



Military Impacted Schools Association
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FISCAL YEAR 2010 SUPPORT FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

The education of a military child is a military readiness issue. Men and women serving our country rely on local school districts to provide quality education and counseling programs in a safe and secure environment for their children. In addition to the continuing war on terrorism, Global Re-basing implementation is returning over 70,000 military families to installations in the United States at the same time that the Army is increasing its end strength and is moving over one-third of its soldiers within the United States through their modularization plan. These actions are placing an immediate stress on school districts serving high concentrations of military families.

Background Information

The DoD Impact Aid Funding for military children began in 1990 to help school districts with high concentrations of military students.

- In order to qualify, a school district must have an enrollment of at least 20% military children
- 120 School Districts qualify for the program
- Public schools serve over 500,000 military children in the United States
- 50% of today's military leaders are former military dependents; this funding is an investment in our future military
- Good schools support readiness, recruitment, and retention programs in an all-volunteer service
- Schools are a key component in quality of life programs for military families
- Funding enables schools to meet the needs of military children and their parents facing the stress of deployment.

Global Re-basing, BRAC and force structure growth continue to have a significant impact on military installations and the school districts that serve them in the United States. Global Re-basing is expected to bring home 60,000-70,000 uniformed personnel.

- DoD estimates that over 45,000 military students will return to the United States; the DoD funding, however, will not follow them
- Public schools operate for two years without funding from Impact Aid due to delays in payments
- There are many immediate facility needs in communities which need to be addressed to deal with deteriorating facilities and federal code requirements

Recommendation

- Authorize and appropriate \$60 million in DoD Operation and Maintenance Funds to support children of military families stationed in heavily impacted school districts