



# ARMY EUROPE SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER



## PCS GUIDE

## SUMMER / FALL 2020

# #KnowYourSLO



This guide is designed to support military connected families as they PCS to or from Europe. There is a handy checklist included for you to use as you move forward in your new adventure. We hope the information in this handbook assists and encourages you as our country’s “youngest heroes” make their move in support of the military mission.

Whether mid-school year or over summer break, leaving a school and smoothly integrating into a new one requires planning and a positive attitude. Although the COVID19 crisis has made the current PCS season even more challenging, our community is geared to “Adapt Improve and Overcome!”

As with any PCS move of a school age child, your School Liaison Officer (SLO) is available help with information, referrals, and assistance in planning a smooth as possible school transition.

Your [Europe Army SLO](#) can assist you in with your move to Europe as well as in making contact with a SLO at other locations if you are leaving us.



[Find a SLO at any military installation worldwide.](#)



**School Support Services**  
*A Driving Force for Student Success*



So far 2020 has been a year of unprecedented changes for all children. If you are set to move to or from Europe soon, take heart. School Liaison Officers (SLOs) are ready to work with you in helping your child transition into their new school and community.

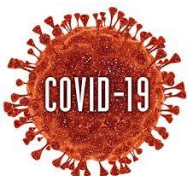
If you are leaving Europe, the SLO at your new duty station can provide you with local information on status of schools and activities. Your Europe SLO can assist you in finding the SLO at your new duty station and provide your family a warm handoff to a great resource of up-to-date local information and support!

Children will be arriving in Europe with various experiences. Some may have had their previous schools close completely with no instruction, some schools may have offered a digital learning platform, and some may have had parent led homeschooling. All these experiences will come together within our schools here in Europe. Students in Europe maintained educational support via a digital learning platform throughout the crisis. Some families have expressed concerns regarding placement and any impact these changes may have on their child's grade and academic standing. Rest assured, the [Department of Defense Education Activity \(DoDEA\)](#) schools will be working with families and children to support them in this move to ensure students are academically on track regardless of their circumstances prior to arrival. [DODEA COVID 19 information](#)

Typically a full third of our students in Europe transition in or out during the months of June, July, & August. With the delay in PCS moves due to COVID19 travel restrictions, we anticipate a heavier than normal July and August once the PCS restrictions are lifted. Some families may be delayed due to quarantines. School Liaison Officers stand ready to assist all our families with information, referral and assistance in making their child's school transition smooth. Whether you are coming to Europe or leaving us. We are here to assist. Please contact your SLO prior to arrival so we can assist you with relevant up to date information. You can find your SLO by location at [Europe.armymwr.com/slo](https://Europe.armymwr.com/slo)



Child & Youth Services (CYS) programs were closed in Europe and some places stateside during the pandemic. CYC is busy working on their re-opening efforts to ensure children & staff are safe and secure as we enter the tail end of this crisis. Please check with your local [CYS Parent Central Services Office](#) to determine local current status for programs such as child care, before/after school care, youth centers, SKIES instructional classes, and Youth Sports & Fitness Programs. Your installation [School Liaison Officer \(SLO\)](#) can also provide you with local up- to-date CYC information and status for your duty station.



For up-to-date COVID19 information, go to the [Center for Disease Control website](#).





## **Parent Central Services is your gateway to good stuff for infants through teens!**

**A host of options to keep the fun in your child's life are available through Army Child & Youth Services!**

Within Army Child & Youth Services you will find something to meet your child's needs. Choose from: Fulltime/part time/hourly care, before/afterschool care, camps, youth programs, instructional classes, workforce preparation opportunities, and sports & fitness activities. Offerings vary by location. Registration and information for all these programs is available through [Parent Central Services](#)

**School Age Center Summer Camps** Don't spend your summer hearing "Mom, I'm bored!" Fun summer day camps are offered for children grades 1 through 5 or 6 depending upon local school configuration. These day camp experiences offer regular theme-based adventures, trips, and activities that will keep children engaged and excited to return the next day. Option for full summer or select weeks may be available. Due to COVID19 summer camps may not be available this year in many locations. CYA is working on alternative fun in the mean time.

**Middle School/Teen Summer Camps and Activities** MS-HS age students will have a blast throughout the summer! Regular trips and activities as well as overnight excursions that provide fun experiences are available to keep youth with varied interests happy. Each week is a new adventure! Don't sleep on the couch all summer; Get out and have fun! Due to COVID19 summer camps may not be available in many locations this year. CYA is working on alternative fun in the mean time.

**Workforce Preparation** Is an apprenticeship program that places youths ages 15-18 in positions with participating organizations within MWR operations. Learn about career fields such as marketing, graphic design, sports management, education, food service, outdoor recreation, and more! Students must qualify and space is limited. Positions through the summer and into the school year available! Not offered in all locations.



**Youth Sports & Fitness-** Get out and enjoy the great weather by participating in any of the many sporting options available to children and youth through CYC Services Youth Sports & Fitness Program. The program provides children (ages 3-18) a positive and enjoyable recreation experience. A variety of instructional clinics and sports are offered throughout the summer months. CYC will maintain a focus on providing sports and fitness programs that are recreational, maximize participation, and concentrate on the practice and development of skill in a recreational environment.

**SKIES Unlimited Instructional Classes** – Classes for children and youth are available within each of the four “schools”; School of Life, School of Sports, School of Arts, School of Academics. Check with your local Parent Central Services office for details about classes offered in your area.

**Parent Fun** – Parent Night Out or Day Out are opportunities for parents to leave their little ones in our care while they enjoy some adult time without the kids. These special events are offered every so often and slots fill fast.

**Kids On Site** - On-site child care can be provided for your unit/organizational event at the location where you have an event. Care for children 6 weeks - 12 years available.

**REGISTER** and get more info available for the above options at your local Parent Central Services. Not all programs at every location. Links to application forms and your local Army Europe [Parent Central Services webpage](#)  
Online pre-registration for CYC in any location: [webtrac.mwr.army.mil](http://webtrac.mwr.army.mil)

**School Support Services** Get Ready for Back to School! As you prepare for summer to end or are PCS ing in or out of Europe, don't forget to contact your local Army School Liaison Officer (SLO) for information, referral and assistance with your questions or concerns about schools and dependent education whether Department of Defense Education Activity schools, private schools, or homeschooling. SLOS are here to help! Youth sponsors are also available to assist newcomers.

Your child can practice academic skills on the Learning Links section of the SLO webpage! It's not too early to prepare for a great school year!

Find your installation [School Liaison Officer](#).



# 10 Tips for a Positive Change of School!

Often military families are so pre-occupied with the logistics of PCSing, that the academic needs of the child gets overlooked. Here are a few quick tips to help your child have a smooth take-off from their current school, and a soft landing in his/her new school.

**1. As soon as you receive orders, notify your child's school in writing.** Provide the date of your child's last day. It's never too early to do this! You can even do this prior to having that hard copy of orders.

**2. Contact the School Liaison Officer** at your new duty station. Your current [SLO](#) can help you get in touch with your new SLO. The SLO can help you with information about your new location and answer any questions you may have. Use the [SLO](#) as your local resource!

