

# References for Parents with School Age Children



Schriever School Liaison Program

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**Welcome to Schriever SFB and the Colorado Springs Area—**

**We hope you and your family will enjoy your assignment!**

The School Liaison serves as the installation POC for all local military child education matters. The SLO was established to assist military personnel and/or their families with information and resources intended to ease the transition of dependent children from one duty location to the next and to:

- Advocate for the educational needs of military children and will assist Airmen/Soldiers and families with information and referral regarding local school districts and other educational options including home schooling, private schools, charter schools, and cyber/virtual schools
- Provide information, referral services to families and students enrolled in EFMP (Exceptional Family Member Program)
- Ensure school personnel (classroom teachers, guidance counselors and senior school officials) are aware of the unique issues impacting military children (e.g., deployments, frequent moves, etc)
- Assist personnel and/or families resolve problems that were not solved after using the school chain of command

Note: Colorado is a member of Interstate Compact---recognizes transition and deployment related issues, for more information: <http://www.mic3.net>

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Ellicott School District 22 is the district for families living on Schriever SFB. It is located about seven miles east of Schriever in the rural community of Ellicott, Colorado. The total student population for the district is approximated 1,072 students with 20% being military affiliated. Although the district is small and rural, it boasts of many new enhancements over the past few years. This district prides itself in student achievement, innovative technology and curriculum, college prep, vocational programs, AP/Gifted/Special needs programs, and athletic improvements.

Ellicott's highly qualified staff has been carefully selected and they are considered by the Colorado Department of Education to be highly qualified. The district is committed to academic performance and since 2011 has consistently increased its scores on the standardized state assessment tests.

### **CHOICE STATE**

Colorado is a "Choice State" and families have the option to apply to many quality schools within multiple school districts on a space available basis. Parents are encouraged to research and visit local schools as part of their Colorado School of Choice Application. For more information, visit: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/> To apply for admission to a school other than their neighborhood school, parents complete a Choice Open Enrollment Form and submit the form to the school they wish to have their student attend. Annually, the open enrollment window is November 1st through February 15th for the next school year. Schools may accept applications after the open enrollment period on a space available basis. Approved applications for choice open enrollment are valid up to the duration of the academic level (elementary, middle, or high school). Students must re-apply for choice open enrollment to attend a school other than their designated attendance area school at the next academic level. Generally, district transportation is not provided for students attending a school under choice open enrollment, unless required by law. Transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Carpooling information can be found through the **Mountain Metro Rides' Schoolpool Program** at <https://rp.coloradosprings.gov>.

Students granted open enrollment at the high school level have the same curricular and extracurricular eligibility as all other students attending the school, subject to the rules and regulations of the District, Colorado High School Activities Association and state law. Choice Open Enrollment Forms, District policies, and frequently asked questions about choice open enrollment are available on the Districts websites.

### **NEW STUDENT REGISTRATIONS AND SCHOOL PHYSICAL FORMS**

New student registration for kindergarten through 12th grade takes place at your school. The district websites have information about enrolling your student, and enrollment forms that may be completed online, printed, and taken to the school. You may also access —School Finder at: <http://www.schoolchoiceforkids.org> to determine your neighborhood school, based upon your street address.

Only a parent or guardian may enroll a student in Colorado Springs School Districts. Along with a completed enrollment form for each student, you will need to bring:

1. Verification of child's birth date (birth certificate, passport, or military ID)
2. Immunization records
3. Proof of residency (current utility bill, lease, tax notice showing your name and the property address)
4. If student is not living with both biological parents, a copy of legal paperwork (custody/ guardianship) may be necessary
5. If student has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for special education services, a copy of the current/latest plan
6. Name and address of student's previous school to request academic records

### **SCHOOL/STUDENT REPORT CARDS**

Parents and students may view a school's tests results by visiting the school district, an individual school website or the Colorado State Board of Education: [http://www.cde.state.co.us/index\\_home.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_home.htm).

Parents can compare the results of various schools by using SchoolView:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/Accountability/index.asp>.

### **COLORADO ACADEMIC STANDARDS (CAS)**

The Colorado State Board of Education has adopted new learning standards for K-12 education to include the arts, mathematics, reading, writing, and communicating, social studies, world languages, science, personal finance literacy, comprehensive health and physical education, and STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics). The primary goal is to better prepare Colorado students for success in college and the workforce in a competitive global economy. These common core standards have been adopted by many states. More information about Common Core can be found at:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/ContentAreas/index.asp>.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Colorado's special education law require all schools to ensure that all identified children with disabilities have the right to a free, appropriate public education. Special Education and related services are provided at no cost to identified disabled students.

## SCHRIEVER SFB EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM

Many services are available to personnel who have family members with special needs. Resources and information include special needs books, DVD's and listings of community support agencies in addition to referrals to appropriate on-base EFMP services. Please contact the Schriever Airman & Family Readiness Center for more information: (719) 567-3920.

## HOME SCHOOLING

Home schooling is deregulated in the state of Colorado. Therefore, the parent or guardian is taking on all responsibility for the student's education including but not limited to; the acquisition of books, supplies, tests, and maintaining permanent records.

- Your program shall include no less than 172 days of instruction, averaging four instructional contact hours per day. (22-33-104.5(3)(c), C.R.S.)
- Your program shall include, but is not limited to: communication skills of reading, writing and speaking, mathematics, history, civics, literature, science and regular courses of instruction in the constitution of the United States. (22-33-104.5(3)(d), C.R.S.)

## STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR HOME SCHOOLING

- The parent or guardian must provide written notification explaining the intent to home school his or her child. Notification can be given to any Colorado public school district office.
- This written notification must be given 14 days before the parent or guardian establishes the home school program. (22-33-104.5(3)(e), C.R.S.)
- Please Note: Written notification must be re-submitted to the school district each year. If the written notification is not submitted to the school district the student resides in, the residing school district must be notified as well to avoid truancy action.

## LOCAL HOME SCHOOL RESOURCES

**The Peterson Homeschool Group** is comprised of active, reserve, and retired military members and their families. We are located on Peterson SFB in Colorado Springs. Our goal is to provide a supportive atmosphere for our homeschool families and educational opportunities for our children. We have monthly meetings, field trips, swimming and bowling.

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/petersonhomeschool/info>

**District 11 Home School Opportunities;** Topics for school age children vary and may include art, animation, babysitting, cartooning, summer foods, writing skills, creative drama, detectives and spies, drawing basics, French, German, reading basics, mental math, sculpture, Spanish, tennis and yoga. Opportunities for the arts have expanded to music, ceramics, papermaking, printmaking, watercolor and

hand tinting of photos. The instructors are chosen for their experience and talent. Call 520-2384 for the latest class listings.

**Colorado Springs Homeschool Support Group** P.O. Box 26117, Colorado Springs, CO 80936-6117, 719-598-2636 (computer information line) Free getting-started information packets; local activities, legislative updates, bi-monthly newsletter, field trips and directory available with membership. CSHSG provides monthly newcomer's meetings and seminars.

**Secular Homeschool Support Group** 719-689-3029, <http://www.secularhomeschool.com/content/> Newcomer's meetings, monthly support group, membership is free, monthly meetings and regular field trips and programs for parents and children. This group provides timely communication between members through an on-line discussion list. SHSSG Cooperative Classes two sessions a year.