the student's existing Section 504 plan. The district may seek subsequent evaluations of the student to ensure appropriate placement.

When a student's parent/guardian is an active duty member and is called to duty, is on leave from active duty, or has just returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, the Superintendent or designee, may grant additional excused absences to the student to visit with his or her parent/guardian.

Graduation

The Superintendent or designee, shall facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families by providing supplemental instruction to incoming students as necessary to enable them to meet the district's graduation requirements. The Superintendent or designee, may also waive specific district course requirements for graduation if similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed by the student in his/her previous school.

If, after considering all alternatives, the Superintendent or designee, believes that a student who has transferred into the district in grade 12 will not be able to satisfy the district's graduation requirements in time to graduate with his/her class, the Superintendent or designee, shall work with the sending district to have the sending district issue the student a diploma, provided the student satisfies the sending district's graduation requirements.

Upon request of a school district to which a former student has transferred, the Superintendent or designee shall issue the district's diploma of graduation to the former student provided the student has satisfactorily completed the district's graduation requirements.

Adopted 1/2025