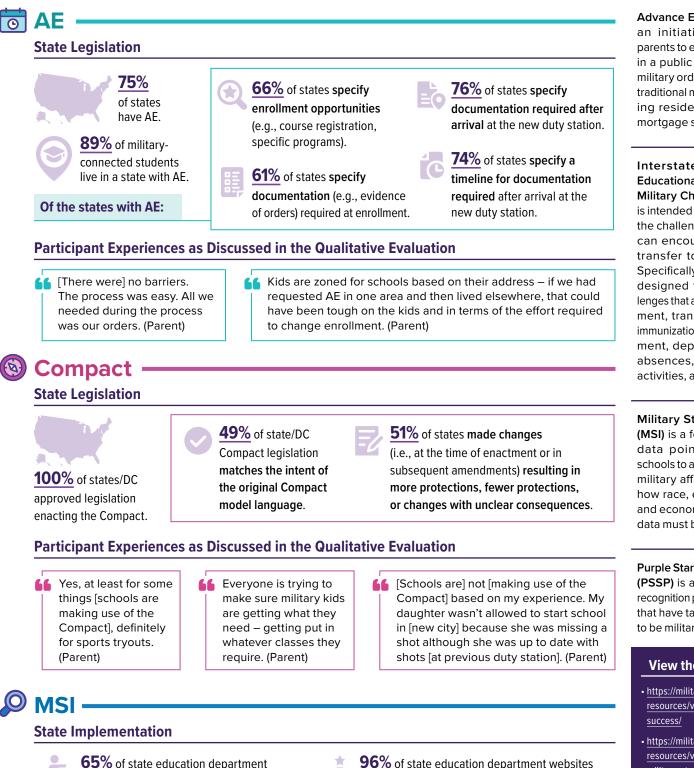
An Evaluation of State and Local Implementation of Four Initiatives Intended to Support Military-Connected Children's Educational Success



Variation in Implementation

Takeaway: Differences were found between states in the specificity and contents of states' legislation and regulations regarding the four initiatives. In addition, variations were found in how the initiatives are implemented in schools.





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https://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil/

Initiative Descriptions

Θ

Advance Enrollment (AE) is an initiative that allows parents to enroll their children in a public school based on military orders as opposed to traditional means of establishing residency (e.g., lease, mortgage statement).



Interstate Compact on **Educational Opportunity for** Military Children (Compact) is intended to reduce some of the challenges that students can encounter when they transfer to a new school. Specifically, the Compact is designed to address challenges that are related to enrollment, transferring records, immunizations, program placement, deployment-related absences, extra-curricular activities, and graduation.

Military Student Identifier (MSI) is a federally required data point that requires schools to ask about students' military affiliation, similar to how race, ethnicity, gender, and economic disadvantage data must be collected.

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Purple Star Schools Program (PSSP) is a state-sponsored recognition program for schools that have taken specific steps to be military friendly.

View the Full Reports

- https://militaryfamilies.psu.edu/ resources/view/mil-students-ed-
- https://militaryfamilies.psu.edu/ resources/view/four-initiativesmilitary-students/
- https://militaryfamilies.psu.edu/ resources/view/four-initiativesevaluation/



65% of state education department websites provided information on the percentage of students in each school who are military connected.

96% of state education department websites provided information on the academic achievement of military-connected students in each school.

MSI (cont.)



There are **differences across states in who is considered to be affiliated with the military** for inclusion in the MSI. State definitions of military affiliated include **one or more** of the following:

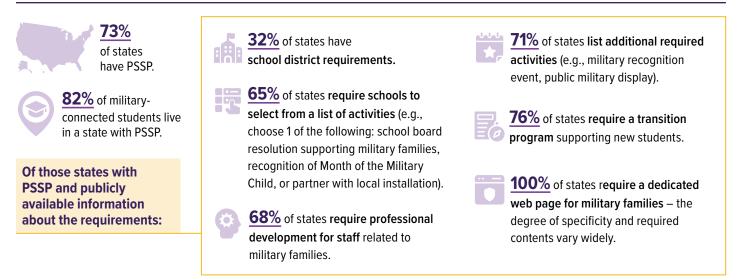
	Active duty Service membersNational Guard and Reserve members	 The Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Children of	 Veterans and retired Service members Deceased Service members 	 The Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Services

Participant Experiences as Discussed in the Qualitative Evaluation

- We receive the data from the front office or from the students themselves. We use it to plan events, include military students in programs, and to provide access to the MFLC. (Teacher/Counselor)
- I look for military-friendly schools, schools with a higher percent of military kids, Purple Star, programs for deployed families. (Parent)
- Most schools are not showing the [MSI] data. (Parent)
- We don't see the data at the school level. (School Administrator)

🛱 PSSP

State Legislation or Regulations



Participant Experiences as Discussed in the Qualitative Evaluation

- [The school has] programs for military children such as yellow ribbon ceremony when a parent is deployed, Veteran's Day program, Anchored4Life, and the Month of the Military Child in April. (Parent)
- Every school does a Veterans Day program because we are in a veteran heavy area – this is the only thing the school does. No changes were made to what they do for the military community, but they got that Purple Star designation. (Parent)
- The lack of consistency across states. Some states are not funding it. Parents are misled into believing that schools are military friendly, when it is just a check-the-box. (Program Manager)