

School Liaison Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I contact the Los Angeles Air Force Base School Liaison Officer

Phone Number 315-653-8631 or 653-5262

Building Fort MacArthur Bldg 410, Suite 4, Monday & Wednesday - Friday

LA AFB Airman & Family Readiness Center, Bldg 272, Tuesday

Email: ida.humphrey@us.af.mil

2. What school choices do I have for my child?

You may send your child to a traditional public school where you live, a public magnet school, a public charter school, a private school or home-school.

3. Is there a law that supports military connected students?

Yes, the Interstate Compact Law for Military Children, Chapter 11. The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children Law removes barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families due to the frequent moves:

- (a) Facilitating the timely enrollment of children not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of educational records from the previous school district or variations in entrance or age requirements.
- (b) Facilitating the pupil placement process through which children of military families are not disadvantaged by variations in attendance requirements, scheduling, sequencing, grading, course content, or assessment.
- (c) Facilitating the qualification and eligibility of children of military families for enrollment, educational programs, and participation in extracurricular academic, athletic, and social activities.
- (d) Facilitating the on-time graduation of children of military families.
- (e) Providing for the promulgation and enforcement of administrative rules implementing the provisions of the compact.
- (f) Providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among member states, schools, and military families pursuant to the compact.
- (g) Promoting coordination between the compact and other compacts affecting military children.
- (h) Promoting flexibility and cooperation between the educational system, parents, and the pupil in order to achieve educational success for the pupil.

For additional information visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/mc/>

4. What private schools are available?

Information on private schools is available on the California Department of Education website. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/si/ps/>. The Private School Directory lists over 3,000 private schools that filed the annual Private School Affidavit and reported enrollments of six or more students. The majority of our students attend schools in Los Angeles County, Orange County, and San Bernardino County.

5. Which schools are the best?

All schools in California area are responsible for California State learning standards. Please review each school's Academic Performance Index (API) and school climate survey at the link below to determine the best match for your child: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/getschoolreport>.

6. How do I know which school my child will go to?

The California Education Code 48200 states that where you live determines where your child attends a traditional public school.

You may request a permit to transfer however permits are not always granted from your home school district. If you live on base housing your home school district is the Los Angeles Unified school district. Please visit their web site to obtain a permit application <https://permits.lausd.net>.

7. What are some of the reasons why parents request a permit to leave their home school district?

For the majority of personnel assigned to military installations in the LA area, the justification for permits has been Parent Employment. Other justifications have been Continuing Enrollment, Senior Status, Sibling Attendance, Specialized Program, Safety & Protection, and Childcare.

8. Once the permit is granted to transfer from the home school to the new school district is enrollment in the school requested automatic?

No, permits are granted and denied on a case by cases bases. You have to complete the desired school district permit application and meet their specific requirement(s). For example, some school districts require student to have a 3.0 GPA, good test scores, and perfect attendance.

9. Who do I appeal to if my permit is denied?

You have the right to appeal to the home school district. LAUSD is the home school district for base housing.

You have the right to appeal the LAUSD decision to the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) within 30 calendar days of the date of the appeal denial or failure of the LAUSD to issue a permit. The LACOE inter-district permit appeal packet is available online at <http://www.lacoe.edu/orgs/157/index.cfm>

10. We just moved from a temporary house to a permanent house. Can my student stay in the same school until the end of the year?

Residency determines where a student goes to school. In most cases, if you move from a temporary situation to a permanent situation, your child will have to change schools. Some moves do not require the student to change schools if they are within the same boundary as the school.

11. I want to home-school my child(ren), what do I need to do?

To learn what options your local schools offer, start by asking the public school district in which you live what programs allow schooling at home. A more detailed discussion of the various educational options available is located in the CDE *Fact Book 2009* (pages 94-99) on the CDE Fact Book Web page <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ps/rq/psfaq.asp#D>.

Also, check with the Youth Center on Fort MacArthur at 310-653-8383 regarding home school activities.

12. What is needed to register my child?

Birth certificate, immunization records, Social Security card, proof of residency, contact info for last school attended, and custody agreement if applicable. For special needs, a copy of latest IEP and last evaluation.

13. Who offers transportation before- and after-school?

The Youth Center at Fort MacArthur offers transportation to Leland Elementary School, White Point Elementary School, Point Fermin Elementary School, Dana Middle School, and Port of Los Angeles High School.

14. What is a Magnet School? Are All Magnet Schools Gifted in nature?

A Magnet school is a public school operated under a court-ordered or federally approved voluntary desegregation plan. offering a specialized curriculum, to a student body representing a cross section of the community. They attract students of different racial and socioeconomic backgrounds with similar educational interests, provide unique sets of learning opportunities, encourage innovation, and promote academic gains for students. Not all magnet schools are gifted.

15. What is a Charter School?

A Charter School is a public school that may provide instruction in any combination of grades (kindergarten through grade twelve). Parents, teachers, or community members may initiate a charter petition. Charter status frees the school from many of the state statutes and regulations that apply to school districts. It is the intent of the California Legislature under state law that charter schools operate independently from the existing school district structure as a method to accomplish all of the following:

- Improve pupil learning.
- Increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for pupils who are identified as academically low achieving.
- Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods.
- Create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the schoolsite.
- Provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system.

- Hold the schools established under this part accountable for meeting measurable pupil outcomes, and provide the schools with a method to change from rule-based to performance-based accountability systems.
- Provide vigorous competition within the public school system to stimulate continual improvements in all public schools