



## MCEC Professional Development Offerings

MCEC believes it is important for professionals to know how to identify and respond to the complex needs of military-connected children. Across disciplines such as education, healthcare, childcare, and business, MCEC trains professionals to address the unique challenges facing our military-connected children.

### Academic Overview

MCEC is investing in professionals worldwide for the benefit of all military-connected children; we work to provide training and education to enhance current capabilities, competency, and effectiveness. Our courses are rigorous, engaging, and challenge professionals to not only better understand the complexity of military-connected students' lives, their families, and the implications of military service, but also gain the tools needed to support them. Our curriculum is anchored in research and includes application components that maximize the utility of concepts learned.

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### Gone is Gone: Supporting Military-Connected Children During Parental Absence

Every military family will experience times when the Service Member will be away. Strong communication and a web of support comprised of other caring adults is essential to help children adapt and tackle the multitude of challenges that can occur when a parent is gone. This session will provide professional strategies to help military-connected students navigate parental absence.

### Military-Connected Youth in Caregiver Roles

Children who are serving in caregiver roles for Service Members are a unique set of military-connected students. We need to change our perception from children of caregivers to children as caregivers. This session discusses the academic and social-emotional challenges these students face and how youth-serving professionals can identify and support them.

### Responding to Military Children with Exceptional Needs

An individualized approach to education is critically important for all students with exceptional needs and an even greater need for military-connected students. This dynamic course takes a balanced and informative approach to enrich professionals by learning the challenges unique to military-connected students with exceptional needs, common pitfalls encountered when transitioning a student with special needs, and the power of collaborative teamwork.

### Serving Military-Connected Students

In this course participants learn how to identify military-connected students and strategies to address the unique challenges associated with the military lifestyle. Educators will be equipped with resources to facilitate family integration into the school community to best serve the children of those who serve us all.

MCEC offers Continuing Education Units. MCEC has been approved by the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC).

## **Social and Emotional Learning and the Military Child**

Understand how social and emotional development programs positively impact academic achievement and learn unique ways to integrate Social and Emotional Learning into your professional practice. Explore the benefits of interrelated cognitive, affective, and behavioral competencies such as self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. See why all children can benefit from comprehensive social/emotional programming – especially military-connected students!

## **Supporting Military Children Through School Transitions: Foundations**

This course seeks to help youth-serving professionals define and understand the complexity of military-connected students' lives, their families, and the implications of military service. Learn to analyze current practices for successfully supporting military-connected students and the importance of supportive schools and partnerships.

## **Supporting Military Children Through School Transitions: Social/Emotional**

Focusing on the dynamics and implications of transition, specifically in the core areas of academics, relationships, and prosocial behavior, this course takes a closer look at the impact of transitions on a military-connected child. Learn support strategies and solutions to mitigate the impact and develop practical methods and solutions to ease the challenges associated with constant change.

## **Supporting Military-Connected Students During Deployments**

When a parent deploys or is activated for service it will impact their children. Educators may recognize changes in student achievement, behavior or overall wellbeing in the classroom during the various phases of the deployment cycle. This course will highlight strategies on how education professionals can best support students when a Service Member is away from home. Participants will not only gain a better understanding of what military-connected families experience during separations but also explore ways to foster a supportive school environment and be equipped with tools to help students thrive in these circumstances.

## **Supporting Veterans' Children Through Transitions™**

In this course, participants will explore the unique academic and social-emotional challenges children often face when their parents transition from military to civilian life. Participants will discover new resources and integrate positive strategies to successfully support Veterans' children through these unfamiliar transitions.

## **The Journey from “Welcome Home” to Now: Reunion, Reconnecting, Routine™**

This course is designed to teach professionals who support military-connected children and youth the challenges and joys that children face during a time of reintegration following a family member's return after an extended absence. Participants will learn strategies to help students adjust during the reunion, and during the journey of reconnecting and reestablishing family routine.

## **We Serve Too – National Guard and Reserve Children™**

Identify the social, emotional, and academic impact for children of National Guard and Reserve service members and discover resources to help alleviate their often misunderstood and overlooked challenges. Learn to identify the unique challenges associated with their parent's service and understand the academic impact for these part-military, part-civilian children and youth.

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