



KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PURPLE STAR DESIGNATION APPLICATION

The Kansas Purple Star designation is awarded to military-friendly school districts and those schools that have demonstrated a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military including active duty, National Guard or reserve. Schools that meet all criteria as required will receive official Purple Star recognition to display onsite and may place the recognition on their website.

A school district or individual school will be honored with the Purple Star award if it completes **all the required** activities and **one optional** activity. The Kansas Military Child Education Council (KMCEC) will review all school district applications and recommend those that meet the criteria to the Kansas State Board of Education.

REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE ACTIVITIES

Purple Star schools must provide evidence that the district completed at least one of the following:

- Professional development regarding special considerations for military students and families. Evidence of this training should include the following documentation: agenda, presentation materials and names of participants.
- The school board passes a resolution publicizing the school's support for military students and families. Applicants must include a copy of the resolution and date of approval.
- The school district has an assigned central office staff member to be the contact for the school based liaison and military families.

WEBSITE REQUIREMENTS

The district maintains a page dedicated to military student and family support. This webpage must include the following information:

- Military Families: Planning your arrival to (Insert School Division) Information on enrollment and the registration process
- Military Families: Preparing your move from (Insert School Division) Information on educational records requests and transfers
- Academic Planning for Military Families: Information on advanced academic programs and application deadlines (Specialty Centers), graduation requirements, diploma options and home instruction
- Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children: Information on the compact rules and their application
- Special Needs Navigation and Parental Rights: Information on Special Education services and parental rights to include parental consent
- Extracurricular Activities: Information or links to clubs, organizations and athletic opportunities including physical information/expectations.
- School Liaison Officer: (Include local School Liaison Contact information/link to website and Military OneSource Database <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/education-employment/for-children-and-youth/changing-schools/school-liaisons/>)
- Other optional items to include: Virtual tours, Impact Aid, SITE Council, Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), and local community support etc.

REQUIRED SCHOOL WIDE ACTIVITIES

The school must designate a point of contact (POC) to work with school administration and or military program partners to conduct a schoolwide professional development session that informs staff of the unique needs of military-connected students and onsite resources available to support these students. Evidence of this training would include copies of sign-in sheets and training materials presented.

- The school maintains a student-led transition program, to include a coordinator for the student transition team. This program should provide peer support for newly enrolled and withdrawing students to include those who are military connected. Evidence could include the following: calendar of events, a narrative of activities conducted, flyers or photos of student welcoming or training materials
- The school hosts a military recognition event designed to demonstrate a military-friendly culture across the school community. In addition to the event summary, please provide copies of marketing materials, news articles or photographs. Examples include A Memorial Day Program, lunch with military parents, Veteran's Day Program or Patriot Day Program (9/11).
- The school website maintains a link to the district military student and family support webpage.
- To qualify, schools must submit the application by the deadline.

MILITARY SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Purple Star schools must complete at least one of the following but are strongly encouraged to do more to show their support of military families. Please mark the box next to each of the military support activities that your school has conducted and, for each item, attach examples such as pictures, videos, flyers or weblinks with your application submission.

- The school has a public military display. The display is any public demonstration of military support, such as a tribute wall for military-connected students and families, a memorial, a bulletin board, a special purple star room or other recognition of the military.
- The school hosted a military appreciation night at a sporting event.
- The school had special celebration activities for the month of the military child in April.
- The school formed a military family committee or support groups for military connected students.
- The school held fundraisers to support military veterans and active duty members.
- The school has a U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program in place.

Age-Appropriate Supports: Explain How The Activities You Conduct In Support Of Military Families Are Age Appropriate For The Students In Your Building. (40 Words Minimum)

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Please send completed applications as a fillable PDF, with examples of your military support activities, to cneuenswander@ksde.org.
- The deadline is **February 1**. Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted.
- You will receive an email confirmation within one to three business days acknowledging receipt of your application. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please resubmit.
- If you have any questions, please contact Craig Neuenswander, Deputy Commissioner at Kansas State Department of Education cneuenswander@ksde.org or 785-296-3871.

DISTRICT INFORMATION

DISTRICT NAME _____ USD _____

CONTACT _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER _____

SUPERINTENDENT _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

MILITARY FAMILY POINT OF CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EACH SCHOOL BUILDING

SCHOOL	CONTACT NAME	POSITION IN THE BUILDING	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	WEB PAGE <small>(make sure this link is clickable)</small>

ASSURANCES

I hereby certify the above statements are unique to my school and true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a false or inauthentic statement may disqualify my application. Please note that an electronic signature is acceptable for this application.

PRINT NAME _____ POSITION _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PDF APPLICATION

Application is a fillable PDF. To ensure that hyperlinks work properly, please follow the instructions below on how to create text that is a hyperlink.

If you require more space, please attach a separate page along with this application form.

To create text that is a hyperlink -

- Select the Add Text tool, draw your text bounding box in the area you want to create the hyperlink,
- Type text that you want to make the hyperlink,
- Use your cursor to select the text you've just typed then right click
- Select create link, under the Link Action are on the Create Link Window select Open a web page, hit next,
- An Edit URL window opens up, enter a URL for the link and hit OK