**3. Create a School PCS folder for each child.** Before you pack all of your important papers, place the papers you will need to register your child at his/her new school in a folder! Include: copy of birth certificate or passport, shot record, copy of transcript, & special needs evaluations. (see checklist in this booklet) **DO NOT PACK THIS FOLDER. Hand Carry it!**

**4. Research the area where you are moving.** You should investigate the schools BEFORE you choose somewhere to live! Your [SLO](#) can assist you with this information. For more "surfing the net" about PCS moves, go to [SchoolQuest](#). For overseas moves go to [DODEA](#)

If you are going to be living in a remote overseas location check out the [Non DoD Schools Program](#) If you are a homeschooling family, talk to your SLO about homeschooling in your area. Also, check out the [Home School Legal Defense Association](#) for local laws.



**5. Remember that data is only ONE indicator of a school's quality.** If at all possible, go to the school and observe...see for yourself. Most importantly, do not form an opinion about a school or teacher based on the rumor mill. Every family, child, and situation is different. A school that is not a good fit for one family can be another family's perfect fit. Keep an open mind.

In some locations you may have only one school option. Take heart! Make the time to visit and get informed about the school. Consider participating in School Advisory Committees and join the partnership making your child's school an even better learning environment!

**6. If you have a child with special needs, meet with your Special Education Teacher.** Ask that they contact the new school personally if possible. (Or be available for consult from the new school.) Be sure to get a copy of your child's **up to date** IEP, or 504 plan, evaluations, notes, etc. for the School PCS folder. If you haven't already, be sure to register in the [Exceptional Family Member Program](#).

**7. Network!** Touch base with the local Family Readiness Group, spouse's club, or perhaps your sponsor or sponsor's spouse to get some insight. If moving to Europe, find sponsor and connection information here.

[Europe.armymwr.com/sponsorship](http://Europe.armymwr.com/sponsorship)

Your youth can "network" with a youth sponsor. Talk to your [SLO](#) or [Request a youth sponsor.](#) online (Europe)

**8. Talk to your child** about the social/emotional stresses of moving. Let them share their concerns. Plan a "farewell" party or at least designate a time to allow your child a chance to have closure and say good bye. You may want to provide your child with a notebook in which he/she can collect names, photos, email addresses and phone numbers. If your child's school is closed due to COVID19, see about setting up a Zoom time with your child's friends.

**9.** If you know where your child will go to school at the new duty station, **contact the school** to get calendar information, registration details, and even sports try out deadlines! Your [SLO](#) can help!

**10. Be patient !** Settling in takes time, and some kids take longer to make new friends. Find activities and opportunities to connect with other kids. (CYS can help you with this!) Before you know it, your child will be telling you about his best friend and the cool thing they did in school that day!

With a little planning, you can be on your way to a POSITIVE Change of School!





# Help your child say



## to a school

- Leaving a school and classmates is hard at any age. Thanks to the internet older students have ways of making sure they can stay in touch, but departing can still be difficult. All ages may fear the unknown of the new school. The more informed you are before you leave the less fear your child will have. It's easier jumping if you know where you will land. [Contacting a School Liaison Officer \(SLO\)](#) and getting informed as much as possible about your new location will make departing the current school easier.
- Let the teacher know the impending move is hard. Teachers near military installations often have children coming and going and many have come up with special ways to mark the move. The earlier you let the teacher know you are moving the better support the teacher can be. A digital learning platform calls for some creativity in farewells.
- Make a video of your child at the school talking about the school. If still in digital platform learning, do a zoom video with their teachers, and friends. "Interview" staff and friends. It will be a nice memory for later and bring a smile to their face.
- Have your child write a thank you letter to his/her teacher.
- Create a scrapbook of their time at the school. Include a class photo. Write one comment or memory about each member of the class. If you do this with every move, kids will come to realize wherever they go, they will make good memories and thus more readily anticipate new ones.
- If your child is physically attending a school, for some, marking the last day with something special like a class snack may be helpful, but for others it may be overwhelming. Consider your child's personality when deciding how that last day should go. Some parents check their child out just a few moments early so they aren't in the "dismissal tornado" when their emotions are high. If your child is in digital learning platform, you can still mark their last day. Remind the teacher that prior to sign off, recognition of those students not returning is appreciated. Record the last goodbyes at sign off!
- Stay connected. If you are moving mid year, sending a letter or email to the class telling about the new school can be helpful.
- Students go through a bit of a grieving process when they leave the familiar even if what is familiar has already changed quite a bit this year. Expect to hear comparisons to the "old school" quite a bit initially. It's their way of hanging on. Be patient, eventually the new school will be their "familiar".

# Youth Sponsorship Programs welcome new students



Army Europe has youth sponsorship programs that support incoming students throughout the summer and school year. School Liaison Officers (SLOs) can assist with connecting youth to a local student in the same grade. SLOs can also help connect youth to information about events and activities in the community and school. Youth Sponsorship is a joint effort between Child & Youth Services and the DoDEA Schools. Middle and high school age youth sponsors are there to make the transition to the new community and school easier. Start your first day with a new friend!

Your School Liaison Officer can help make connections that pave the way for a smooth transition for all incoming students. If you are leaving Europe, your local SLO can connect you to a SLO at your new location!

If you are interested in serving as a youth sponsor to help new students, contact your local SLO! There is training to assist you to become an effective youth sponsor. It might make for a wonderful experience, and you could possibly make some new friends!

[Make an online request for a Youth Sponsor](#)



For more info contact your  
[Army Europe School Liaison Officer](#)





# The Interstate Compact Supports Transitioning Military Dependent Students

Moving back to the states? As mobile military students move through various curricula, graduation requirements, and school systems they can suffer academically and socially. This is finally a front burner issue with many school districts in the states.

All 50 states and several territories have signed an interstate compact that provides support to transitioning military families. **The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children** provides state commitment to support transitioning military children in the areas of Enrollment, Eligibility, and Graduation.

Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) is not a state and therefore cannot become a signatory, however it has pledged to meet the expectations laid out in the compact and has signed an MOA with the DOD to do so.

The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) has established a website to keep military families abreast of updates and how they can rely upon the compact provisions to support their transitioning students.

## For more information:

[MIC3 website.](#)

[Interstate Compact Guide](#)

[FAQs](#)

[See your SLO](#)



# SchoolYear 20-21

## DoDEA EUROPE



### DoDEA Europe Director

Dr. Dell McMullen

[Email Area Office](#)

[DoDEA -E webpage](#)

### DODEA Director

Mr. Tom Brady



4800 Mark Center Dr.  
Alexandria, VA 22350

PH 571-372-0590

[DoDEA HQWebpage](#)



### EAST District

Superintendent

Mr. Steven Sanchez

[Email Superintendent](#)

[EAST Distr.Webpage](#)

District Office in Kasierslautern



### WEST District

Superintendent

Mr. Kent Worford

[Email Superintendent](#)

[WEST Distr.webpage](#)

District Office in Brussels



### SOUTH District

Superintendent

Dr. Michelle Howard-Brahaney

[Email Superintendent](#)

[SOUTH Distr.webpage](#)

District Office in Vicenza



### EMAILING TEACHERS

First name. last name @dodea.edu

(Some teachers may include a middle initial or a hyphenated last name.)



