
EDUCATION INFORMATION HANDBOOK FOR MILITARY CONNECTED FAMILIES



EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA



SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER

(850) 882-7237

AIRMAN & FAMILY SERVICES FLIGHT

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EGLIN AFB, FLORIDA 32542-4021



WELCOME to Eglin Air Force Base, located on Florida's Gulf Coast and home to the most beautiful beaches in the world. As the School Liaison Officer, I am here to help with the educational concerns of your school-age children. Eglin AFB is located in Okaloosa County, and our local school district is the Okaloosa County School District. Surrounding counties are Santa Rosa and Walton County. We have an excellent relationship with the local school districts, surrounding school districts and their communities.

The School Liaison Officer is the point of contact between the military installation, school administration, parents and the community as a whole. Primary responsibilities include advising the military command on all matters concerning student education and school operations, fostering a responsive and cooperative relationship between local school districts and the military community, and assisting military families with education matters that are unique to the military lifestyle such as school transitions, frequent moves, deployment, and education inconsistencies that exist from state-to-state.

The goal of the School Liaison Officer is to empower parents to be their child's best advocate in the education process and to help parents navigate the school system and "level the playing field" for military families by ensuring that military children are given the opportunities to achieve their highest potential at any assigned location.

The commitment of Eglin AFB to the community and to school-age education is very strong, and we ask for your help in expanding this relationship. We encourage you to take an active role in volunteering at the schools your children attend. Parental involvement is key to a positive school experience.

Again, welcome to Eglin AFB, Florida and if you have any questions regarding the educational concerns of your school-age children, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jodie Parker
School Liaison Officer
Eglin AFB, Florida
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There is an **Elementary School** located on Eglin Air Force Base, EGLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. If you live on Eglin AFB, Eglin Elementary is your zoned school. If you work on Eglin AFB, you can request a waiver to allow your child to attend Eglin Elementary.

The benefits of your child attending Eglin Elementary are many; to include having your child close by during your work day thus allowing you to be more involved in your child's education and after school activities. The Eglin Before And After School Program and Child Development Centers are located next to Eglin Elementary and bus transportation is provided to these locations through the before and after school programs.

EGLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Safe learning environment; Highly qualified teachers and staff; Involved and supportive PTO; FCAT scores exceed district and state averages; A+ School seven consecutive Years; Golden School State Award for Volunteer hours (12 years)

CURRICULUM

A balanced curriculum that includes math, reading, writing, arts, science, technology, health and social studies; Physical Education; Music Education; Library/media center support; Curriculum enriched field trips; Hands-On Science Lab

SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Speech Teacher; Gifted Teacher; Occupational Therapist; Physical Therapist; School Psychologist; Specific Learning Disabilities Teacher; Pre-K Disabilities Classes; Project Child Program; Mentor Program; Accelerated Math & Reading Programs; Early Release Days are Professional; Training Days for Teachers and Staff; 3B's. Positive Behavior Support Program designed to teach respect, responsibility, and safety at school; Waterford Computer Program; After School Intensive Remediation

EGLIN AFB BEFORE-AND-AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Before-and-After School Program and Summer Day Camp provide recreational/leisure skill programs-dramatic arts, sewing, cooking, jewelry making, sports and video games; academic assistance, computers, books & research materials, and mentors. Their mission is to provide growth and development of school-age children through their out-of-school experiences. They provide a safe, supervised, healthy and age appropriate environment, thus enabling the Eglin community to accomplish their mission. The 36,000 square foot, world-class School Age facility was built adjacent to the Youth Center and includes 21 state-of-the-art classrooms. In addition, there is a stage area and section designed for indoor physical activity, as well as enclosed outdoor play areas. The Before-and-After School staff strives to help your children build a strong self-concept; develop self-reliance; and develop an increased curiosity for learning. This program runs before and after school and provides full day care during the summer.

CHECKLIST FOR TRANSFERRING STUDENTS

From the Parent/Guardian

1. Students Birth Certificate
2. Students Health Record (immunizations, etc..)
3. Legal Documents (as needed)
4. Proof of Residency/Military Orders
5. Current Schedule
6. Withdrawal Grades

Departing School Information

1. Address, Phone Numbers and other contact information
2. Course Description Book/Grading Scale (if available for 6th grade and above)

School Records

1. Copy of Cumulative Folder (only the copy mailed between schools is considered official)
2. Current Schedule
3. Report Cards
4. Withdrawal Grades or Progress Reports
5. Test Scores (Standardized or Special Program Testing, ect)

Special Program Records (as appropriate)

1. Individual Education Plan (IEP)/Individual Accommodation Plan (504)/Gifted Program Description
2. English as a Second Language (ESL) or Bilingual Education
3. At-Risk or Other Action Plans for Classroom Accommodations

Other Documents and Examples

1. Writing Samples and Other Work Examples
2. Activities Records (co/extracurricular)
3. Community Service or Service Learning
4. Other Work or Performance Examples
5. Academic Recognitions and Competition Participation

CHECKLIST FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Special Education

Special Education is referred to as Exceptional Student Education (ESE) in Florida. When you move to a new school system with an Individual Education Plan (IEP), the new school must provide comparable special education services until the current IEP is adopted or a new one is written. In order to expedite services, you may want to contact and fax your child's IEP to the respective District ESE coordinator. Keep in mind, the Local Education Agency (LEA) may require additional paperwork specific to that district.

