



# Purple Star Schools Application

Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment, and Educational Policy

The Purple Star Schools Program was established by Education Article §7-129, approved by the Maryland General Assembly in 2022. Along with 37 other states, Maryland joined this nationwide initiative aimed at recognizing and supporting the unique needs of students whose parents or guardians serve in our country's armed forces.

The State Board adopted [COMAR 13A.06.10 Purple Star Schools Program](#) in February 2023. At minimum, schools seeking Purple Star designation must demonstrate that they have 1). **A military liaison** who serves as the point of contact for military-connected students and their families; 2). An easily accessible **resource webpage for military-connected students and their families** containing information that facilitates a smooth transition to the school; 3). **A peer-led transition program** tasked with orienting military-connected students to the school's physical and academic environments; and 4). **Appropriate training for school staff** aimed at fostering an understanding of life as a military-connected student.

## Purple Star Schools Application

The Maryland State Department of Education has released the inaugural [Purple Star Schools Application](#). In addition to assessing the fulfillment of the elements outlined in COMAR 13A.06.10, this competitive application provides the opportunity to detail any measures the school has taken above and beyond the statutory requirements to support military-connected students and their families. Supplemental documentation requested throughout the digital application should be emailed to [DOSS.MSDE@maryland.gov](mailto:DOSS.MSDE@maryland.gov). The application and all related materials are due by **Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**.

## Important Dates and Links

- **Technical Assistance Sessions:** MSDE will hold three technical assistance sessions to assist applicants in understanding the requirements and to provide guidance on compiling a successful application. The dates below contain active links to the respective Google meeting invitations.
  - [Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9-10am](#)
  - [Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> from 10-11am](#)
  - [Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 1-2pm](#)
  - [Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 3-4 pm](#)
- **Office Hours:** MSDE will host office hours for any additional questions applicants may have following the technical assistance sessions.
  - [Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, from 10-11 am](#)
  - [Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 10-11 am](#)
  - [Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10-11 am](#)
- **Application Due Date:**
  - Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>

## Contact Information

**For questions about the Purple Star Schools Program:**  
Mary Gable, Assistant State Superintendent  
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[Mary.gable@maryland.gov](mailto:Mary.gable@maryland.gov)

**For questions about the Purple Star Schools Application:**  
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