[Schools by District](#)



[Online Registration](#)

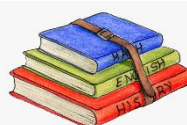


[Calendars](#)



[In The News](#)

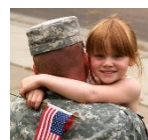
[DoDEA-E News](#)



[Curriculum](#)



[HS Graduation](#)

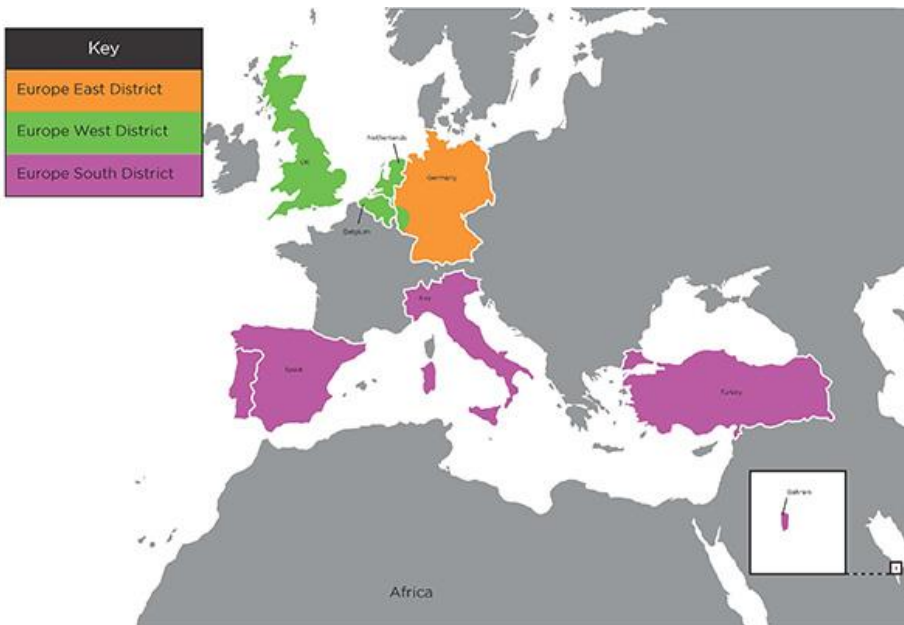


[Parent Resources](#)



[Special Education](#)

## DoDEA Europe District Structure



| DoDEA EUROPE EAST                              | Community Superintendents                   |
|--|---|
| Wiesbaden, Baumholder, Sembach                 | Dr. Jason Ter Horst - <a href="#">email</a> |
| Kaiserslautern, Vogelweh, Ramstein & Landstuhl | Mr. Joseph Lovett - <a href="#">email</a>   |
| Stuttgart, Ansbach                             | Mr. Joseph Malloy - <a href="#">email</a>   |
| Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, Garmisch               | TBD - <a href="#">email</a>                 |

| DoDEA EUROPE WEST                 | Community Superintendents                  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| United Kingdom                    | Ms. Melissa Hayes - <a href="#">email</a>  |
| Belgium, Netherlands, Spangdahlem | Mr. Walter Wilhoit - <a href="#">email</a> |

| DoDEA EUROPE SOUTH          | Community Superintendents                 |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Italy North, Turkey         | Mr. David Rudy - <a href="#">email</a>    |
| Bahrain, Italy South, Spain | Mr. Carl Albrecht - <a href="#">email</a> |

### EAST District

#### Military Communities

Ansbach, Germany  
 Baumholder, Germany  
 Garmisch, Germany  
 Grafenwoehr, Germany  
 Hohenfels, Germany  
 Kaiserslautern, Germany  
 Ramstein, Germany  
 Sembach  
 Stuttgart, Germany  
 Vilseck, Germany  
 Wiesbaden, Germany

### WEST District

#### Military Communities

Brussels, Belgium  
 Kleine Brogel, Belgium  
 SHAPE, Belgium  
 Spangdahlem, Germany  
 Schinnen, Netherlands  
 Lakenheath, UK  
 Alconbury, UK  
 Croughton, UK

### SOUTH District

#### Military Communities

Bahrain  
 Aviano, Italy  
 Darby, Italy  
 Naples, Italy  
 Sigonella, Italy  
 Vicenza, Italy  
 Moron, Spain  
 Rota, Spain  
 Ankara, Turkey





The Department of Defense is committed to ensuring that all children of military families are provided a world class education that prepares them to be successful in their careers, leading contributors in their communities and productive citizens in the 21st century.

The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) is the umbrella organization that unites efforts to provide quality educational opportunities and services to military dependents around the globe. DoDEA plans, directs, coordinates, and manages the education programs for Department of Defense (DoD) dependents who would otherwise not have access to a high-quality public education. DoDEA has a long and proud history of serving military families at locations around the globe.

- DoDEA is primarily responsible for operating the DoD elementary and secondary school system, ensuring the students that attend DoDEA schools remain on track towards being ready for college or a career upon high school graduation.
- DoDEA also arranges and financially supports educational requirements for eligible dependents not able to attend a DoDEA school (overseas and in four U.S. locations).
- We are globally positioned, operating 163 accredited schools in 8 districts located in 11 foreign countries, 7 states, Guam, and Puerto Rico (includes the DoDEA virtual school).



The vast majority of families stationed in Europe send their children to the DoDEA Schools. DoDEA rates at or near the top in every assessment category when compared to schools across America. To learn more about these schools see below.

## Resource Links:

[DODEA](#)

[DODEA by the Numbers](#)

[Gradespeed](#)

[Assessments](#)

[Accreditation](#)

[DoDEA AI 1358.01](#)

[DoDEA Maps](#)

[DoDEA History](#)

[Blueprint for Continuous School Improvement](#)

[DODEA Fact Sheet](#)

[Schoolology](#)

[Dependents Education Council](#)

[Parent Teacher Conferences](#)

[DoDEA's Chain of Command](#)

[School Calendars](#)

[Policies & Guidelines](#)



# College and Career Ready Standards

In the DoDEA schools, teaching and learning is based upon College and Career Ready Standards (CCRS). These rigorous standards are designed to ensure that students have the content knowledge, skills, habits, and dispositions in multiple subjects to be successful in their future endeavors, after high school.

To be successful after high school, all graduates must possess a range of content knowledge, abilities and motivation to succeed that can only come from a rigorous, rich, and well-rounded Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 education. Nationwide, it has become expected that high school graduates need to continue their education in a postsecondary course of study, program or training series if they are to have options and opportunities in the current job market.

- College and Career Ready Standards establish clear, consistent and high learning goals and are focused on preparing students for success in college and careers
- College and Career Ready Standards in the areas of mathematics and literacy set a foundation for even greater student success and growth.
- College and Career Ready Standards set grade-by-grade learning expectations for students in grades K-12.

The continuity of College and Career Ready Standards presents an extraordinary opportunity for academic development as they are replicated in the majority of states and therefore beneficial to our highly mobile military-connected students.

## **Parent Resources:**

[DoDEA change to College and Career Readiness standards](#)

[Common Core State Standards](#)

[US News & World Report Guide to Common Core](#)

[Grade Level Skills and Knowledge Guides](#)

[DoDEA Curricular Programs](#)





The [DoDEA Summer Learning Program](#) provides grades K-8 students and parents educational resources to bridge learning between the current and upcoming school years. Resources will be added to the website throughout the summer, and will include:

- Overviews describing what students should know and be able to do in each grade K-8
- A centralized access point to DoDEA's online libraries of e-books and digital media
- Engaging projects that integrate multiple subject areas
- An easy-to-use readiness check for math and reading
- Free high quality, online resources that are available for students in core content areas.

**Please direct all summer learning questions to**  
[SummerLearning@dodea.edu](mailto:SummerLearning@dodea.edu).





## DoDEA school registration

Families can register prior to arrival via online registration. Once you arrive, you can visit the school to finalize any requirements. If your location has multiple schools for your child's grade you can still register prior to arrival since the school will have access to your documents when you know where your child will attend.

