

Geographic Transitions Module Glossary

504 Plan: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act protects individuals with disabilities from discrimination due to disability by recipients of federal financial assistance.¹

Accompanied tour: A military assignment to an overseas location that includes the Service member's family.²

Active Duty Service member: Full-time duty status in the Active Uniformed Service of the United States, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on Active Duty orders.³

Charter school: A school providing free public elementary and/or secondary education to eligible students under a specific charter granted by the state legislature or other appropriate authority, and designated by such authority to be a charter school.⁴

Combat deployment: An absence in which the parent is away, serving in an area of conflict or war.⁵

Coping: The process of dealing with internal or external demands that are perceived to be threatening or overwhelming.⁶

Deployment: The period one (1) month prior to Service members' departure from their home station on military orders through six (6) months after return to their home station.³

DoD/DoDEA school: The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) is a civilian agency of the United States Department of Defense that manages all schools for military children in the United States and at American military installations worldwide.⁷

Dual-military family: Families in which a military member in one branch of Service is married to a military member in the same or different branch of Service.²

Evaluation: An essential early step in the special education process for a child. The evaluation determines whether a child has a disability that requires the provision of special education and related services, what the child's specific educational needs are, and what special education services and related services are appropriate for addressing those needs.⁸

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP): A military program that aids identification and enrollment of a family member with special medical or educational needs, assignment coordination to determine the availability or services at the projected duty station, and support to help families identify and access programs and services.⁹

Family Care Plan: A document specifying the terms for who will care for a Service member's children in his or her absence, where they will live, and how resources will be obtained.¹⁰

Geographic mobility or transition: Relocating or moving to a new location.¹¹

Homeschool environment: An environment in which the parents or guardians assume the responsibility for directing their child's academic instruction and the home serves as the base for a child's education, rather than a traditional public or independent school.¹²

Individualized Education Program (IEP): A written instructional plan for students with disabilities designated as special education students under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, Part B). Each plan includes a (1) statement of the child's present levels of educational performance, (2) statement of measurable annual goals, including academic and functional goals, (3) for children with disabilities who take alternate assessments aligned to alternate achievement standards, description of benchmarks or short term objectives; (4) statement of the special education and related services and supplementary aids and services; and (5) statement of any individual accommodations that are necessary to measure the academic achievement and functional performance of the child on State and districtwide assessment; and if the IEP Team determines that the child must take an alternate assessment instead of a particular regular State or districtwide assessment of student achievement, a statement of why the child cannot participate in the regular assessment and why the particular alternate assessment selected is appropriate for the child.⁴

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA): Legislation that ensures children with disabilities have the opportunity to receive a free appropriate public education.¹³

Installation: A base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense.³

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children: Legislation that replaces the widely varying policies affecting transitioning military students. The Compact addresses key educational transition issues encountered by military families including enrollment, placement, attendance, eligibility and graduation. Children of Active Duty members of the Uniformed Services, National Guard and Reserve on Active Duty orders, and members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year are eligible for assistance under the Compact.¹⁴

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3): The governmental agency that oversaw the creation and implementation of the Compact at a national level.¹⁴

Military-connected student/child: Children with at least one parent serving in the U.S. military.²

Non-combat deployment: An absence in which the parent is away, serving in a peacekeeping, humanitarian, or disaster response mission.⁵

Official academic records: Official records, files, and data directly related to a student and maintained by the school or local education agency (LEA), including but not limited to records encompassing all the material kept in the student's cumulative folder such as general identifying data, records of attendance and of academic work completed, records of achievement and results of evaluative tests, health data, disciplinary status, test protocols, and individualized education programs.³

Orders to deploy: A planning directive from the Secretary of Defense, issued by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that authorizes and directs the transfer of forces between combatant commands by reassignment or attachment.¹⁵

Parental absence: Parental absence refers to a number of situations in which a parent is temporarily out of the home. These absences can range from days to years and include: 1) divorce; 2) separation, and custody arrangements; 3) Incarceration; and 4) civilian and military occupational absence, which includes: a) business or work trips; b) military combat and non-combat deployments, and c) other absences, such as a parent being out of the home to provide care to another member of the family.⁵

Permanent change of station (PCS): A relocation of a Service member's work affiliation from one unit or duty station to another; Service members may request their duty preference, but the assignment is determined by the needs of the branch of Service.²

Private school: Private schools are owned and governed by entities that are independent of any government—typically, religious bodies or independent boards of trustees. Private schools also receive funding primarily from nonpublic sources: tuition payments and often other private sources, such as foundations, religious bodies, alumni, or other private donors.¹⁶

Prosocial behaviors: Behaviors that are carried out with the goal of helping other people.⁶

Protective factors: Protective factors are conditions or attributes in individuals, families, communities, or the larger society that, when present, mitigate or eliminate risk in families and communities that, when present, increase the health and well-being of children and families.¹⁷

