

Specific Impacts on Military Children:

1. *Transfer of Records –*

Official transcripts for military-affiliated children often come from other states or overseas schools. Children are placed incorrectly because some schools refuse to accept hand-carried copies until the official version arrives. Because of the possible time lapse between entry into school and the arrival of school records, this process jeopardizes proper placement for all students and, in particular, those involved in Special Education, Gifted Education, English as a Second Language, and Advanced Placement Courses.

2. *Course Sequencing –*

States have varying prerequisite course requirements that can result in thwarting students' academic advancement, repeating content or eliminating students from Honors or Advanced Placement courses.

3. *Graduation Requirements –*

Graduation requirements vary from state to state. In some states, specific courses are required for graduation. The graduation of military students who transfer during their junior or senior year may be jeopardized if they are unable, due to state or local policies or scheduling constraints, to enroll in the necessary coursework.

4. *Exclusion from Extra-Curricular Activities –*

Students who enroll in school after auditions, tryouts, elections and membership recruitments are often eliminated from activities that promote socialization and connectedness to their new school community. Often their skills and talents are not recognized or developed or are placed on "hold" because they are seen as transient or having arrived "too late." Organizations such as the National Honor Society permit local entrance requirements that can eliminate students even when they have been members in their previous school.

5. *Redundant or Missed Entrance/Exit Testing –*

Children who move frequently can be penalized for missing state mandated tests required to enter or exit various levels of the educational system. Tests are often specific to the state and therefore, entrance/exit tests taken in another state, are not recognized.

6. *Kindergarten and First Grade Entrance Age Variances –*

Children enrolled in Kindergarten in one state may not qualify by age when transferred during the year to another state. Children who have completed Kindergarten in another state are sometimes denied entry into first grade if they do not meet the age requirement.

7. *Power of Custodial Parents While Parents are Deployed –*

Due to circumstances created by military deployment, there are times when children are placed in the care of designated guardians. Legislation is needed to protect the children of these families so that they may continue to attend their school or relocate to the neighborhood school of their newly appointed guardian.