# Update Guidesheets

**December 2018 Update Guidesheet**

***Note: Descriptions below identify revisions made to CSBA's sample board policies, administrative regulations, board bylaws, and/or exhibits. Editorial changes have also been made. Districts and county offices of education should review the sample materials and modify their own policies accordingly.***

Education of Children of Military Families

(AR revised) Regulation updated to reflect NEW LAW (AB 2949) which allows a child of a military family to continue attending the school of origin regardless of any change of residence of the family. Regulation also adds new section on "Transportation" reflecting AB 2949, which authorizes, but does not require, districts to provide transportation to enable a child of a military family to attend the school or district of origin.
See AR 6173.2 - *New AR for Jefferson School District*

# CSBA Sample
## Administrative Regulation
**Education Of Children Of Military Families**

AR 6173.2
**Instruction**

***Note: The following administrative regulation is optional. Pursuant to Education Code 49701, districts are required to be flexible in applying their local rules to children of military families in order to facilitate their enrollment, placement, advancement, eligibility for extracurricular activities, and on-time graduation.***

***Note: In addition, Education Code 51251 authorizes the Governing Board to establish a course credit transfer policy, provided that, under the policy, students would still be substantially meeting district graduation requirements. Pursuant to Education Code 51251, the district may provide early entry transfer, pretranscript evaluation, student support services, and other similar assistance to any school-aged child of a military service member who is on active duty, or within one year of discharge, or when the student's transfer to a new school is a direct result of the military transfer or discharge of a parent/guardian.***

Definitions

Children of military families are school-aged children in the household of: (Education Code 49701)

1. Members who are in full-time duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States, including any member of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty order pursuant to 10 USC 1209 or 1211

2. Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired, for one year after their medical discharge or retirement

3. Members of the uniformed services who have died while on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty, for one year after their death

Enrollment and Residency

The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate the enrollment of children of military families and ensure that they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of their records from previous school districts and/or variations in entrance or age requirements. (Education Code 49701)

A child of a military family shall be deemed to meet district residency requirements if the parent/guardian, while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order, is transferred

or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state. The Superintendent or designee shall accept electronic submission of such a student's application for enrollment, including enrollment in a specific school or program within the district, and for course registration. (Education Code 48204.3)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

When a child of a military family is transferring into the district, the Superintendent or designee shall enroll the student based on unofficial education records, if official records are not yet available. Upon enrollment, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately request the student's official records from the student's previous district. The Superintendent or designee shall allow the student 30 days from the date of enrollment to obtain all required immunizations. (Education Code 49701)

(cf. 5111 - Admission)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5141- Health Care and Emergencies)
(cf. 5141.31- Immunizations)

***Note: Education Code 48204.6, as added by AB 2949 (Ch. 327, Statutes of 2018), requires districts to allow a child of a military family to continue attending the school of origin (i.e., the school in which the student is enrolled at the time that a change in residence occurs), as specified below.***

A child of a military family shall be allowed to continue attending the school of origin, regardless of any change of residence of the family during that school year, for the duration of the student's status as a child of a military family. (Education Code 48204.6)

***Note: The following paragraph may be revised to reflect the grade levels offered by the district and feeder patterns with other districts. Unified school districts and high school districts may delete item #2 below.***

To provide a child of a military family the benefit of matriculating with peers in accordance with the established feeder patterns of the district, the following shall apply: (Education Code 48204.6)

1. If the student is transitioning between grade levels, the student shall be allowed to continue in the school district of origin in the same school attendance areas.

2. If the student is transitioning to a middle or high school and the school designated for matriculation is in another district, the student shall be allowed to continue to the school designated for matriculation in that school district.

The principal or designee of the new school shall ensure that the student is immediately enrolled even if the student has outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other items or moneys due to the school last attended or is unable to produce clothing or records normally required for enrollment,

such as previous academic records, medical records, including, but not limited to, records or other proof of immunization history pursuant to Health and Safety Code 120325-120480, proof of residency, other documentation, or school uniforms. (Education Code 48204.6)

***Note: Items #1-2 may be revised to reflect the grade levels offered by the district.***

If the student's status changes during a school year due to the end of military service of the student's parent/guardian, the following shall apply: (Education Code 48204.6)

1. If the student is in grades K-8, the student shall be allowed to continue attending the school of origin through the duration of that academic school year.

2. If the student is in high school, the student shall be allowed to continue attending the school of origin through graduation.

***Note: Pursuant to Education Code 48307, a district must not deny a student whose parent/guardian is on active military duty from transferring out of the district to any other district. In addition, Education Code 46600 provides that a district must not prohibit the transfer of such a student out of the district to any other district that approves the transfer, regardless of whether or not an interdistrict transfer agreement exists or a permit is issued. Also see BP 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance.***

A child of an active military duty parent/guardian shall not be prohibited from transferring out of the district, if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (Education Code 46600, 48307)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

When a child of a military family is transferring out of the district, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the student's parents/guardians with a complete set of the student's records or, if the official student record cannot be released, an unofficial or "hand-carried" record. Upon request from the new district, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the student's record to the new district within 10 days. (Education Code 49701)

Transportation

***Note: Education Code 48204.6, as added by AB 2949, does not require the district to provide transportation to allow a child of a military family to attend the school of origin, as specified above, unless otherwise required by federal law.***

