

Celebrate!

Military-connected students bring a wealth of rich experiences and perspectives.

Celebrate those differences!

Remember:

- Give students an opportunity to share information about their previous community. This opportunity shows that you value their experiences and helps students adjust to their new community.
- Invite parents to the classroom to share a tradition or custom they practice in their family or that they learned at an overseas location.
- Most of all, remember that military-connected students sacrifice for their country every day, and the validation and respect we can give them goes a long way!



Interested in learning more?

Your SLO provides school-aged youth with educational opportunities, resources, and the information necessary to achieve academic success.

If you need more support in the areas of education, schools, and military transitions, please contact your local SLO. SLOs act as the conduit between the school community, the installation, and Families.

School Support Services

Educator's Guide: Supporting Military-Connected Students



Installation Management Command, G9

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Military Children will average 6-9 moves by High School and say good-bye to more significant people by the age of 18 than the average person will in their lifetime

Supporting Military-Connected Students in Transition

A practical guide to understanding the unique needs of military-connected students and how educators can best support them. This brochure will provide practical tips in the areas of academic and social emotional support. In addition, it reminds educators that celebrating the unique experiences of these youth is both important and can help them adjust to their new school community.

Academics

Military-connected students attend schools in different states and countries. Each school has its own curriculum and moves can cause both gaps in learning or force the student into repeating instruction.

Remember:

- Give students time to adjust.
- Refrain from assuming a student “should know” something because of their current grade/age.
- Be sure to use informal formative assessments to determine prior knowledge about a topic/objective.
- Provide enrichment activities for students you find have already mastered a particular topic/objective.
- Scaffold learning if you discover gaps in understanding.



Social Emotional Support

Moving is typically quite stressful on children. They must cope with the loss of friends and familiarity as they transition to a new school and home. Additionally, some children also have to cope with the added stress of having a parent deployed.

Remember:

- Children need time to adjust to new rules and expectations. Be patient.
- Children may feel left out. Provide opportunities for them to make friends. Providing a peer buddy or including them in friendship programs hosted by the school counselor can sometimes make a big difference.
- Keep in mind, the student’s parent may be absent and there may not be any access to extended family. Provide time during the school day to complete homework without taking away recess or free time.