



Purple Star School Designation Rules

The Montana Office of Public Instruction and the Montana Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission is accepting Purple Star School Designation applications for Round 1 from August 1, 2020 to October 31, 2020. Award recipients will be announced on November 30, 2020.

The Purple Star School Designation for military-friendly schools recognizes schools that show a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military. Schools that earn the award will receive a special Purple Star recognition to display onsite.

A school will be honored with the Purple Star School Designation if it completes all the *required* activities, plus one optional activity, listed below. The Purple Star Advisory Board, formed by the Montana Office of Public Instruction, Superintendents, Military Representatives, and Montana Legislators helps decide a school's eligibility for the award.

REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

School Liaison

- The school must have a point of contact for military students and families who serves as the primary liaison between them and the school.
- The liaison completes professional development on special considerations for military students and families. The **Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission** has training available online or in person which may be used to complete this requirement. Access this free training by emailing mic3info@csg.org or calling 859-244-8000. The Military Child Education Coalition has training programs available at <https://www.militarychild.org/>.
- The liaison identifies and informs teachers of the military-connected students in their classrooms and the special considerations military families and students should receive.

Military Support Resources

- The school maintains a dedicated page on its website or in the school newsletter featuring resources for military families.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- The school provides professional development for additional staff on special considerations for military students and families.
- The local school board passes a resolution publicizing the school's support for military children and families.
- The school hosts a military recognition event that demonstrates a military-friendly culture.
- Other activities approved by the Montana Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