### LINKS:

- [DoDEA enrollment eligibility information](#)
- [DoDEA Online Registration](#)
- [Immunization Requirements](#)
- [Exceptional Family Member Program](#)

*Be aware that in some locations when you first arrive your child may temporarily attend the school that is zoned for your Temporary Billeting/Quarters. When you know where you will be living (on or off post), there is a possibility that your child could be moved to another school, unless you live in the same zoned area. Again: CONTACT your [School Liaison Officer](#) for assistance and clarification to possibly avoid this situation.*



## STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

- ◆ [DoDEA Europe Student Transportation](#) school bus stop information and school bus passes are mailed to your APO address prior to the start of school. If you do not receive a bus pass contact your local transportation office.
- ◆ If you are new to Europe contact your bus transportation office for information about bus transportation and to request a bus pass. [Transportation Offices](#) This office can also provide information about bus stop locations as you select housing.
- ◆ [What Parents need to know about school bus transportation in Europe!](#)
- ◆ [Student Safety and Behavior](#)
- ◆ Walking to/from school & bus stops: see Army in Europe Child and Youth Supervision [Army Europe Regulation 608-18-1](#)



# PCS ing to Europe?

Check out this [important video](#) about the current PCS season in light of COVID19.

You can also information about living in Europe and connecting with others in Europe on the [EUROPE Sponsorship webpage](#).

## What can we do with the kids when we are drowning in PCS stuff?



Reliable childcare can be a blessing when moving into new quarters. But how do you manage it when you know practically no one at your new post? Families can pre-register for Child & Youth Services prior to arriving at their new post. Simply go to [MWR online](#). This can put you on any possible wait lists BEFORE you arrive! Also, If you are currently enrolled in CYS, you can request that your current [Parent Central](#) office forward your information and registration to your new post CYS office. Some CYS childcare programs may be limited for a while due to the COVID19 crisis, so plan ahead by contacting your CYS [Parent Central](#) office for current status prior to the move.

## Welcome to Europe! Learn about your new home!



Moving to a new country can be exciting and sometimes scary. Learning about where you will be living may make your child feel more at ease about the move and get them excited about living in Europe. The [School Liaison Officer](#) webpages for Army Europe all offer a “**Learn about your new home!**” section. There are pages for Germany, Italy, and the Benelux. Kids can watch videos about their new country, do activities, and learn to say a few words in the local languages. Go to [europe.armymwr.com/slo](http://europe.armymwr.com/slo) and click on your installation to learn about your new home! Some locations also offer cultural orientations for students.

Ask your [SLO](#) what is available in your location.



### Helpful PCS Links:

[Military Kids Connect](#)

[School Quest](#)

[Sponsorship Europe](#)

[YOUTH Sponsorship](#)

[Interstate Compact MIC3](#)

[School Liaison Officers](#)

[DODEA](#)

[CYS Parent Central Europe](#)

[Family & MVR Programs Online](#)



# PCS move to the states may mean school search

So you are planning a PCS move stateside this summer and you are worried about schools? There are some great resources to help you find information about the schools in your new location which will enable you to make an informed decision about where your children will attend school. Be sure to remember that in most cases once you have selected a place to live, your school will be whichever is zoned for your



new home. So if you want to really have some input into where your children attend school, you will search for a school FIRST and a home SECOND. This will help you ensure the school you place your child in has the types of programs and standards that will work best for your child making for a much smoother move and better served child.

A School Liaison Officer (SLO) can help you connect to the your new location, provide, “on the ground” details, and help guide you to local resources and program information. Your current SLO will give you a “warm hand off” to a stateside SLO.

Find your local SLO at [Europe.armymwr.com/slo](http://Europe.armymwr.com/slo)

You can do more diffing using some of the below sites. Remember, YOU are your child’s biggest advocate! A little “homework” now can make for a more positive educational experience for your child. Happy hunting!

## NEIGHBORHOOD SCOUT

[www.neighborhoodscout.com](http://www.neighborhoodscout.com)

## GREAT SCHOOLS

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

Both these sites have data, program information, and parent reviews.

## SCHOOL REPORT CARDS

Every US public school district is required to post their annual school report cards indicating enrollment, testing, and progress data. State department or board of education sites typically post this information. Check out the Educational Resource Center above to find the Department of Education site for your state.

[Learn more](#)

## SCHOOL QUEST

[Schoolquest.militarychild.org/](http://Schoolquest.militarychild.org/)

Type in your child’s needs and get connected to schools and programs in your selected location

## US PRIVATE SCHOOLS REVIEW

[www.privateschoolreview.com/](http://www.privateschoolreview.com/)

## US PUBLIC SCHOOLS REVIEW

[www.publicschoolreview.com/](http://www.publicschoolreview.com/)

See reviews on schools across the US

## HOMESCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION

Find the laws and requirements to homeschool in each location.

[hslida.org](http://hslida.org)

## NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS

[nces.ed.gov](http://nces.ed.gov)

Get district profiles, information, assessment and more data on schools.

## Non DoD Schools Program (NDSP)



Some duty stations in Europe do not have Department of Defense (DOD) schools in some or all grades. Dependent students in these locations are served by the Non DoD Schools Program (NDSP) which

provides access to English language educational options. This program is not available to local civilian hires. Most NDSP supported locations are remote or in embassy locations. High School students at Camp Darby, Italy and Garmisch, Germany are served through the NDSP program. (Elementary and Middle School students attend DoDEA schools in those locations.) There are additional NDSP supported options such as homeschooling or boarding school, but the vast majority of high school NDSP students attend local international schools. Special needs support in NDSP locations is more challenging, and parents should review level of support prior to PCSing to an NDSP location. The enrollment process is a bit more complicated, so if you have a high school student and are heading to one of these locations, please be sure to contact the local [School Liaison Officer \(SLO\)](#) as soon as possible. If you have orders to a remote location or embassy contact the [Army Europe Region SLO](#). Your SLO can help guide you through this process. For more NDSP info:

[NDSP Website](#)

[NDSP Orientation](#)

[Contact NDSP](#)

## Wondering what to do when school is out?

Army Child & Youth Services (CYS) offers regular before and after school care as well as hourly care, for elementary school age students. Our youth centers offer a free, safe, and fun place for middle & high schoolers to hang out after school. There are also special full day sessions and events on school-out dates. Contact your post's [Parent Central Services](#) office for more information. If you are already registered with CYS Services in your current duty station, you can request that they forward your registration to your new Europe location! If you've never registered for CYS, you can save time and complete your registration prior to arrival on [Army MWR Online Services](#) (Webtrac)



# School Meal Accounts

- ◆ If you are PCSing at the end of the school year, it is vital that you stop by AAFES customer service and close out your child's lunch account. Any remaining funds will be returned to you. If you owe money it is important that you take care of that prior to your departure.
- ◆ If your child is moving between elementary, middle, or high schools in the same location, the account will be transferred to the new school and all funds associated with that account will follow your child to his new school.
- ◆ If you do not have a lunch account and will be attending a DoDEA school during the upcoming school year, be sure to stop by the AAFES cash cage to set up an account.
- ◆ You will need your child's 10 digit student ID# provided by the school's main office.



## [AAFES Student Meal Program Information](#)



# Meal Payments Plus

Think OUTSIDE the lunchbox! Use My Payments Plus to make sure your child gets nutritious meals at school.

