

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. *If I lived off base, how can I find out which school my child will attend and how can I research local schools?*

- ❖ Children are assigned to the district in which they live, making it important to research schools before making a housing decision. Within a 100 mile radius of Edwards AFB, there are over 12 school districts in the Antelope Valley. The Muroc Joint Unified School District is the District which oversees the schools on base. Each School District has a webpage where parents can research test scores, school safety, teacher-pupil ratio, and boundary maps posted on their web pages. The School Liaison Officer has information about the local schools and maps of the different districts which shows their boundaries. **(please see the Edwards SLO web page provided above for the web links to these districts)**

2. *Can I choose which school district my child will attend?*

- ❖ Yes, you have some choice about which school your child attends within California's public school system. California schools are required to accept transfer requests from within the same school district and permitted to accept request from another. You first must contact your local school district (once you choose where you will be living) to obtain this transfer request form if you intend for your child to attend the schools on Edwards AFB.

3. *At what age can my child start school in California?*

- ❖ Students must turn 5 years of age by the 2nd of December in order to start kindergarten.

4. *What information will I need to enroll my child in school?*

- ❖ Original copy of the birth certificate
- ❖ Information on last school attended, official withdrawal from last school and academic records
- ❖ Proof of residence (water bill, lease or purchase agreement, housing office letter)
- ❖ Custody or guardianship papers and/or any other court documents
- ❖ Proof of immunizations (health record)
- ❖ For Special Needs transfers: copy of IEP, Gifted Program Description, and any other pertinent forms

5. *What are the course requirements for High School graduation?*

- ❖ To receive a high school diploma, students must fulfill state and district graduation requirements. State-mandated graduation course requirements (minimum) follow:
 - Three years of English
 - Two years of Mathematics (including Algebra 1)

- Three years of social science (including U.S. history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; one semester of American government; and one semester of economics)
- Two years of science (including biology and physical science)
- Two years of physical education
- One year of foreign language or visual and performing arts

Students who successfully complete Algebra I in middle school must still complete a minimum of two years of mathematics in high school. Recognizing that these 13 years of preparation are state minimum requirements, local school boards often set local graduation requirements that exceed the state-mandated requirements. Students must pass the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) to receive a high school diploma. Please refer to the Testing section for information on this requirement and two methods of earning a high school diploma or its equivalent: the California High School Proficiency Examination and the General Education Diploma. **(Please see your school administration or the SLO for additional information)**

6. *If my child is only going to attend local and/or on-base schools for just a few years, how can I ensure that my child is prepared to transfer to another state school with higher standards or overseas DoDEA school?*

- ❖ With the help of the school counselors and the School Liaison Officer, we can work with each youth to ensure that we adequately map out an academic plan. There are many websites that can help parents and students plan or chart out an academic course of action.

7. *Where can I find information on the process for transitioning a special needs child?*

- ❖ Contact the school to make an appointment for registration. Let the school know that your child has an active Individual Education Plan (IEP) and/or and Individual Accommodation Plan (504) Gifted Program Description, English as a Second Language (ESL) or Bilingual Education, At-Risk or other action plans for classroom modifications.
- ❖ Take a copy of your child's IEP and Psycho-educational Report to the school prior to your scheduled appointment.
- ❖ Take the following with you to your registration appointment: birth certificate or passport, Immunization record, withdrawal sheet from previous school, unofficial transcript (high school only), last grade report, proof of current residency, name/address/telephone number of previous school.
- ❖ If you have any questions prior to arrival, please check the school site or the Special Education Office or contact the Base School Liaison Officer for assistance.

8. *What are the state requirements and procedures for home schooling my child?*

- ❖ There are three different home schooling options that are acceptable in California. First you could qualify your home school as a private school. Utilizing a private tutor is another viable option. You could also enroll your home school in a private school satellite program. Your child would then be considered being involved in an independent study program. Finally, you could involve your child in an independent study program through your local public school. This form of at home schooling is officially still considered a public school option.

❖ There is an active Antelope Valley and Edwards AFB home schooling network of families which the SLO can provide more information to join up with them.

❖ Home Schooling websites:

- K-12 Home Schooling: www.k12.com
- California Department of Education: www.cde.ca.gov
- HomeSchool Association of California: www.hsc.org
- Kaplan Online Schools: www.kaplanonlineschools.com
- The Khan Academy: www.khanacademy.org
- Online Tutoring: www.tutor.com
- K-12 Online Learning: www.inacol.org/research/promisingpractices/docs/NACOL_PP-ParentsGuide-Ir.pdf

9. *What schooling choices are available for my child?*

❖ Depending on where you are interested in living, there are many public, private, charter schools that are available to families. Please see your base school liaison officer for additional assistance.

10. *What are the requirements for enrollment in the Youth Programs Before-and-After School Care?*

❖ For On-Base Before/After School Age Care:

- ❖ Parents must meet program eligibility requirements per DoDI 6060.3 which includes active duty military personnel, DoD civilian personnel paid from either appropriated funds (APF) or non-appropriated funds (NAF), reservists on active duty or during inactive duty training, and DoD Contractors. (Priority is given per HQ AFMC Master Labor Agreement – please see the youth program for the priority enrollment policy)
- ❖ Check us out: <http://www.95fs.com/wordpress/youth-programs>