Public school: State and local education agencies (districts) and publicly elected or appointed school boards govern public schools. At some schools, parent/teacher organizations or similar groups also play a role. Public schools receive nearly all their funding from local, state, and federal governments, supplemented occasionally by

grants/donations from corporations and foundations, and parent- or student initiated fundraising activities.¹⁶

Reevaluation: At least every three years the child must be reevaluated. This evaluation is sometimes called a “triennial.” Its purpose is to find out if the child continues to be a child with a disability, as defined by IDEA, and what the child’s educational needs are. However, the child must be reevaluated more often if conditions warrant or if the child’s parent or teacher asks for a new evaluation.⁸

Reintegration: Reintegration is the stage of the deployment cycle (pre-deployment, deployment, post-deployment or reintegration) characterized by the Service member’s reentry into his or her daily life as experienced prior to deployment, or into a new civilian life, including the domains of work, family, and personal experiences.¹⁸

Reserve Service member: Members of the Uniformed Services who are not in Active Service, but who are subject to call to Active Duty. The Armed Forces of the United States Reserve Component consists of the Army National Guard of the United States, the Army Reserve, the Navy Reserve, the Marine Corps Reserve, the Air National Guard of the United States, the Air Force Reserve, and the Coast Guard Reserve. Also called RC.¹⁵

Resilience: Achieving positive outcomes despite challenging or threatening circumstances, coping successfully with traumatic experiences, and avoiding negative paths linked with risks. An essential requirement of resilience is the presence of risk and protective factors helping to promote positive outcomes or reduce negative outcomes.^{19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25}

Reunion: See reintegration definition.

Risk factors: A characteristic at the biological, psychological, family, community, or cultural level that precedes and is associated with a higher likelihood of problem outcomes.²⁶

School culture: Variables that reflect norms, belief systems, values, cognitive structures, and meanings of persons within the school.²⁷

School Liaison Officer (SLO): Serves as a resource between the military community and schools and districts around the installation.²⁸

Service member: A member serving in a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, established by act of Congress, which are: the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard.¹⁵

Special education services: Specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parents or guardians of the child, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.¹

Stressor: An internal or external even or stimulus that induces stress.⁶

Temporary duty (TDY): An absence in which the parent is away for training purposes. Temporary duty assignments are usually associated with shorter absences, similar to a civilian work trip.⁵

Third Culture Kid (TCK): An individual who, having spent a significant part of the developmental years in a culture other than the parents' culture, develops a sense of relationship to all of the cultures while not having full ownership in any. Elements from each culture are incorporated into the life experience, but the sense of belonging is in relationship to others of similar experience.²⁹

Title II Plan: The specific interventions a student will receive under Tier II services.³⁰

¹ Wright, P., & Wright, P. (2009, August 4). *Glossary of special education and legal terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.wrightslaw.com/links/glossary.sped.legal.htm>

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³ Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission. (2012). *Interstate Compact on educational opportunity for military children: Compact rules desk reference*. Lexington, KY: MIC3.

⁴ National Center for Education Statistics. (n.d.). *School and district glossary*. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/commonfiles/glossary.asp>

⁵ Culler, E. C., Ferrara, A. M., & Hamilton, M. D. (2015). *Parental absence: An interactive online learning course for military-connected school personnel*. The Pennsylvania State University: Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness.

⁶ Gerrig, R. J., & Zimbardo, P. G. (2002). *Glossary of psychological terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/research/action/glossary.aspx>

⁷ U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity. (n.d.). *About DoDEA*. Retrieved from <http://dodea.edu/aboutDoDEA/index.cfm>

⁸ Center for Parent Information and Resources. (2014, April). *10 basic steps in special education*. Retrieved from <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/steps/>

⁹ Military OneSource. (n.d.). *The exceptional family member program*. Retrieved from http://www.militaryonesource.mil/family-and-relationships/special-needs?content_id=282359

¹⁰ Department of Defense. (2010, May 7). *Department of Defense instruction*. Retrieved from <http://dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/134219p.pdf>

¹¹ Bradshaw, C. P., Sudhinaraset, M., Mmari, K., & Blum, R. W. (2010). School transitions among military adolescents: A qualitative study of stress and coping. *School Psychology Review*, 39(1), 84-105.

¹² Military OneSource. (n.d.). *Home-school military and community resources for military families*. Retrieved from http://www.militaryonesource.mil/k-12-and-college-education/home-schooling?content_id=268665

¹³ Center for Parent Information and Resources. (2014, May). *IDEA - The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*. Retrieved from <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/idea/>

¹⁴ Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission. (2013). *About MIC3*. Retrieved from <http://mic3.net/pages/About/about.aspx>

¹⁵ Department of Defense. (2015, November 15). *Joint Publication 1-02: Department of Defense dictionary of military and associated terms*. Retrieved from http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine/new_pubs/jp1_02.pdf

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