[www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com)



Use MyPaymentsPlus website or smartphone app to:

- ◆ Enable your child to purchase the regular school meal under a meal account and/or items through the "A La Carte" menu under a general account.
- ◆ View your child's cafeteria purchases to track spending and ensure your child is making healthy choices .
- ◆ Deposit funds online or via the free mobile app! ( a small fee is charged for making online payments - Payments can still be made at no charge at AAFES customer service or by sending in a check to the cafeteria.)
- ◆ Set reminders to be notified each time your child's lunch account pre-pay balance is low.
- ◆ Convenient auto-pay option available. Free sign up!

Go to [www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com) For state: select "EXCHANGE"

Click Register for "FreeAccount"

Follow the simple online screen instructions.

# FREE AND REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS

Breakfast AND lunch are available at most DoDEA schools in Europe. Families can quickly apply for free or Reduced price meals online in the privacy of their home!

## [Free and Reduced Meal Program Application](#)



- Receive confirmation of application status typically within minutes.
- Your child's lunch account is automatically updated to reflect the free or reduced price status for the remainder of the current school year.
- Applications must be renewed annually.
- 3 % of approved applicants are randomly selected to take part in an annual verification process.
- All students including those who qualify for free or reduced price meals need a student meal account to participate in the meal program.
- Sign up for an AAFES student meal account at AAFES Customer Service.

NOTE: In European duty locations your housing allowance is NOT included in your total income for the purpose of application. Basic Allowance for Subsistence IS included in income.

## KEEP YOUR FREE OR REDUCED STATUS WHEN YOU LEAVE

Your status can stay intact for a full school year no matter where you live or your financial situation. If you move to the USA after school starts you may want to bring your documents. Many families who qualify for free or reduced meals in Europe don't qualify in the US because housing allowances are considered income there. PLAN AHEAD and bring documents proving your status to the US to continue eligibility for the remainder of the school year.

### Helpful links:

[AAFES - Online FARM application](#)

[USDA National School Lunch Program](#)

[USDA National School Breakfast Program](#)

[Income Eligibility Guidelines](#)

(Use Alaska standards)





# 4 R's of PCS ing the Student Athlete

Moving with a high school athlete can present challenges. You want to ensure that the sport your child loves is available in the school you choose and that your child has a shot at being on the team even though he/she will be a “newbie”.



**It all comes down to the 4 Rs:**

**RESEARCH**  
**REPUTATION**  
be **REALISTIC**  
be **READY!**

**RESEARCH:** the options available in your new location. It may impact your home choice, so do it prior to choosing a place to live. A [School Liaison Officer](#) can assist you with information about the local schools and put you in contact with athletic directors at various schools and community programs. Make contact early to see what you need to participate. You can check out the school websites which your SLO can also provide. Contact the school to find out if there are any training dates or camps prior to tryouts or school starting. If your athlete plans to compete in college, familiarize yourself with the [National Collegiate Athletic Association \(NCAA\)](#) requirements.

**REPUTATION:** Often a student athlete is frustrated by a move because he/she has worked hard to earn a reputation with their coaches. Bring that with you! Request a letter of recommendation from the current coach prior to leaving. Take video of the athlete in action to bring along. Have any performance statistics at hand. In cases where a student might miss tryouts make arrangements to send a video link to the coach .

**Be REALISTIC:** Due to COVID19 restrictions, sports programs might look different for the 20-21 school year. Also, not all sports are available everywhere. Some locations are willing to start programs if enough students are interested. Your athlete might also find they enjoy yet another sport which is offered that you hadn't thought of. Have an open mind. Some locations may also offer private or city recreation programs that have great travel teams. Child & Youth Programs also typically offers various sporting opportunities on post through the Youth Sports Program. Some locations may have more intensely competitive programs than you are used to, You may enter a school with a relaxed attitude about competition. Some locations may conduct your sport's season at a different time of year than you are used to.

**Be READY** Have an up-to-date sports physical with you so your athlete is ready to start from day one if necessary. Be sure the physical meets the new school's requirements. Find out what equipment and supplies are the responsibility of the student to ensure you have what you need. Make contact with a current team member to find out about anything perhaps not listed on the site. You might be able to connect to an athlete through the Youth Sponsorship Program. Ask your SLO for help! Maintain your nutrition and workout schedule even during the move. Your athlete doesn't want to be out of shape when tryouts start!



**Now go out there and WIN one for the Army Family Team!**

### **Interested in DoDEA Europe High School Sports?**

You'll need an up-to-date physical! It's recommended that you get your physical BEFORE you PCS if you plan to participate in the fall to avoid disappointment. For more info on schedules contact your school's athletic director (Note: schedules for fall '20 are still under review due to COVID19.)

[DoDEA Europe StudentAthletics](#)

[Europe Sports News](#)

[Email: AthleticActivities Coordinator](#)





## 12 Tips for PCS ing with a High School Student

High School can be the hardest time for a military child to PCS. They've worked hard to earn a reputation in their sport or activity and with their teachers. They have friends and a routine they don't want to leave. Switching allegiance from one school to another is hard. Add to all that, possible ramifications on their grades and graduation. (Especially if a move is made without prior planning in regard to the high school student's education) Following are some things to keep in mind as you move with a high schooler.

1. Hand carry a copy of school records to include transcript, any withdrawal grades, test scores, and any evaluations. This prevents a delay in making course selections and appropriate placement in your new school. Online registration prior to arrival is now available in DoDEA schools. This may enable discussions about course selections with the guidance counselor prior to arrival if you have some documentation of where you will be zoned, or if there is only one high school for that post. Nonetheless, make sure you copies of documentation.
2. As soon as you are aware you will be moving, it's important to find out the schedule and course offerings at your new school or district. This may save you some trouble and possibly wasted credits if you will be transferring mid-year. High schools typically offer full year, block, or modified block schedules. Most high schools in DoDEA Europe offer modified block which is a combination of year long and semester courses offered on an A/B day schedule. Consider your new school's schedule and graduation requirements when making course selections. If you are moving midyear and your child's school only offers semester courses a student may have difficulty completing a year long course. Ask about partial credit for one semester or transferring into a similar class if the new school doesn't offer your current year long class.
3. If you need a class that isn't currently offered at your school. Ask if that class is available online such as in the [DoDEA Virtual School](#). Students have access to online courses which are monitored at the high school.

**4.** DoDEA and some states require two years of a foreign language with both years being in the same language. If your child arrives with one year of Chinese, but the new school doesn't offer Chinese he/she may have to start a new language, or perhaps a class in the [DoDEA Virtual School](#) may fit the bill here as well. Also consider your options when selecting classes if you will be leaving Europe before those years of a language are completed. [Check 50 state HS graduation requirements](#)

**5.** Compare your current school with [DoDEA's graduation requirements](#). If your child is a senior and you discover the different graduation requirements may mean he/she won't graduate, it is possible in some circumstances to graduate with your previous school's graduation standards in your new school. (You would receive a diploma from your old school) Seek assistance from your guidance counselors.

**6.** Check out the [DoDEA Europe website](#) to find your school's webpage. It includes a catalog of courses offered at the school as well other helpful information. If you aren't sure which school to check or need more info, contact [the SLO](#).

**7.** Review college admission and [SAT](#) & [ACT](#) testing dates. Consider completing the test prior to departure. You can re-take these, but at least you won't be caught without a score if deadlines loom. Schools in Europe follow an "international" testing schedule for these assessments and fewer dates are available. Plan ahead!

