


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wqb3qb8u9Lj>



**peatc**

## Military Outreach: The Why and How of it All

PEATC is not a legal services agency and cannot provide legal advice or legal representation. Any information contained in this training is not intended as legal advice and should not be used as a substitution for legal advice.

## **Who is PEATC?**

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PEATC is a statewide nonprofit whose passion is to empower families in Virginia. Our central focus is on families with children who have disabilities.

### Additional targeted outreach initiative areas include:

Latino Outreach	Poverty Reduction Programs
Military Outreach	Bullying Awareness
Family Engagement	Court Involved Youth
Early Childhood	

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## **PEATC Services**

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- Individual phone consultations
- Workshops throughout Virginia
- Webinars/On Demand Training
- Factsheets
- Blog
- Resources

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## Part of a larger entity

PEATC is also supported by a Technical Assistance Project Funded by the USDOE, OSEP



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## Objectives

- > Provide a basic understanding of military culture and the vocabulary
- > Give attendees context and background using personal history
- > Explain IDEA, Special Education Regulations, and MIC3 impact on military families
- > Describe readiness and retention to demonstrate the influence PTIs have on our service members
- > Provide military-specific resources and explain how they work with PTIs

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**Vocabulary**

PCS  
SLO

Papa  
Echo  
Alpha  
Tango  
Charlie

EFMP  
DoD

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Miguel – Navy Captain

Keri – Military Outreach Specialist, PEATC

Brenna – college student

Aly – 20 year old high school student



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## Alyssa Mea'Alofa Louise

- > Born Fallon, NV
  - Normal birth
  - (Fallon Leukemia Cluster)
- > Medical history
  - Normal baby
  - Developmental delays
  - Seizures
  - Initial diagnosis
- > Therapy / Education / Training
  - ABA
  - Speech & Occupational Therapy
  - Meds
  - IEPs
  - Schools



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## Challenges

- > Diagnosis
- > Doctors / Medical
- > Tricare / EFMP
- > Deployments & Detachments
- > Schools
- > ABA
- > Respite Care
- > VACCC+ Waiver / Medicaid
- > SSI
- > Childcare

# Planning for the **FUTURE**

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## Special Education and the Military



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## Numbers

- 996,069 military connected children of all ages worldwide
- 73,000 (11.5%) are enrolled in DoDEA schools
- 50.7 million students in public school
- 6.7 (13%) million receiving special education services
- ~129,489 military-attached special education students



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## DoDEA

### Americas

Alabama - 3  
 Georgia - 8  
 Kentucky - 10  
 North Carolina - 16  
 South Carolina - 4  
 Virginia - 3  
 New York - 2  
 Puerto Rico - 4  
 Cuba - 1

### Europe

Bahrain - 1  
 Belgium - 5  
 United Kingdom - 8  
 Germany - 35  
 Italy - 10  
 Netherlands - 2  
 Spain - 3  
 Turkey - 1

### Pacific

Japan - 33  
 Korea - 10  
 Guam - 4

## Students and families experience:

- > High mobility rates
- > Academic and social challenges
- > Difficulties qualifying for, receiving, or continuing special educational
- > Changing school divisions 6-12 times before they graduate
- > Difficulty understanding, applying, and using regulations and policies with each new school division
- > Elevated stress – making new friends, adjustment to a new school, community, and home
- > Increased risk for depression and anxiety



### How can PTIs help schools?

- Special assistance in understanding new curriculum, credit transferal, and credit adaption from previous division
- Training for administrators, teachers, and support staff Deployment support groups for parents and students
- PTO/PTA/SEPTA to establish a military family liaison position and special education liaison
- Professional development/in-service training for administrators, teachers, and support staff on the unique stressors military children face
- Celebrate Month of the Military Child in April

### IDEA , State Regs, and the Military

“In the case of a child with a disability who transfers school districts within the same academic year, who enrolls in a new school, and who had an IEP that was in effect in another state, the school district **SHALL** provide such child with a free appropriate public education, including service **COMPARABLE TO** those described in the previous IEP, in consultation with the child’s parents **UNTIL SUCH TIME** as the district **CONDUCTS AND EVALUATION**, if determined to be necessary, and **DEVELOPS A NEW IEP**, if appropriate, that is consistent with Federal and State Law.”



## What Happens?



- > Grassfield Elementary School to Western Branch Intermediate
- > Grassfield Elementary School to Belle View Elementary School in Alexandria – CPS to FCPS
- > Grassfield Elementary School to Oakland Elementary School in Charleston - CPS to CCSD

## What would you do?



You're serving at the Pentagon. You have spent the last two years creating, developing, and maintaining a collaborative relationship with the northern Virginia public school your child attends – one of the best in the country- and have special education services in place which meet and exceed your expectations. You are ordered to a new job - it is important to the needs of the military *and* your career, but the public schools surrounding the new base are suffering and simply can't put your child on the same path for success.



### Every Student Succeeds – Military Student Identifier

- Schools are required to collect data on military children assessments
- Military student identifier is part of the ESSA, flags child of an active-duty service member
- Generally asked in the registration process
- Parents are not required respond to the questions
- Child is anonymous in data reported to the state and national levels (race, ethnicity, free lunch, homeless, etc.)