The Superintendent or designee may, but is not required to, provide transportation to enable a child of a military family to attend the school of origin or to matriculate to a feeder school as described above, except when indicated in the individualized education program (IEP) of a student with a disability or otherwise required by federal law. (Education Code 48204.6)

Placement

***Note: The following optional paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. Pursuant to Education Code 51251, the district may provide pretranscript evaluations, as described below, in order to address the needs of children of military families.***

Whenever a student's parent/guardian is serving on active duty or has been discharged from military service within the last year and the student transfers to a new school as the direct result of the military transfer or discharge, the Superintendent or designee may, prior to the receipt of official transcript(s) or the arrival of the student, review the student's coursework to date, including any unofficial transcript(s), to determine the appropriate placement of the student in classes. The evaluation shall also include communication with school counselors and teachers at the former school by videoconferencing, email, and/or telephone calls. (Education Code 51251)

The Superintendent or designee shall initially honor the placement of any child of a military family in educational courses and programs based on the student's enrollment and/or assessment in the previous school. The Superintendent or designee may, to the extent permitted by Board policy, waive course or program prerequisites, preconditions, and/or application deadlines when making decisions regarding placement of children of military families and their eligibility for extracurricular academic, athletic, and social activities. (Education Code 49701)

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)
(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

***Note: Pursuant to Education Code 49701, the district is required to provide a child of a military family who has been identified as a student with a disability eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 USC 1400-1482) or Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act (29 USC 794) with services based on the student's current individualized education program or Section 504 plan, as appropriate. See BP/AR 6159 - Individualized Education Program and BP/AR 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504.***

When a child of a military family transferring into the district has been identified as an individual with a disability pursuant to 20 USC 1400-1482, the Superintendent or designee shall provide comparable services based on the student's current IEP. In addition, when the child of a military family transferring into the district is eligible for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act, the Superintendent or designee shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of the student subject to the student's existing Section 504 plan. The district may authorize subsequent evaluations of the student to ensure appropriate placement. (Education Code 49701)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

Absences

***Note: The California Department of Education's (CDE) Final Report to the Legislature on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, available on its web site, contains a sample letter that may be provided to parents/guardians to report deployment-related absences.***

When a student's parent/guardian is an active duty member and is called to duty for, is on leave from, or is immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or to combat support posting, the Superintendent or designee may grant additional excused absences to the student to visit with the parent/guardian. (Education Code 49701)

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

Graduation Requirements

To obtain a high school diploma, a child of a military family shall complete all courses required by Education Code 51225.3 and shall generally fulfill any additional graduation requirements prescribed by the Governing Board.

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

However, when a child of a military family who has completed the second year of high school transfers into the district from another school district or transfers between high schools within the district, the student shall be exempted from all district-adopted coursework and other district-established graduation requirements that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements specified in Education Code 51225.2, unless the district makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the additional requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the fourth year of high school. Within 30 calendar days of the student's transfer, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student and parent/guardian of the availability of the exemption and whether the student qualifies for it. If the Superintendent or designee fails to provide this notification, the student shall be eligible for the exemption once notified, even if the notification occurs after the student no longer meets the definition of a child of a military family pursuant to Education Code 49701. (Education Code 51225.1)

To determine whether a child of a military family is in the third or fourth year of high school, the district shall use either the number of credits earned as of the date of the transfer or the length of school enrollment, whichever qualifies the student for the exemption. (Education Code 51225.1)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify any child of a military family who is granted an exemption and the student's parent/guardian how any requirements that are waived will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and shall provide information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges. (Education Code 51225.1)

The district shall not require or request a child of a military family to transfer schools in order to

qualify for an exemption, and no child of a military family or parent/guardian shall be permitted to request a transfer solely to qualify for an exemption. (Education Code 51225.1)

If a child of a military family is exempted from local graduation requirements, the exemption shall continue to apply after the student no longer meets the definition of a child of a military family while enrolled in school or upon transfer to another school or school district. (Education Code 51225.1)

If the Superintendent or designee determines that a child of a military family is reasonably able to complete district graduation requirements within a fifth year of high school, the Superintendent or designee shall: (Education Code 51225.1)

1. Inform the student and, if under 18 years of age, the student's parent/guardian of the option available to the student to remain in school for a fifth year to complete the district's graduation requirements and how that will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution

2. Provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges

3. Upon agreement with the student, or with the parent/guardian if the student is under 18 years of age, permit the student to stay in school for a fifth year to complete the district's graduation requirements

Notification and Complaints

***Note: Education Code 51225.1 and 51225.2 provide that complaints of noncompliance with specified requirements related to the educational rights of children of military families may be filed in accordance with the uniform complaint procedures specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670. As with other complaints covered under the uniform complaint procedures, a complainant may appeal the district's decision to CDE and, if the district or CDE finds any merit in the complaint, the district must provide a remedy to the affected student. See BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.***

Information regarding the educational rights of children of military families, as specified in Education Code 51225.1 and 51225.2, shall be included in the annual uniform complaint procedures notification distributed to students, parents/guardians, employees, and other interested parties pursuant to 5 CCR 4622. (Education Code 51225.1, 51225.2)

Any complaint alleging that the district has not complied with requirements regarding the education of children of military families, as specified in Education Code 51225.1 or 51225.2, may be filed in accordance with the district's procedures in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)
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