

Military Dependent Child Identifier

Maine was one of the first of the now 50 member states to enact the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. We have a very active State Council and Maine is nationally recognized as being a leader in the support of the children of those serving in the military.

In order to support those children, we need to know who they are and where they attend school. In June 2013, the Department agreed to place a question on Infinite Campus and ask school units to conduct an annual survey for reporting on each October upload.

It was determined that to make this as efficient as possible, all school units would include a military-dependent identifier question in the “Welcome Back” packages that all Pre-K-12 students bring home on the first day of school. This question should not be reworded:

Are one or both of this student’s parents in the uniformed service of the United States (including members of the National Guard and Reserve), or, within one year of medical discharge or retirement from active-duty uniformed services? Parents are not required to provide this information.

This information and request was published in the June 2013 and May 2014 Commissioner’s Update, emailed to all superintendents individually in July 2014, and was posted on the I.C. message center. On the October 2014 enrollment upload, only 66 of roughly 200 school units provided data.

School units that use other data management systems (PowerSchool, SchoolMaster, etc.) are not exempt from collecting and reporting. Those units still have Infinite Campus State Edition available, and the reporting is expected from all units.

Please forward this information to any unit personnel as necessary. If you have any questions about conducting the survey, contact Randy Kassa (624-6776). If you want more information about the Interstate Compact or the Maine State Council, visit the Department website and click on “Military Families” in the A-Z Index. Technical questions on data entry or uploading should be directed to the MEDMS Helpdesk (624-6896).