



U.S. ARMY

## School Support Services

### **23 Tips Ease your Move and School Experience With School Aged Children**

Your Fort Drum School Liaison Officer (SLO)

Ph: 315-772-3214; email: [Ena.w.osullivan.naf@army.mil](mailto:Ena.w.osullivan.naf@army.mil)

Ph: 315-772-0281; email: [robin.d.banks3.naf@army.mil](mailto:robin.d.banks3.naf@army.mil)

1. Hand carry school registration documents during a PCS move; remember to include special education records such as an IEP or 504 Plan.
2. States laws and educational programs can vary; your SLO can update you on your new state or school district requirements.
3. School District registration requirements and zoning can change from state to state, contact your SLO for information.
4. Kindergarten cut off ages are different from state to state, contact your SLO or new school district for the state's age requirement.
5. Preparing to PCS, remember to withdraw your child from the current school as districts are responsible for all registered student attendance.
6. Before a PCS move, contact your current SLO so you can be connected with your new duty station's SLO. Or find your SLO with any Branch of Service here: <https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/search?program-service=12/view-by=ALL>

*A Driving Force for Student Success*

7. Looking to research your child's new school district! The State Performance Grade is the only "official" grade for schools. It's the US Department of Education evaluation tool.
8. Your high school student's school doesn't have some courses! Check out the online courses through the Department of Defense Educational Activity's (DODEA) Virtual High School Expanded Eligibility Pilot Program (E2P2), open to military-connected high school students without access to a DoDEA brick-and-mortar high schools. <https://www.dodea.edu/dvs/e2p2.cfm>
9. Prefer to Home School: Contact your School Liaison Officer for information on State homeschooling requirements, resources and contact information for military homeschool groups.
10. New Phone number or email! Don't forget to update your child's school with the changes.
11. Some states have Universal Free Pre-k, some don't; check with your SLO for options for your state.
12. Utilize free online tutoring 24/7 for K-12 though <https://military.tutor.com/home>
13. It's the Law! Learn about the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, <https://mic3.net/>; Find your State Commissioner or SLO for MIC3 : <https://mic3.net/>
14. Learn a new language, access school aged online resources like Gale, EBSCO, Scholastic Teachables and more by registering with your local installation library.
15. Choosing to home school, your SLO can update you with your state's laws and resources.
16. Check with your SLO to see if your child's school has a MFLC.
17. Did you know your Army installation Youth Center has a Youth Sponsorship Programs? Now you do!

18. Want to teach! NY State has a New Transitional J Certificate for Military Spouses wanting to teach in local schools  
[http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/news/newsitem102020\\_Transitional-J-military-spouses.html](http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/news/newsitem102020_Transitional-J-military-spouses.html)
19. Have a voice in your child's school! Become involved with the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).
20. Did you know you can speak to your child's school district Board of Education during the public comment time of the meeting! Meeting times are on the district website, along with meeting minutes.
21. Share your child's school Month of the Military Child (MOMC) celebrations through the New York State Education Department (NYSED) Month of the Military Child webpage <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/month-military-child> .
22. Creating a portfolio for your school aged child! Include extracurricular activities, accomplishments, letters of recommendation, volunteer work, and anything else that will assist with a smooth integration into sports, fine arts or participation in national groups such as the National Honor Society. This will also assist later with college and scholarship applications for high school students.
23. Save money! Check out installation thrift stores when you need to purchase winter weather clothing.