



Initiative for Military Families

Bringing the Best In Education to Students from Military Families

The MISSION:

The Initiative for Military Families (IMF) is providing consistent, quality math and science education in high schools serving military bases in the United States. The initiative brings college-level coursework to students through the highly-regarded and highly-effective Advanced Placement* (AP) curriculum. Because the AP courses are standard across the country, the IMF provides excellence and continuity for students whenever their families are transferred.

WHO:

The program is being replicated throughout the U.S. by the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI). A non-profit organization, NMSI has been at the forefront of public-private efforts to raise math and science achievement in the U.S. since 2007, when it was created with foundational support from Exxon Mobil Corporation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation. NMSI's partners in the Initiative for Military Families include the Military Child Education Coalition, the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA), the Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA), the Office of Naval Research, the Army Education Outreach Program, and the White House's Joining Forces initiative.

WHEN and WHERE:

The IMF was launched in the 2010-2011 school year in four public high schools: two serving Fort Hood in Texas, and two near Fort Campbell in Kentucky. This fall, the program has been expanded to more than 25 additional high schools serving military students, for a total of 29 schools. Commitments have already been made to boost the number to more than 50 next year.

MULTIPLYING SUCCESS:

Expanding student participation in AP courses through the IMF not only gives students from military families the opportunity to earn college credit for advanced coursework, it also significantly increases their chances of succeeding in college. According to a College Board study, a high school student who achieves a qualifying score in just one AP course is more likely to graduate from college in four years than comparable students. Even students who do not achieve a qualifying score on an AP exam tend to fare better in college, as a result of the exposure to challenge curriculum and rigorous study techniques.



In the last two years, NMSI has doubled the number of students taking and passing AP math, science, and English exams in participating schools, dramatically boosting their chances of being college-ready.



WHY:

Almost two million young people in America have a parent serving in the military today. More than 220,000 of those young people have someone deployed overseas today. The separation, concerns about safety, and frequent transfers can be particularly hard on the children whose parents protect our country.



HOW:

Generous inaugural funding to launch the program was provided by Lockheed Martin Corporation. Major funding to add over 30 additional high schools is being provided by BAE Systems, The Boeing Company, the Department of Defense Education Activity, ExxonMobil, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, Northrop Grumman, the Office of Naval Research, and the Army Education Outreach Program, with additional support from Modern Technology Solutions Inc. and the O'Donnell Foundation.

RESULTS:

The IMF is already producing results - in the first year, the number of students enrolled in AP math, science and English classes in IMF schools increased 64 percent. College Board results for the school year 2010-2011 showed participating schools earned a 45 percent increase in AP exams passed in math, science, and English, which is almost six times the national average.

GOALS:

With additional funding, it is anticipated the Initiative for Military Families can be expanded to 150 public high schools, ensuring that a high percentage of military families will be served.

YOU CAN HELP:

Join us in this national mission! For more information, please visit www.nationalmathandscience.org/initiativemilitaryfamilies



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