

## MCEC COVID-19 Resources for PARENTS Special Needs/Exceptional Learner Resources

[Autism Partnership](#) Illinois Autism Partnership offers a toolkit with visual supports for children with autism to use during the COVID-19 school closures.

[Connecting with Other Families](#) The Understood Community offers a secure place where you can share your experiences and concerns and get tips and advice. You'll also find the emotional support of people who understand.

[Exceptional Family Member Program](#) The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) provides a comprehensive, coordinated, multi-service approach for medical, educational, community support, housing and personnel services to families with special needs. Also check out EFMP Assignments on Facebook.

[Guidance, Tips and Resources](#) Understood.org offers a wealth of resources, information and guidance for families, including latest updates on COVID-19. All resources are also available in Spanish.

[Kids and Anxiety with Dr. Flake](#) Childhood anxiety and pervasive depression in youth are concerns for educators and parents alike. In this webinar recording that took place at the MCEC National Training Seminar in Washington D.C., Dr. Eric Flake, Program Director, Department of Defense (DoD) Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Fellowship, Joint Base Lewis McChord, shared diagnostic and treatment information, along with the beginnings of Information Guides that can be shared among parent, military and educator groups.

[National Center for Learning Disabilities](#) has up to date information on learning during the COVID-19 crisis as well as resources for families and educators.

[Parent Center Hub](#) has comprehensive information and many resources for families. It supports the Parent Centers who serve families of children with disabilities.

[Persistent and Challenging Behaviors](#) This webinar identifies childhood behaviors that are difficult for parents to handle, discusses common triggers, describes appropriate alternative methods or strategies to deal with or prevent persistent and challenging behaviors, and matches specific strategies to address the different age groups.

For More Information: [Parents@MilitaryChild.org](mailto:Parents@MilitaryChild.org)



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[Reading](#) Story Mentors is a digital classroom designed to support struggling readers.

[Reading and Learning](#) Bookshare offers an online library of over 800,000 titles to support reading for students with dyslexia, blindness, cerebral palsy, and other barriers.

[Speech Therapy Activities](#) Twenty strategies for doing 5-minute speech therapy activities at home from a certified speech therapist.

[State Department of Education Contacts](#)

[Supporting Kids with Autism and Other Developmental Challenges](#) Dr. Eric Flake discusses best practices to identify, evaluate and treat children with developmental disabilities/Autism, recognize the type of individualized treatment methods required for a military child with an Autism Spectrum Disorder or developmental disability, and discuss challenges military families who have a child with Autism.

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