**8.** When transferring credits, you may need to advocate for your child. For example, maybe your child didn't take a course in nutrition, but a health course might satisfy that credit requirement. Negotiate any credits that won't transfer. This process can be more flexible than it seems. Sometimes classes that don't match up exactly at the new school can still be credited as a similar class that the new school does offer. Schools will usually work with you to get the most out of your children's credits, especially if it might affect their graduation dates, so be polite but still assertive.





9. Check the school calendars of both old and new schools. It might be easier to transition into a class between quarters / semesters if possible.

[DoDEA Calendars](#)

10. Different grading scales and weighting systems won't change established letter grades, but may impact GPA. For example a 91% in some districts is an A, but in others it is a B. The letter grade will remain on the transcript, but the numeric grade may be averaged into overall GPA and identified per the new school grading /weighting standards. If weighting negatively impacts AP or honors placements, work with your guidance counselor to seek a possible remedy. For grading scale information go to [DoDEA Progress Reports](#) Also see [COVID19 Crisis Grading information for DoDEA](#)

11. Be sure to request recommendation letters from your current teachers, coaches, and special program sponsors to use in college applications as well as for special program access in the new high school.

12. Don't forget that even though they are grown, leaving behind friends impacts high schoolers. Youth Sponsorship Programs will help your teen acclimate to the new school and community. [Request a Youth Sponsor](#). Some teens may balk at first, but once they get that email and can ask questions of a peer, they are grateful. Trust me, they will be glad for it and that first day at school will be much easier. offer an online youth sponsor request. See your [SLO](#) for questions and assistance in connecting with a youth sponsor.



### **HS in DODEA Information Links:**

[Graduation Requirements](#)

[Student Activities](#)

[Curriculum](#)

[Athletics](#)

[Student Services](#)

[Academic Plan](#)

[AVID](#)

[Sexual Harassment Awareness](#)

[& Prevention](#)

[DoDEA Europe Schools by District](#)



## PRE-SCHOOL Options in Army Europe

### ON POST OPTIONS:

Universal Pre-K programs are not available in the DODEA schools. There are two programs for preschoolers in the DoDEA Schools

**1. Sure Start** program in DoDEA Schools is similar to Head Start programs in the USA.

Acceptance is based upon rank and certain criteria which might put a child at risk. Lower ranks have priority. Space is very limited. It is not available at all locations. Child must be 4 years of age by September 1st. For more information contact the [SLO](#) or see the [Sure Start Guide](#)

**2. Preschool Services for Children with Disabilities [PSCD]** The DoDEA [PSCD](#) program for the young child offers specifically designed instruction, support, and services for students with an identified disability which requires them to have an individually designed instructional program to meet their unique learning needs. Preschool special education services are provided for children three to five years of age who demonstrate a significant difference in actual functioning when compared with the functioning of a nondisabled child of the same chronological age. This significant difference occurs in one or more of the developmental areas as measured using standardized evaluation instruments and confirmed by clinical observation and judgment. Evaluations and a Case Study Team determine eligibility. Request consideration at your zoned elementary school. Age eligibility starts on the child's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

**3. Child and Youth Services Strong Beginnings** is a pre-kindergarten program, designed for 4 - 5 year-old children to prepare young students for school with lessons in everything from science and technology to how to hold a carton of milk or carry a food tray. Besides the basics of "kindergarten protocol", Strong Beginnings also teaches math, social studies, beginning reading and writing skills and good manners. Supportive staff will help children learn the basic knowledge and understanding through interactive stations and a creative curriculum. ([Article](#))

Contact [Parent Central](#) Services for more information.

### OFF POST OPTIONS:

**4. International Schools** that also offer pre-school programs are available off post in some locations. Instruction is in English and these are tuition based. Ask your School Liaison Officer for local specifics. Listings also available on at the following links: [ITALY](#) [GERMANY](#) [BELGIUM](#) [NETHERLANDS](#)

**5. Host nation kindergartens or pre-school programs.** Local national schools are most often not open to Americans, however there are some locations where this could be an option. Understand that instruction and communication by school personnel will be in the local language. Also, calendars for European schools differ from those in the US.

Your SLO can point you in the direction of how to proceed investigating this option.

## DoDEA Kindergarten: A Primer for Parents



### Starting kindergarten in Europe this fall?

#### 10 FAST FACTS:

1. Kindergarten is a full day program.
2. Kindergarten enrollment is not required. It is a parent decision.
3. No single factor determines [Kindergarten Readiness](#)
4. Naps are not part of kindergarten.
5. Cutoff age for kindergarten enrollment is five years of age by September 1st. The only exception made is if a child has already started kindergarten in a state that has a later cut off date. No “evaluations for exceptions” are made.
6. Cutoff age for first grade is six years of age by September 1st . From 2nd grade on requirement is “successful completion of previous grade.”
7. Kindergarteners start school about a week later than other grades to allow their teachers time to conduct home visits with students. Expect to be contacted for a home visit appointment.
8. Kindergarten students must be escorted to and from school or a bus stop.
9. You can find information about the DoDEA [curriculum](#) online.
10. Students do better in school when their parents are involved!

[Kindergarten Enrollment](#)

# Excited about starting kindergarten in America?



## PCSing to America with a rising kindergartener?

Here are some things to consider:

- Kindergarten age isn't uniform across the US. Typically the requirement is 5 years of age by a certain date. Find out more here: [Kindergarten Cutoff Dates](#). If your child has already started kindergarten and is moving to a state with an earlier cut-off date which would make your child ineligible for enrollment, have no fear. The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children provides that children of active duty military can be "grandfathered" into a class.
- Immunizations should be up to date. State immunization requirements may vary. Find your [immunization requirements by disease and state](#). The CDC offers a handy [Immunization Tracker](#) for birth through age six. The Interstate Compact helps out here too. Military dependents are allowed to enroll in and start school without shot records with 30 days to provide proof of immunization. This allows time in case there are requirements that your child hasn't yet met.
- Full day kindergarten programs are almost universal, but not all places offer full day kindergarten, so be sure to check with the local schools as you make your housing decisions. Your [SLO](#) can be a great source of information about what is available.
- Have vision and hearing screening done prior to departing. These are vital to ensuring any problems a child may be having in school aren't related to these issues. Most schools will do basic screenings during the year, but if your child comes in after it's done a full year could go by without you recognizing a potential problem.
- Is your child ready? [Kindergarten Readiness Checklist](#)
- Kindergarten enrollment is optional in some US districts. Decide what works best for your child. Waiting a year may be just what your child needs.
- Help your child have a happy first day by setting up a visit to the classroom prior to the big day! Meeting the teacher and seeing the layout of the room helps remove some fear of the unknown and makes for a less anxious first day. Ask if the school connects new students with current ones. Even children as young as five can be good ambassadors to new students. **Are you excited???**



# Planning on homeschooling in Europe?

Some parents elect to homeschool their children while OCONUS. This is a legal option open to all SOFA sponsored active duty military, DoD civilians, and contractors. No state or federal government permission is required.

Be aware that for German citizens home schooling is illegal and homeschooling is not common or recognized in other countries. You should be mindful of potential "looks" if you are out and about off post with your children during "normal school hours". In addition, to prevent unwarranted interest by local authorities you should use discernment when conducting "non-academic" activities or allowing children to be unsupervised outside the home during "normal" school hours.