Be Sure to Hand Carry the Following:

1. Birth Certificate
2. Social Security Number
3. Child's Military ID Card
4. Immunization Records
5. Report Cards
6. Copy of School Transcript
7. IEPs
8. Any assessments or evaluations
9. At-Risk or Other Action Plans for classroom Accommodations
10. English as a Second Language (ESL) or Bilingual Education
11. Section 504 Plan

If you would like to find information on the Public Schools ESE programs in the surrounding areas of Eglin, check out the following websites:

Okaloosa County - [*Okaloosa County School District ESE*](#)

Santa Rosa County - [*Santa Rosa County School District ESE*](#)

Walton County - [*Walton County School District ESE*](#)

The [*McKay Scholarship*](#) is Florida's school choice programs. This ensures that no child will be left behind by allowing parents to choose the best educational setting—public or private—for their child. A parent of a special needs student who is dissatisfied with the student's current school may choose to transfer the student to another public school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

The EFMP Coordinator - Michelle Dent, [*michelle.dent@eglin.af.mil*](mailto:michelle.dent@eglin.af.mil) or the School Liaison Officer - Jodie Parker, [*jodie.parker@eglin.af.mil*](mailto:jodie.parker@eglin.af.mil)

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

CLASS OF 2011

4 ENGLISH

4 MATH (Algebra I or its equivalent)

3 SCIENCE (2 with Lab Component)

3 SOCIAL STUDIES (World History, US History, Econ/Gov)

½ PE AND ½ PERSONAL FITNESS = 1 HOPE credit

1 FINE ARTS

12 ELECTIVES (4 in a major area of interest)

28 TOTAL CREDITS

2.0 GPA and passing score on FCAT Reading and Math

[Florida's Guide to Public High School Graduation 2010-11](#)

FEDERAL IMPACT AID

Many local school districts across the United States include within their boundaries, parcels of land that are owned by the Federal Government. These school districts face special challenges: They must provide a quality education to the children and meet the requirements of the ESEA while sometimes operating with less local revenue than is available to other school districts because the Federal property is exempt from local property taxes. Impact aid was designed to assist these local school districts that have lost property tax revenue or that have experienced increased expenditures due to the enrollment of federally connected children, including military children.

Impact Aid, among the largest programs under the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, is a federal formula grant program designed to relieve the financial burden placed on resources of local education agencies in educating significant numbers of federally connected students – those who reside on military bases, low-rent housing properties, Indian lands or other federal properties, and/or have parents in the uniformed services or employed on eligible federal properties.

For schools that qualify, funds from the Impact Aid program are sent directly to the school district. Funds are generally placed into a school district's general fund to pay for the purchase of textbooks, computers, maintenance, and to offset the cost of staff salaries.

Please ensure you fill out the Federal Impact Aid card that your school sends home to you in the Oct timeframe. It is imperative that this form be filled out correctly and returned to your child's school in a timely manner so these funds can be allocated to your child's school district.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Public Schools

If you would like to find information on the schools in the surrounding areas of Eglin and Hurlburt, the following websites will take you to information on all the public schools in the area.

Okaloosa County - www.okaloosaschools.com

Santa Rosa County - www.santarosa.k12.fl.us/

Walton County - www.walton.k12.fl.us/

Florida Virtual School - <http://www.flvs.net/Pages/default.aspx>

Home Schooling

If you are interested in home schooling in FL, there are some items of extreme importance. Please check out the following website for more information - www.homeschool.com or

<http://www.okaloosaschools.com/OkaloosaSchools/SchoolDistrict/HomeSchooling/tabid/427/Default.aspx>

Private Schools

If you are interested in putting your child in a private school, check out the private schools in the area at the below link - www.privateschoolreview.com

FL School Immunizations - <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Family/school/>

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children

Removes barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families.

<http://www.nsba.org/MainMenu/Advocacy/FederalLaws/MilitaryCompact.aspx>

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

A United States federal law that governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention, special education, and related services to children with disabilities. It addresses the educational needs of children with disabilities from ages birth to 26 in cases that involve 13 specific categories of disability - <http://www.help4adhd.org/education/rights/idea>

Section 504

A civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities. Section 504 ensures that the child with a disability has equal access to an education. The child may receive accommodations and modifications.

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/factsheets/504.pdf>

American Disabilities Act (ADA) - www.ada.gov

Florida Department of Education - www.fldoe.org

Military Student - www.militarystudent.org

Raising Special Kids - www.raisingpecialkids.org

Student Online Achievement Resource (SOAR) - www.soarathome.org

Military Teens on the Move - www.dod.mil/mtom

Military Child Education Coalition - www.militarychild.org

Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA) - www.militarystudent.org

Military One Source - www.militaryonesource.com