
SENATE COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Senator Bob Archuleta, Chair

2025 - 2026 Regular

Bill No:	AB 2467	Hearing Date:	6/22/26
Author:	Committee on Education		
Version:	6/8/26		
Urgency:	Yes	Fiscal:	Yes
Consultant:	Diego Nelson		

Subject: Teacher credentialing: professional preparation: pupil enrollment: military dependents

DESCRIPTION

Summary:

Expands residency options for active-duty military families enrolling children in California schools and updates teacher credentialing rules to allow certain candidates to enter preparation programs after applying for a certificate of clearance, while still requiring clearance before student teaching, clinical practice, or field experience.

Existing law:

1. Defines a “child of a military family” as a school-aged child, enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12, who lives in the household of an active-duty service member. (EC § 49701)
2. Provides that a pupil satisfies school district residency requirements if the pupil’s parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation in California while on active military duty pursuant to official military orders. (EC § 48204.3(b))
3. Requires the parent of a military-connected pupil using this residency provision to provide proof of residence in the school district within 10 days after the published arrival date listed on official documentation. (EC § 48204.3(d)(1))
4. Authorizes an active-duty military parent to use certain addresses for school application, enrollment, and registration, including a temporary on-base billeting facility, a purchased or leased home or apartment, or federal government or public-private venture off-base military housing. (EC § 48204.3(d)(2))
5. Requires school districts to accept electronic applications for enrollment, including enrollment in a specific school or program and course registration, for eligible military-connected pupils. (EC § 48204.3(c))
6. Ratifies the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, which is intended to reduce educational barriers faced by children of military families due to frequent moves and parental deployment. The Compact addresses issues such as timely enrollment, transfer of records, placement, eligibility for school programs, and on-time graduation. (EC §§ 49700–49703; EC § 49701)
7. Requires a receiving state under the Compact to make reasonable accommodations and modifications for incoming military-connected students with disabilities, subject to an existing Section 504 or Title II plan, while preserving the receiving school’s ability to conduct later evaluations to ensure appropriate placement. (EC § 49701, Art. V(C))

8. Requires, when official education records cannot be released to parents for transfer, that the sending school provide a complete set of unofficial records and that the receiving school enroll and appropriately place the student based on those unofficial records pending validation by official records. (EC § 49701, Art. IV(A))
9. Prohibits a school district of residence from blocking the transfer of a student who is the child of an active-duty military parent to another school district if the receiving district approves the transfer. (EC § 46600(e)(1))
10. Requires local educational agencies to accept full or partial credit for coursework satisfactorily completed by a pupil who is a child of a military family while attending another public school. (EC § 51225.2(b))
11. Prohibits a local educational agency from requiring a pupil who is a child of a military family to retake a course if the pupil satisfactorily completed the entire course at another school. (EC § 51225.2(d))
12. Allows a pupil who is a child of a military family to remain in the pupil's school of origin despite a change in residence during the school year and to matriculate with peers under established feeder patterns. (EC § 48204.6)
13. Requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials. (EC § 44225(d))
14. Requires, as a minimum requirement for a preliminary multiple subject, single subject, or education specialist teaching credential, satisfactory completion of a professional preparation program. (EC § 44259(b)(3))
15. Authorizes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue a PK-3 early childhood education specialist instruction credential. (EC §§ 44225(b), 44225(e), 44256(c); 5 CCR § 80067)
16. Requires a candidate for a credential to obtain a certificate of clearance from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing before admission to student teaching under a professional preparation program or participation in a field experience program. (EC § 44320(d))

This bill:

1. Expands the addresses an active-duty military parent may use for purposes of establishing residency for school application, enrollment, and registration to include:
 - A temporary on-base billeting facility or off-base hotel
 - A purchased or leased home or apartment
 - Federal government or public-private venture on-base or off-base military housing and other temporary housing.
2. Clarifies that a parent may provide proof of residence using the documents accepted under existing school residency law, including property tax payment records, rental property contracts or payment receipts, utility service contracts or statements, pay stubs, voter registration, correspondence from a government agency, or a declaration of residency.
3. Requires a candidate, before admission to a professional preparation program approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing for a multiple subject credential, single subject credential, PK-3 early childhood education specialist instruction credential, or education specialist credential, to verify that the candidate either:
 - Holds a valid permit or credential previously issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing
 - Has applied for a certificate of clearance from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