The Netherlands does not have a SOFA agreement. Instead they have a "Friendship Agreement" which does not address homeschooling. Homeschooling is not "recognized" by the Dutch government. The Compulsory Education Act, Article 2, paragraph 1, states that school attendance is mandatory, so there may be challenges for homeschoolers going to Schinnen. Homeschool families moving to Europe should check with the School Liaison Officer for more information about homeschooling in their country or region.

It is also important to keep in mind any homeschool regulations in the state you plan to return to. You don't want to be caught short if you intend to homeschool or transfer to a school in another state.

School Liaison Officers may also connect homeschool families to local homeschool groups that sometimes share in field trips, PE, parties, curriculum fairs, science fairs, workshops and other educational and social activities.

Child & Youth Services also offer special events/programs for homeschoolers in some locations.

Homeschool families may request special education evaluation and services in the DoDEA schools. Homeschool families also have the option of benefitting from some of the activities or classes within the DoDEA schools. For example, a homeschool student may wish to participate in an extra-curricular activity, take just an art or math course at the school, complete standardized tests, have access to online learning program memberships the school has, take select virtual school classes, or use school textbooks. All these options are open to eligible dependent homeschoolers through the on post schools on a space available basis. Students must have completed registration paperwork with the school and commit to regular participation in any chosen activity to allow for proper planning on the part of the teachers or activity sponsors.

For more information or to access local homeschool groups, contact your [School Liaison Officer](#).

[DoDEA Home School Website](#)

[Homeschool Legal Defense Association](#)



# 10 TIPS for PCSing with special needs kids

The past few months of quarantines and schedule disruptions have been difficult for everyone, but especially for children with special needs. Some have missed needed therapy, had difficulty understanding and adapting to the changes in routine, and experienced behavior changes. If you have an imminent PCS move, following are some tips to help you make your move as smooth as possible. Contact your School Liaison Officer for additional local information and resources.

**1. EFMP:** If you are active duty be sure you are enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program. (See next page for more information)

**2. Preparing your Child:** If your child doesn't adapt well to change, have a talk about your plans as soon as possible. Don't drop everything in one discussion, bit by bit provide information. Talk about the new location positively. Give your child time to digest the news and start to come to terms with the upcoming changes.

**3. Planning :** Waiting until the last moment to gather information, documents, advice, etc. isn't a good idea. Meet with your child's teacher or case study team to discuss goals and requirements for your child. Contact your SLO to help you identify the POC for special education at your new school. If possible, set up a time for a "warm handoff" teleconference between the two teams of educators prior to school starting. You may need to have registration complete for this.

**4. Gathering Documents:** Be sure to HAND CARRY all documents. An **up-to-date** IEP is vital. Your new school will have to honor the IEP upon arrival. If the IEP is expired the entire process will have to begin again! The school will likely do a re-evaluation within the first month or so. Having copies of previous evaluations will be extremely helpful if there is a divergence of opinion. The Special Care Organizational Record ([SCORE](#)) may help you keep all your information in one place.

**5. Furniture Pick up Day:** If appropriate, allow your child to select some of the items that will go with him/her. Provide bright stickers in one color to put on all the boxes in your child's room, so when items are delivered you know right away which items go in his/her room. This will allow you to get your child's items out and set up quickly making him feel more at home in your new quarters.

**6. Childcare:** If your child won't do well with the confusion that a moving day brings, consider utilizing hourly care if available or have one parent deal with the move and the other or a friend spend time with the child. You can have your child registered in CYS Services and eligible for hourly care before you arrive! Contact your local [CYS Parent Central Office](#) for details. Or go to [MWR Online Services](#). Depending upon availability, you will also be able to access youth sports, lessons, and activities through CYS Services. The sooner your child is involved in something they love the easier the transition will be. Your SLO can update you on what is status is in your community. [Inclusion support in CYS](#)

**7. Diet:** Often when we are busy with moving and in and out of hotels we don't exactly have stellar diets. The increase in fats, salts, and sugars may impact your child's behavior. Be cognizant of how your child reacts to food and make choices accordingly. Have a few items handy in a bag for those times that you aren't presented with a good choice for a peckish child. If your child has specific dietary needs, allow ample time to find what you need in your new community.

**8. Patience:** Allow yourself and your child a bit of slack. People don't like change, and as a result of all the turmoil a move brings tempers may flare or standards may need to be relaxed a bit. It's ok.

**9 Make connections:** Wrightslaw's [Yellow Pages for Kids](#) can connect you to a host of groups and agencies to support you and your child in stateside locations. Check with your post Army Community Services & SLO OCONUS. If your child is in grade 6 or up a youth sponsor can be helpful. Army Europe Youth sponsors are trained in 100% acceptance of all students and may be a nice door to meeting other students at school for the more typically shy child. Request a youth sponsor.

**10. Attitude!** Children often get their cues from adults. If you approach every PCS as an adventure you will provide your child with a feeling of safety. "If mom and dad are cool with it maybe it's not so horrible" But if mom and dad are panicking and acting like the world is ending when things don't go according to plan..... Guess who else is more likely to feel that way? Show some POSITITUDE! It will make for an easier PCS and a happier child.



[www.yellowpagesforkids.com](http://www.yellowpagesforkids.com)



## Helpful links:

- ◆ [Exceptional Family Member Program](#)
- ◆ [Army Med. Com. EFMP](#)
- ◆ [Parent Rights IDEA](#)
- ◆ [EDIS](#)
- ◆ [DoDEA Parent Handbook](#)
- ◆ [Special Needs Toolkit](#)
- ◆ [Respite Care](#)
- ◆ [Glossary](#)
- ◆ [Resolving Disputes](#)
- ◆ [STOMP](#)
- ◆ [Wrightslaw](#)
- ◆ [Special Care Organizational Record](#)
- ◆ [Military One Source](#)



- ◆ [DIRECT STEP codes for free classes](#)

# Exceptional Family Member Program

When you transfer to a new duty station, everyone in your family has to make adjustments. When someone in the family needs special educational or medical services, there are often added challenges. Learning as much as you can about resources available to assist you with the move can get you started on the right foot toward a successful move.

## What is the Exceptional Family Member Program?

The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) is designed to provide support to military families with special needs. The EFMP is a multidisciplinary assignment tool that interfaces with other military and civilian agencies to provide comprehensive and coordinated medical, educational, community and personnel support to military families with special needs. Enrollment in the EFMP ensures consideration of the needs of family members in the detailing process.

## Who is eligible for the EFM Program?

Family members of active duty personnel or reservists called to active duty who meet the following criteria:

- Is enrolled in DEERS
- Has been diagnosed with a chronic medical, mental health or educational condition (including gifted students) for six months or longer that requires special services
- Resides with the active duty sponsor.

## Must I enroll my family member with special needs in EFMP?

Yes, If someone in your family qualifies for the program enrollment is MANDATORY! Active duty service members will be screened for suitability prior to approval for accompanied travel. If the accompanying exceptional family member is enrolled in the EFMP, their needs will be considered early in the assignment process to ensure that medical and educational services are available. If their needs are only identified during the mandatory screening process, often the assignment will be delayed while their needs are coordinated with the gaining location.

