

# Case Study #1

## Commissioned Personnel

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Family of a Major General, United States Air Force; stationed in Virginia

Due to multiple reassignments for our family, my son attended ten different schools prior to graduating from high school. Though he was certified as academically advanced by previous school systems, he was denied advanced placement in one school system solely because he was not in that system for the required period of time. He was denied advanced placement in another system due to its different qualifying criteria as compared to previous jurisdictions. For one four year period during which we were reassigned each year, my son was required to read Romeo and Juliet for each of those four years despite having done so in each preceding state. He was denied the opportunity to participate in sports on more than one occasion because we were reassigned after team tryouts and he was told he was too late. Finally, we had to take the drastic measure of placing him in a private school after one reassignment because, in order for him to graduate on time from his assigned public school, he would have been required to stay in school for an extra year since the new school system refused to accept all of his credits that he had completed in the previous jurisdiction.

My daughter, currently a high school freshman, has attended seven different schools. She had an IEP (Special Education: Individual Education Plan) from one state that was not continued in the next state because her success out-scored their expectation of what her aptitude score indicated she could achieve. In our current state of residence, she is required to pass six course competency tests, even though she took some of those courses in a different state. Furthermore, the preparatory curriculum for these tests is different than in the last jurisdiction so her burden has been needlessly increased. What is most problematic is that, in order for her to graduate high school on time, she must pass an exit exam which is designed for students who have been in this particular state system for twelve years. For that reason, and because previously earned credits have not been accepted by the present jurisdiction, she must take summer school courses every summer for the next three years.

## Case Study #2

### Enlisted Personnel

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Family of a Technical Sergeant, United States Air Force; stationed in Florida

My daughter is 10 years old and is in the 5th grade. Our family moved to Patrick AFB, Florida from Kirtland AFB in New Mexico last May on military orders. My husband is in the Air Force. We enrolled my daughter in elementary school in Florida during the summer and her new school requested her school records in August from her previous school in New Mexico. By the middle of October, the records had not yet been sent to the new school. After repeated written requests, phone calls and emails from Florida school officials and myself to her previous school in New Mexico, some of her records arrived in late October. However, her complete record did not arrive until November 19<sup>th</sup>.

When her records finally arrived, the school transferred her to the fifth grade QUEST class which is an advanced placement class for students who are gifted and talented. This is where she should have been placed at the beginning of the semester. However, due to the inexplicable delay in transferring her records, her new school placed her in a less challenging learning environment. Therefore, she spent almost a whole semester in an inappropriate classroom setting. The effects of this delay, which may seem to be of little consequence to adults, have been severe and profound for my 10 year old. She was miserable in school for months, forced to study material she had already mastered. She was bored and restless, and she sometimes got into trouble as a result. She is also not where she should be academically and has some catching up to do.

Despite this setback, now that she is in the proper class, she is back to being my happy, well behaved student. However, had legislation such as the proposed compact been in place in time for my daughter, we could have avoided this situation entirely.