



Are You A Military Family Relocating To Virginia With A Child Who Has A Disability?

CHECK OUT THESE HELPFUL HINTS AND RESOURCES

- ✓ **Early Intervention (EI)** programs in Virginia are administered by local agencies (primarily community services boards). **At age 2** you can decide whether to keep your child in EI until they turn 3 or transition them to early childhood special education services through the school division. Visit the [Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia](#) for additional information.
- ✓ Check out the **different schools in the locality** to which you are moving. Programs may differ. You can **register your child** remotely or in person even if you do not yet have the required residency documentation. In Virginia, some schools are designated as [Purple Star Schools](#) as recognition for their excellence in supporting military-connected children and their families.
- ✓ Review the Virginia Department of Education [Parent's Guide to Special Education](#). Your child is entitled to **all the rights and protections** under special education law and regulations as any other student in Virginia. This includes important consent rights.
- ✓ Remember that your child is entitled to **comparable, but not necessarily identical** services from their previous IEP. The school division can adopt the current IEP or conduct evaluations and develop a new IEP.
- ✓ If your child is 14 or older, they must have a **transition plan** as part of their IEP even if they did not have one in the former school division.
- ✓ If your child is a **senior when you transfer**, there are policies in place that will allow them to obtain a diploma from the former school division if they can not meet the requirements in the new school division. Visit the [Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission \(MIC3\)](#) to become familiar with that and other military-connected student protections.

OTHER SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

- ✓ If your child has **Medicaid**, you will need to reapply for benefits in Virginia at your [Local Department of Social Services](#). If they currently have a **Medicaid Waiver**, before arriving in Virginia contact your new locality's [Community Services Board \(CSB\)](#) to determine the next steps for eligibility.
- ✓ **If your child is 14 or older** reach out to the Virginia vocational rehabilitation agency, the [Department for Aging and Rehabilitation Services](#) for disability employment services while they are in school or when they exit school.
- ✓ Contact **parent support groups or advocacy organizations** in the area you will be moving to. They may be able to help with recommendations regarding school programs, medical providers, recreational programs, respite services, and more.



RESOURCES

State Agencies

- [Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitation Services](#)
- [Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired](#)
- [Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#)
- [Virginia Department of Education](#)
 - [Special Education](#)
 - [Parent Resource Centers](#)
 - [Parent Ombudsman for Special Education](#)
 - [State Special Education Advisory Committee \(SSEAC\)](#)
- [Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services](#)
- [Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services](#)
 - [DMAS - Cardinal Care Medicaid Program-Home and Community-Based Waivers](#)
- [Virginia Department of Social Services](#)
- [Virginia Office for Children's Services](#)

Disability Advocacy and Parent/Professional, Advocacy Organizations

- [disAbility Law Center of Virginia](#)
- [Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center \(PEATC\)](#)
- [The Arc of Virginia](#)
- [VCU - Center for Family Involvement \(CFI\)](#)

Documents and Websites

- [Arc of Virginia Introduction to Medicaid Waivers](#)
- [PEATC Digital Portfolio for Military Families](#)
- [Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia](#)
- [TTAC Online](#)
- [VDOE Guidance for Military Families with Students in Special Education](#)
- [Virginia Public School Listing by Division](#)
- [VDOE Family Engagement Network - Things to Know When Transferring to Virginia for Military Families](#)
- [VDOE Family Engagement Network - Military Families of Exceptional Family Members Birth to 5 Years: Things to Know When Moving to Virginia](#)