**ESSA**  
Every Student Succeeds Act

[www.pear.org](http://www.pear.org)

### Impact Aid Basic Support FY2016 Payments

State	Virginia
Congressional District	4
LOT - district's need percentage	30.83%
FY16 Payment - district's pro-rated payment	\$3,005,418
FY16 Maximum - district's payment if program were fully funded	\$10,404,962
Total ADA – average daily attendance	37,683
Total Federal ADA – total federal average daily attendance	10,643.94
Civilian – children of civilian employees of the federal government	3,776.7
Military – children of the uniformed and foreign service	6,327.85
Indian Lands – children living on the Indian Trust, Treaty, ANSCA lands	0
Low Rent Housing – children living in federally owned low rent housing – not Section 8	539.39
Disability payment – district's payment for Indian lands and military children eligible under IDEA	\$549,492

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## Military Interstate Compact



[www.pltic.org](http://www.pltic.org)

## What educational policies does the Compact cover?

### **Enrollment**

Educational record  
Shot record  
Starting age

### **Graduation**

Waiving or putting aside courses  
Flexibility in accepting state exit exams  
Diploma

### **Placement**

Program flexibility  
Special education services  
Absence related to deployment  
Extracurricular activities

[www.pltic.org](http://www.pltic.org)

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### **Placement**

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### **SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

Absence related to deployment  
Extracurricular activities

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## Who does the MIC3 Cover?

- > Children of full-time active-duty service members, including National Guard and Reserve Component service members on active duty, enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12
- > Children of service members or veterans who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one year after medical discharge or retirement
- > Children of service members who die on active duty or because of injuries sustained while on active duty for a period of one year after death



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## Who is NOT covered under the MIC?

- Children of service members who separate from active duty or reserve components
- Children of service members now retired not covered in the above description
- Children of veterans not covered in the above description
- Children of U.S. Department of Defense personnel and other federal agency civilian and contract employees not defined as active-duty service members

## Readiness

The Department of Defense's **enduring mission** is to **provide combat-credible military forces** needed to deter war and protect the security of our nation. Should deterrence fail, the Joint Force is prepared to win. Reinforcing America's traditional tools of diplomacy, the Department **provides military options to ensure the President and our diplomats negotiate from a position of strength.**

The surest way to prevent war is **to be prepared to win one.** Doing so requires a competitive approach to force development and a consistent, multiyear investment to **restore warfighting readiness and field a lethal force.** The size of our force matters. The Nation must field **sufficient, capable forces to defeat enemies and achieve sustainable outcomes that protect the American people and our vital interests.** Our aim is a **Joint Force that possesses decisive advantages for any likely conflict, while remaining proficient** across the entire spectrum of conflict.

## video

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mmwIrFNkMuc>

[www.peafy.org](http://www.peafy.org)

## Readiness, Schools, and EFM

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- Senior military leadership
  - connection between local education and military readiness
  - public schools and districts are supporting the unique educational needs of military-connected children
- Military members
  - children's educational opportunities influence their decision to continue serving
  - military personnel often elect to spare their families from that hardship—either by serving alone or leaving military service

[www.peafy.org](http://www.peafy.org)

## Retention

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Recruit the  
**Sailor, Soldier, Airman, Marine, Coastie;**  
 retain the **family.**

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## Why join?

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- Call to serve
- Family tradition
- Honor/respect
- Life goal
- Discipline/structure
- Adventure/travel
- Benefits
- Job stability/pay
- Leave negative environment
- Job training
- Occupation guarantee
- Opportunities
- Money for college
- Challenge



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## Why stay in?

- > Insurance – Tricare (medical), dental, vision, ECHO
- > Security – guaranteed paycheck
- > Retirement – pension, thrift savings plan, Tricare for life, VA benefits, SBP
- > Housing – homes/apartments on base/privatized, at no cost, basic allowance for housing
- > Taxes – personal property, state income, combat/hazardous duty

## Exceptional Family Member Program



- > **Mandatory** enrollment program for active duty service members
- > Provides comprehensive and coordinated community **support**, housing, educational, medical, and personnel services
- > **Dependent** must have a physical, emotional, developmental, or intellectual disability requiring specialized services
- > EFMs' **needs** must be considered when service member is up for orders
- > OCONUS and CONUS Family Member Travel Screening (**FMTS**)

### **EFMP and the PTI**

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- Provide professional development
- Conduit to families
- Receive referrals
- Provide resources
- Collaboration opportunities

### **School Liaison Officer (SLO)**

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- Defense contractors/civilian employees each branch of service provides for school support services
- Familiar with the unique aspects of military life that can have an effect on a student's education
- Help build partnerships between military families, installations, and schools
- Act as the installation's point of contact for all things school related
- Provide assistance to relocating families
- Resource for Parent Centers

## Resources SLO and the PTI

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- Provide professional development
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## MILITARY RETIREMENT



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## Planning Retirement and Transition

- Very individualized
- Based on child's disability
- Considerations
  - state services
  - residential facility
  - timing
  - family support
  - medical
  - second career
  - taxes
  - special needs trust, guardianship, wills

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## What PTIs Can Do

- Military member/spouse on staff
- Exceptional Family Member Program Staff
- School Liaison Officers
- Military specific factsheet, workshops, and resources
- Collaborate with local, state, and federal organizations affiliated with the military and/or special needs children



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## **Military Families Need**

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- Help with IFSPs, IEPs, 504 plans
- Individualized help, in person, on the phone, and mail
- Workshops and trainings
- Webinars
- Collaboration with local and state resources
- Newsletters
- Transition planning

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## **Resources**

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- Parent Center Hub
- Exceptional Family Member Program
- School Liaison Officer
- National Military Family Association
- Military Child Education Coalition
- Department of Defense Education Activity
- Military One Source
- American Military Family Autism Support Community
- Understood

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**Thank You!**

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Hablamos Español