4. Requires a candidate who has applied for, but not yet obtained, a certificate of clearance to obtain the certificate before beginning student teaching, clinical practice, or participation in a field experience program.
5. Requires professional preparation programs approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing for the specified credentials to submit candidate profile information to the Commission within 30 days of the candidate beginning the program.
6. Requires the candidate profile information to include, but not be limited to, the candidate's credential program, type of credential being sought, and preparation pathway, including residency, student teaching, internship, or another preparation pathway determined by the Commission.
7. Requires professional preparation programs to update each candidate's profile information annually to indicate continued enrollment in, or departure from, the program.
8. Requires professional preparation programs to indicate to the Commission when a candidate completes all credential requirements, within 30 days of completion.
9. Provides that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement shall be provided pursuant to existing statutory procedures.
10. Declares the bill an urgency statute necessary to ensure the timely enrollment of pupils whose enrollment changes because of a parent's or guardian's military service.

BACKGROUND

California has a significant active-duty military presence and a large number of military-connected students. As of March 2026, nearly 164,000 active-duty military personnel were assigned for duty in California, the highest number in the nation. As of August 2024, there were 53,607 military-connected students of active-duty parents in California. These students are affiliated with 30 military installations throughout the state, with the largest concentration in San Diego County.

Children in military families often face frequent school transitions. Military children may move multiple times during a school career, and approximately one-third of military-connected children are in transition each year. Frequent moves can create challenges with enrollment, course placement, records transfer, graduation requirements, access to services, and continuity in school programs.

California enacted advance enrollment protections in 2016 to allow military families to enroll their children in a school district before entering the state when the parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation. This policy helps reduce delays in school attendance when military families relocate to California. However, after nearly a decade of implementation, families and school districts have identified practical barriers, including questions about acceptable temporary addresses, documentation, and the accessibility of enrollment information.

Recent research on advance enrollment policies, including a 2024 report to Congress and the states and a 2023 Clearinghouse Supplemental Data Report, identified several barriers for military-connected students. These include inconsistent implementation across states and districts, limited awareness among military families and school personnel, difficulty accessing information, address-related requirements when a family has not yet secured permanent housing, technology-related challenges, and school- or district-specific practices. These issues can create confusion for families during an already compressed relocation period. The 2024 report noted that states with advance enrollment policies can improve implementation by clarifying remote

enrollment, allowing military orders or other transfer documents to temporarily satisfy residency requirements, and ensuring the policies apply to military-connected students with special education needs.

California ratified the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children in 2009. The Compact is intended to ensure that children of military families are not penalized or delayed in achieving their educational goals because of frequent moves or parental deployment. It addresses timely enrollment, transfer of school records, placement, eligibility for school programs, and graduation. A prior California Department of Education review found that the Compact has substantially helped both school districts and military families, but also found variations across districts and recommended broader efforts to ensure consistent familiarity with the Compact's provisions among school personnel and military families.

This bill clarifies and expands school residency rules for military families by allowing families to use off-base hotels, on-base or off-base military housing, and other temporary housing tied to a military move. These changes reflect the reality that military families may not have permanent housing immediately upon transfer and may rely on temporary lodging while completing relocation.

The bill also addresses teacher credentialing and candidate tracking. A certificate of clearance is issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing after a candidate completes the fingerprint, character, and identification process and the Commission determines the candidate meets professional fitness standards. The certificate does not authorize the holder to provide instruction or services in schools; rather, it verifies that the holder has completed the professional fitness review.

Candidates who receive a certificate of clearance are also issued a Statewide Educator Identifier, a unique non-personally identifiable number used for education reporting. Requiring teacher candidates to obtain a certificate of clearance before student teaching, clinical practice, or field experience helps ensure that candidates working directly with students have completed the background clearance process. It also allows the Commission to track candidates more accurately as they move through preparation programs.