Whether transferring within the U.S. or overseas, researching the availability of services for the exceptional family member may seem like an insurmountable task. However, information is available through your installation Military Treatment Facility (MTF), EFMP Coordinator, and School Liaison Officer (SLO) or from a variety of on-line sources. ( See links column on left)



Learning Knows No Bounds



# School Transition Check List Europe **INBOUND**



| DOCUMENTS YOU MAY NEED   | TO DO LIST  |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate / Passport  | <input type="checkbox"/> Notify your current school registrar and child's teacher of upcoming PCS. (Minimum 2 weeks prior)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immunization Record   | <input type="checkbox"/> Complete withdrawal paperwork with current school.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Records/ Sports Physical   | <input type="checkbox"/> Request copy of current official records/transcripts and hand carry.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal documents (i.e. custody papers)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Contact your current <a href="#">School Liaison Officer (SLO)</a> for information & assistance with this transition & make contact with an <a href="#">Army Europe SLO</a> at your new location.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor's Orders ( OR Verification of Employment Letter, Contract, or Personnel Action  | <input type="checkbox"/> If possible identify the school where your child will attend. In some locations there are multiple elementary/middle schools so you may have to wait until you know where you will live. Your <a href="#">SLO</a> can provide zoning information.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Command Sponsorship  | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Register online</a> prior to arrival. You can register all your children with this one process. You don't need to know which exact school your child will attend to do this. You will need to visit the school upon arrival to finalize any details. For more information and eligibility details go to <a href="http://www.dodea.edu/registration-process">www.dodea.edu/registration-process</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Transcripts/Cumulative Folder to hand carry   | <input type="checkbox"/> Request appointment with new school's guidance counselor. (Especially important for HS and special needs students) <a href="#">Find schools here.</a>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Schedule if still in school   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up for before/after school care, youth sports, & other activities through CYS. You can have registration transferred to new post! See <a href="#">Parent Central Services</a> for details!  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Report Card   | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask school for work your child can do during move if missing school.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawal Grades / Progress Reports  | <input type="checkbox"/> Return any equipment, texts, or library books to school.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test Scores & Formal assessments  | <input type="checkbox"/> Close out your current school meal account. You will set up a New meal account with the <a href="#">Exchange</a> upon arrival. You can <a href="#">apply for free/reduced</a> meal online once you register for school..   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Up to date Individualized Education Plan (IEP), 504 Plan, IFSP, ESL records as applicable   | <input type="checkbox"/> If due items such as yearbooks, you may need to leave postage for S/H.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HS Teachers' letters of recommendation (college application)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask the <a href="#">SLO</a> about extra curricular and sports try-out information.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JROTC or other activity records   | <input type="checkbox"/> Request a <a href="#">youth sponsor</a> online   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing assignment letter, off post lease agreement or lodging receipt to determine school zone. (Be aware that if attending school when in lodging/ hotel, you attend the school zoned for the hotel. )If you have a lease and plan to move out of the hotel soon, often you can register where you new home is zoned prior to arrival there, but typically must provide own transportation. Ask the SLO for more information. | <input type="checkbox"/> Log onto <a href="#">Military Kids Connect</a> for tips on how to make this transition easier.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contact information for your current/previous school  | <input type="checkbox"/> Find out how the <a href="#">Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children</a> can help if need be!  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> .Contact information for two local "emergency contacts." You may need to identify someone in your new command to be emergency contacts until you make new local friends to list.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Get PCS to Europe quick start tips at <a href="https://europe.armymwr.com/sponsorship">https://europe.armymwr.com/sponsorship</a>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free or reduced meal status documentation. (if applicable) Your eligibility can travel with you during current school year. OR you can just <a href="#">re-apply online</a> once you are registered here. Housing allowance is not included in total income overseas so you may qualify in Europe, when you didn't in the USA   |   |





# School Transition Check List Europe **OUTBOUND**



| DOCUMENTS YOU MAY NEED   | TO DO LIST   |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate / Passport  | <input type="checkbox"/> Notify your current school registrar and child's teacher of upcoming PCS. (Minimum 2 weeks prior)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immunization Record   | <input type="checkbox"/> Complete withdrawal paperwork with current school.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Records/ Sports Physical   | <input type="checkbox"/> Request copy of current official records/transcripts and hand carry.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal documents (i.e. custody papers)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Contact your <b>School Liaison Officer (SLO)</b> for information and assistance with this transition and to put you in contact with a SLO at your new location.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor's Orders ( OR Verification of Employment Letter, Contract, or Personnel Action  | <input type="checkbox"/> If possible identify the school where your child will attend. In some locations there are multiple schools so you may have to wait until you know where you will live. Your <b>SLO</b> can provide zoning information.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Command Sponsorship  | <input type="checkbox"/> Research schools in your new location. Ask new <b>SLO</b> for local info.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Transcripts/Cumulative Folder to hand carry   | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="http://GreatSchools.org">GreatSchools.org</a><br><a href="#">Public School Review</a><br><a href="#">Neighborhood Scout</a><br><a href="#">Private School Review</a><br><a href="#">Homeschool Legal Defense Association</a><br><a href="#">National Center for Educational Statistics</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Schedule if still in school   | <input type="checkbox"/> Request appointment with new school's guidance counselor. (Especially important for HS and special needs students)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Report Card   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up for before/after school care, youth sports, & other activities through CYS. You can have registration transferred to new post! See <b>MWR Online</b> for details!   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawal Grades / Progress Reports  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask school for work your child can do during move if missing school.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test Scores & Formal assessments  | <input type="checkbox"/> Return any equipment, texts, or library books to school.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Up to date Individualized Education Plan (IEP), 504 Plan, IFSP, ESL records as applicable   | <input type="checkbox"/> Review the calendar of new school   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HS Teachers' letters of recommendation (college application)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Close out your current school lunch account..   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JROTC or other activity records   | <input type="checkbox"/> If due items such as yearbooks, you may need to leave postage for S/H.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing assignment letter, off post lease agreement or lodging receipt to determine school zone. (Be aware that if attending school when in a hotel, you attend the school zoned for the hotel. )   | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask the <b>SLO</b> about extra curricular and sports try-out information.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contact information for your current/previous school  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask your <b>SLO</b> for youth sponsor in your new location.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> .Contact information for two local "emergency contacts." You may need to identify someone in your new command to be emergency contacts until you make new local friends to list.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Log onto <a href="#">Military Kids Connect</a> for tips on how to make this transition easier.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free or reduced meal status documentation. (if applicable) Your eligibility can travel with you during current school year. Housing allowance is not included in total income overseas so you may qualify in Europe, when you wouldn't in the USA. Eligibility is good for the entire school year not matter where you are. Bring your documentation! | <input type="checkbox"/> Find out how the <a href="#">Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children</a> can help if need be!   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Get PCS to Europe quick start tips at <a href="https://europe.armymwr.com/sponsorship">https://europe.armymwr.com/sponsorship</a>   |



Overseas assignments can sometimes make it hard to find a tutor for your child. Luckily there is a FREE option for you! Tutor.com provides live one to one REAL HUMAN BEING online tutoring for students Kindergarten through college level in any subject! Help is available 24 /7!

If your child is eligible to use the DoDEA schools, they are eligible to use this service. (They need not be enrolled: i.e. homeschoolers, NDSP are also eligible.) Due to COVID19, access eligibility was recently expanded to a wider demographic on a temporary basis. To check your eligibility and to set up your account go to [www.tutor.com/military/eligibility](http://www.tutor.com/military/eligibility)



**WHEREVER your PCS move takes you, KNOW YOUR SLO! It will make for a smoother transition!**



If you have trouble finding your SLO, contact the [IMCOM Europe School Liaison Officer](#)  
[Email](#)