



NATIONAL
MILITARY FAMILY
ASSOCIATION

FEDERAL IMPACT AID PROGRAM SUPPORTS MILITARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Fully Fund Department of Education Impact Aid
Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022

*Maintain \$50 Million to Department of Defense Impact Aid Program Funding
and Maintain the Additional \$20 Million for Military Students with Severe Disabilities*

WHAT IS IMPACT AID?

Public school districts serving large numbers of military-connected children rely on annual Impact Aid funding directly from the Department of Education (ED) and the Department of Defense (DoD) to help offset lost property tax revenue due to federal property being located inside the school district. The federal government doesn't pay local property taxes, the major funding source for school districts, so Congress created the Impact Aid program to compensate districts for lost property tax revenue. Local district leaders determine how to spend the funds based on local needs such as instructional materials, staff, transportation, technology, and facility needs.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

COVID-19 impacted all school districts across the country. Schools faced increased costs as they shifted to virtual instruction, while remote learning made it harder for districts to obtain accurate attendance counts. Since Impact Aid funds are allocated in part based on the number of federally connected students per district, inaccurate counts would have had devastating financial effects on Impact Aid funding if Congress had not intervened. We are grateful that the Impact Aid Coronavirus Relief Act became law in December 2020, which allowed school districts the flexibility to use last year's student count for this year's Impact Aid application.

We are also grateful to Congress for authorizing \$50 million for DoD Impact Aid and \$20 million in DoD Impact Aid for schools serving military children with severe disabilities in the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). We request Congress maintain FY 2021 funding in the FY 2022 NDAA. However, ED Impact Aid continues to be underfunded, limiting education supports and services districts can provide to students. School districts do not receive all the funding for which they qualify under the program's formulas. We urge Congress to provide at least a \$2 million increase for Federal Property and a \$100 million increase for Basic Support components under the ED Impact Aid program for FY 2022 Appropriations.

WHO BENEFITS?

All school-aged children attending federally impacted schools benefit from this program. This includes more than 1.6 million military-connected students, approximately 80% of whom attend local public schools in their civilian communities. It is incumbent on DoD and the federal government to ensure schools charged with serving military connected children have the support they need to provide the best possible education.

Our military children are resilient but most schools educating them are at a financial disadvantage. The education of our military children directly affects military force readiness. If students are not receiving the education, services, and resources they need, the military family unit suffers and causes undue stress on the service member.

Continued

WHO SUPPORTS THE IMPACT AID PROGRAM?

There is wide support across Congress, the military, and education community for adequate funding of the Impact Aid program, including, but not limited to:

- » [The Military Coalition](#)
- » [National Association of Federally Impacted Schools](#)
- » [Military Impacted Schools Association](#)
- » [Collaborative for Student Success](#)
- » [Senate Impact Aid Coalition](#)
- » [House Impact Aid Coalition](#)

WHO WE ARE

The [National Military Family Association \(NMFA\)](#) is the leading nonprofit dedicated to serving the families who stand behind the uniform. Since 1969, NMFA has worked to strengthen and protect millions of families through its advocacy and programs. We provide spouse scholarships, camps for military kids, and retreats for families reconnecting after deployment and for the families of the wounded, ill, or injured. NMFA serves the families of the currently serving, retired, wounded or fallen members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, and Commissioned Corps of the USPHS and NOAA.