Recent state investments in teacher preparation make this tracking more important. The 2025 Budget Act provided \$300 million in one-time funding for the Student Teacher Stipend Program, which will provide \$10,000 grants to teacher candidates completing required student teaching hours beginning in the 2026-27 school year and continuing through the 2028-29 school year. Candidate data will help the Commission implement the stipend program, identify eligible candidates, and evaluate the impact of investments in the teacher pipeline.

COMMENT

According to the author: "AB 2467 addresses challenges in enrolling children of military families in school, strengthening local implementation of Advance Enrollment by making technical changes to existing law, and removing barriers and clarifying requirements for school districts. It reinforces California's commitment to being a welcoming state for military families and ensures a stable educational environment for their children."

This bill addresses two distinct but practical issues in education law. For military families, it clarifies school enrollment rules so that families relocating under military orders can establish

residency using realistic temporary housing options. For teacher candidates, it adjusts the timing of the certificate of clearance process so candidates may enter certain preparation programs after applying for a certificate of clearance, but must obtain the clearance before beginning direct field work with students.

Military families frequently relocate on tight timelines and may arrive in California before securing permanent housing. Current law already allows advance enrollment for pupils whose parent is transferred or pending transfer to a California military installation. However, families may initially stay in an off-base hotel or other temporary housing that is not clearly listed under existing law. By expanding the types of acceptable addresses, this bill helps ensure that school enrollment is not delayed simply because a family is still completing the housing portion of a military move. This is consistent with the state's existing policy of reducing school transition barriers for military-connected students.

The bill also clarifies that families may provide proof of residence using documents already accepted under existing school residency law, such as rental agreements, utility statements, pay stubs, government correspondence, or a declaration of residency. This may help reduce inconsistent interpretation among districts and provide clearer guidance to school staff and relocating families.

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children is intended to remove educational barriers caused by frequent moves and deployments, including barriers related to timely enrollment, records transfer, placement, eligibility, and graduation. Although California's participation in the Compact has helped military families and school districts, but inconsistent implementation and lack of awareness are continuing present challenges for transferring service members. AB 2467 provides additional clarity in state law and may help promote more consistent application of advance enrollment rules.

Current law requires teacher candidates to obtain a certificate of clearance before entering student teaching or field experience. This bill allows a candidate to begin a specified professional preparation program after verifying that the candidate has either already received a valid Commission-issued permit or credential, or has applied for a certificate of clearance. The bill does not allow a candidate without a valid permit or credential to begin student teaching, clinical practice, or field experience before obtaining the certificate of clearance. This preserves the requirement that candidates complete the professional fitness review before working directly with students in those settings.

The bill requires professional preparation programs to submit candidate profile information to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing within 30 days of a candidate beginning the program, update that information annually, and notify the Commission when the candidate completes all credential requirements. This reporting may improve statewide data on teacher candidates, preparation pathways, enrollment, completion, and attrition. It may also help the state administer and evaluate recent investments in teacher preparation, including the Student Teacher Stipend Program.

The bill contains an urgency clause to ensure that the military pupil enrollment provisions take effect in time to support families whose school enrollment changes because of a parent's or guardian's military service.

Prior Legislation

SB 455 (Newman), Chapter 239, Statutes of 2017, clarified that dependents of active-duty military personnel satisfy school residency requirements when a parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation in California.

AB 343 (Saldaña), Chapter 237, Statutes of 2009, enacted the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children to address school transition issues for children of military families.

AB 2102 (Saldaña), Chapter 608, Statutes of 2006, established procedures to help facilitate the transfer of military dependents and their school records, including requiring CDE to coordinate with DOD and school districts enrolling military dependents.

POSITIONS

Sponsor: Author.

Support: American Legion, Department of California
AMVETS, Department of California
California State Commanders Veterans Council
California State PTA
Military Officers Association of America, California Council of Chapters
Military Services in California
Office of the Assistant Secretary of War
San Bernardino County District Advocates for Better Schools
Vietnam Veterans of America, California State Council

Oppose: None received.

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