

Case Resolution Process

This document describes the case resolution process relating to Special Education cases received by Commissioners of the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)

The MIC3 is an [interstate compact](#) that supports *successful educational transitions* for military-connected students. Interstate Compacts are essentially contractual agreements between states, written into statute, that allow governments to work collaboratively when addressing issues or concerns across boundaries. Compacts are an effective mechanism for states to utilize and solve problems, often avoiding federal intervention. The MIC3 is not exhaustive in its coverage, developed through a partnership between the Council of State Governments and the Department of Defense, it does address the key issues encountered by military families: eligibility, enrollment, placement, and graduation.

While the MIC3 allows states to collaborate, problem solve, and provide consistency certain education related areas, such as Special Education (SPED), are guided by federal law that mandates what states must do to meet the needs of students with disabilities. The [Individuals with Disabilities Act \(IDEA\)](#) leaves room for states to interpret the rules and pass their own laws on how to apply them. However, state laws cannot contradict IDEA, and states cannot provide less than the federal law requires. [IDEA Sec. 300.508 Due process complaint](#) outlines how individuals or agencies may notify IDEA if a violation of the federal law is believed to have occurred. The *Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children* adheres to and does not supersede the federal IDEA. Each state's SPED laws, policies, regulations, and processes are under the jurisdiction of the federal IDEA.

The case resolution process outlined within this document allows Compact Commissioners to work within the confines of IDEA and their state Department of Education to assist military-connected families when issues related to Special Education occur.

