

Resources for Highly Mobile Students

Explore the resources available to support students and families in transition.

Military

Military Child Education Coalition's (MCEC) Student 2 Student (S2S)

The [Military Child Education Coalition's \(MCEC\) Student 2 Student \(S2S\) program](#) trains civilian and military-connected high school students to establish and sustain peer-based programs in their schools to support mobile children as they transition to and from the school. Built upon the foundation of the high school program, the **Junior Student 2 Student (JS2S)** focuses on transition challenges faced by junior high and middle school students. Recently, MCEC has created a similar program for elementary ages, **Elementary Student 2 Student (ES2S)** to help with the assimilation and socioemotional challenges faced when a younger student transitions. (MCEC, 2018, Student)

Military and Family Life Counseling

The [Military and Family Life Counseling Program](#) supports service members and their families and survivors with nonmedical counseling worldwide. Trained to work with the military community, military and family life counselors deliver valuable face-to-face counseling services, briefings, and presentations to the military community both on and off the installation. (Military OneSource, 2018)

School Liaison Officers (SLO)

[School Liaison Officers \(SLO\)](#) serve as the primary point of contact for school-related matters. They represent, inform, and assist military commanders. They also assist military families with school issues and coordinate with local school systems. These positions are distinct in each branch of service and may provide different services based on location and availability. (DoDEA, 2018)

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Corporate/International

International Family Transitions (IFT)

[International Family Transitions \(IFT\)](#) is a comprehensive service that specializes in helping students who have been living outside their passport countries (third-culture kids) successfully manage their transition to college, whether they are returning to their home country or going on to another host country. They also help foreign nationals who plan to study in the United States, whether for some or all of their high school and college years. IFT also provides resources to those who support third-culture kids and other international students on the receiving end. (IFT, 2018)

Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FYSF)

The [Foreign Service Youth Foundation \(FSYF\)](#) was established in 1989 and is the only nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to the support of children of employees of the US Foreign Affairs Agencies. Through publications, outreach, workshops, and regular family events, FSYF helps young people adapt to their changing environments as they transition between posts worldwide. FSYF strives to help Foreign Service youth embrace the adventure by encouraging resilience, fostering camaraderie, and celebrating achievements. (FSYF, 2014)

Migrant/Seasonal Farm Workers

US Department of Education

The [US Department of Education](#), through the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, hosts programs to support the children of migrant workers through various phases of their academic careers. Additionally, grants are available for entities that support early childhood development, literacy, and creating equal opportunities for children of migrant workers. (Dept. of Ed, 2012)

High School Equivalency Program

The [High School Equivalency Program \(HEP\)](#) assists migrant and seasonal farm workers and their children who are 16 years of age or older to obtain a General Education Development (GED) certificate (or the equivalent to a high school diploma) and subsequently to gain employment in a career position or the military or entry into postsecondary education. Since most HEP programs are located at institutions of higher education (IHEs), migrant and seasonal farm workers also have opportunities to attend cultural events, academic programs, and other educational and cultural activities usually not available to them. (Dept. of Ed, 2018)

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Resources for Migrant Education

The Texas Education Agency [Resources for Migrant Education page](#) provides links for resources related to service delivery, needs assessment, and other state migrant projects.

Homelessness

In 2016, there were an estimated 1.4 million homeless students enrolled in public schools. That impacted over 17,000 local education agencies (LEAs). The chance that a counselor will interact with a family who is homeless is high. There are resources available to support the basic and socioemotional needs of the student.

Ending Youth Homelessness

[Ending Youth Homelessness](#) is a series of three guidebooks designed for leadership and stakeholders in the Continuum of Care (CoC) program to use as a direct, hands-on action plan in efforts to prevent and end youth homelessness. Their directive is to ensure that an effective and efficient system of care is in place for all persons and households experiencing homelessness. The guidebooks include suggested strategies, identification of promising practices, and considerations for CoC programs and their partners that can be implemented immediately. (Dept. of Housing, n.d.)

Project Hope – Virginia

[Project HOPE – Virginia](#) ensures the enrollment, attendance, and the school success of children and youth experiencing homelessness through public awareness efforts across the commonwealth and subgrants to local school divisions. School divisions develop customized programs to meet the needs of homeless children and youth in their area. Project HOPE – Virginia funds activities throughout the school year, including early childhood education, mentoring, tutoring, parent education, summer enrichment programs, and domestic violence prevention programs. In addition, emergency services, referrals for health services, transportation, school supplies, and costs related to obtaining school records may be provided through the local Homeless Education Program. (William & Mary School of Education, 2018)

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Incarceration

Approximately 10 million children have experienced parental incarceration at some point in their lives. This startling statistic creates the need for counselors and advisers to be prepared to assist the student who may experience multiple moves and transitions.

Packet for Parents Facing Incarceration

The [National Center for Homeless Education](#) provides a sample packet, in the Sample Forms, Materials, and Policies section, from Adrian Public Schools in Adrian, MI. The packet provides information to assist parents facing incarceration with making appropriate arrangements for their children. It includes a checklist of tasks for parents facing incarceration, a list of frequently asked questions, a blank power of attorney form, a sample completed power of attorney form, and a flyer about the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education program. (NCHE, 2018)

Annie E. Casey Foundation

The [Annie E. Casey Foundation](#) produced a report called “A Shared Sentence: The Devastating Toll of Parental Incarceration on Kids, Families, and Communities,” to help community members, clinicians, and educators understand the impact of parental incarceration on children. (AECF, 2016)

Divorce

Studies indicate that children from divorced families score significantly lower on a variety of outcomes: academic achievement, conduct, psychological adjustment, and well-being. (Connolly & Green, n.d.)

Children of Divorce Intervention Program (CODIP)

[Children of Divorce Intervention Program \(CODIP\)](#) is an evidence-based prevention program specifically designed to help children cope with challenging family changes. Since its inception in 1982, CODIP has helped thousands of children in countries around the world, including the United States, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. This program trains educators, counselors, and service providers on ways to mitigate the impact of divorce on the socioemotional, academic, and behavioral development of students in grades K–8. (Children’s Institute, 2016)

American School Counselor Association

The [American School Counselor Association](#) has developed a framework for evidence-based, consistent counseling competencies that can support children struggling with a broad range of challenges caused by divorce. Reactions to divorce can vary among students depending on their age, stage of development, and environment. (ASCA, n.d.)

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Foster Care

Studies show that 70 percent of foster youth desire to attend college. According to Casey Family Programs, estimates suggest that only 7–13% of students from foster care enroll in higher education. Further analysis shows that only about 2% of youth from foster care obtain their bachelor's degrees.

Alabama REACH

The University of Alabama's [REACH program](#) has a mission to empower current and former foster youth, orphans, emancipated minors, wards of the state, and homeless youth in a supportive environment that allows students the freedom to pursue higher education and successfully matriculate and graduate from college. They produced a Prospective Student Guidebook to assist prospective students in getting organized and preparing to enter college. (University of Alabama, 2018)

Foster Care to Success

[Foster Care to Success](#) is an organization that was founded to help foster children as they transition to college and adulthood. This organization serves as a hub for various state-specific resources available to practitioners. (Foster Care to Success, 2018)
