



**DoDEA  
Non-DoD Schools Program  
for the Americas**

**U.S. Southern Command  
Security Cooperation  
Office Spouse Conference**

**Miami, FL  
October 24, 2008**



# Non-DoD Schools Program

- Our Mission
- Our Foot Print
- Who is serving you
- Eligibility
- Home-Based Educational Program
- Special Educational Services
- Funding Procedures
- Educational Expenses
- Points of Contact



# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

## **Our Mission**



# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

## **DoDEA Mission**

*To provide an exemplary education that  
inspires and prepares all students for  
success in a dynamic, global environment.*



# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

## **NDSP Americas Mission**

*To provide Educational guidance and Financial assistance to eligible DoD sponsors assigned to foreign locations and to ensure that Educational assistance will support the transition of students to public schools in the United States.*



# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

## **Our Foot Print**





# Non-DoD Schools Program

## Our Foot Print

- Operational support is provided through three regional offices:
  - DoDDS-Europe (Europe, Africa, Asia-to the border of Pakistan and India)
  - DoDDS-Pacific (Pacific, Asia, Australia, All Island Countries in the Pacific and Indian Oceans)
  - DDESS-Americas (North, South and Central Americas)

Argentina	Guatemala
Bahamas	Guyana
Barbados	Haiti
Belize	Honduras
Bolivia	Jamaica
Brazil	Nicaragua
Chile	Panama
Colombia	Paraguay
Costa Rica	Peru
Dominican Republic	Suriname
Ecuador	Trinidad
El Salvador	Uruguay
	Venezuela



# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

**Who is serving you**

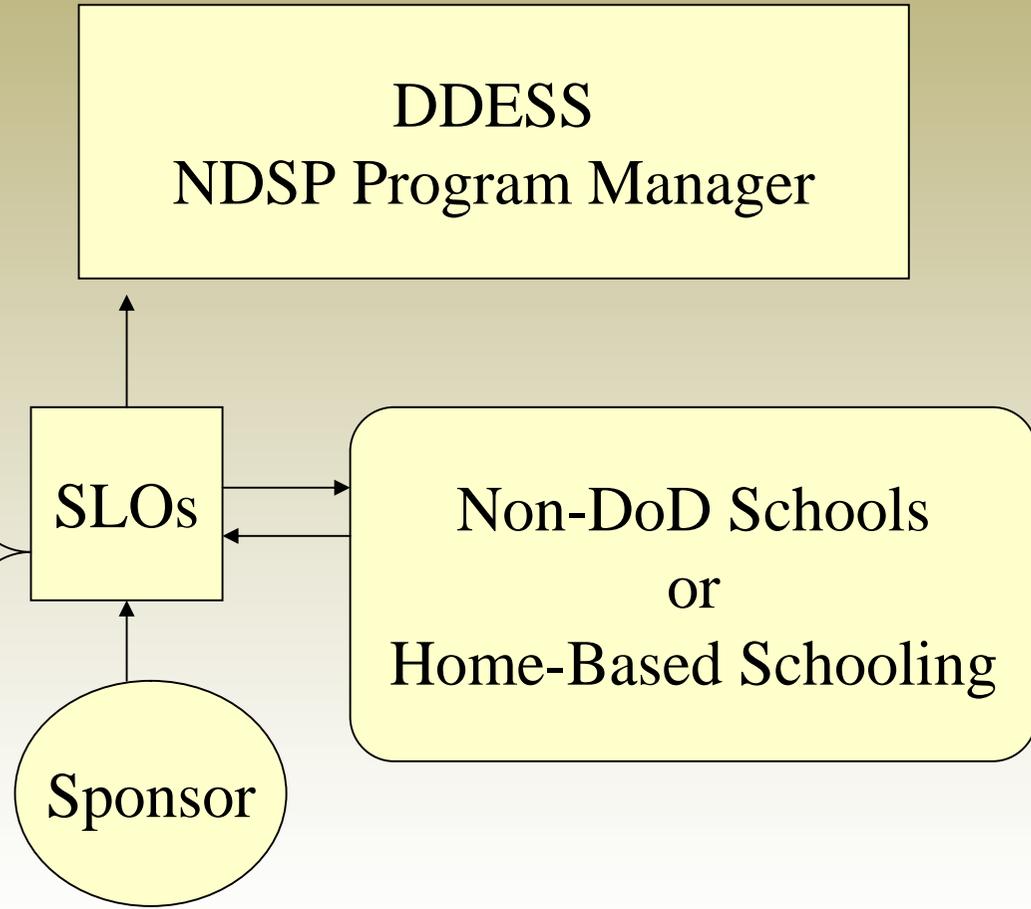


# Non-DoD Schools Program

Who is serving you.

## School Liaison Officers:

- Cornerstone to program
- Review and validate applications/documentation
- Track status of incoming/outgoing students
- Assist in rectifying payment anomalies or enrollment issues





# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

## **Eligibility**



# Non-DoD Schools Program Eligibility

- 20 USC Chapter 25A  
“Overseas Defense Dependents’  
Education”
- DoD Directive 1342.13,  
“Eligibility Requirements for  
Education of Minor Dependents in  
Overseas Areas,” September 20,  
2006
- Department of State  
Standardized Regulation (DSSR)
- DoDEA Regulation 1035.1,  
“Use of Non-DoD Schools,” August  
14, 2003



# Non-DoD Schools Program Eligibility

- DoDEA 1035.1 E2.15 “Sponsor” –
  - A qualified DoD sponsor, eligible for space-required, tuition-free enrollment of eligible dependents in a DoD school
  - is a military service member serving on active duty and stationed overseas on Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders;
  - or a civilian employee of the DoD who is employed on a full-time basis, stationed overseas, is either a citizen or a national of the US, and who is authorized to transport dependents to or from an overseas area at government expense and is provided an allowance for living quarters in that area..



# Non-DoD Schools Program Eligibility

- DoDEA 1035.1 E2.6 “Dependent”  
E2.6.1 – Who is the child, stepchild, adopted child, or ward of a DoD Sponsor, and is eligible for other command sponsorship services (e.g., hospital, commissary, postal service privileges, installation access: and  
  
E2.6.2 Has not completed secondary school and who will reach his or her 5<sup>th</sup> but not 21<sup>st</sup> birthday by October 31 of the current school year: or  
  
E2.6.3 – has disabilities, and is between 3 and 5 years of age by October 31 of the current school year may be enrolled in a DoD or no-DoD educational program until the age of 22.



# Non-DoD Schools Program Eligibility

## Current Entrance Age Policy:

- Northern Hemisphere School Year  
(August – June):
  - An eligible DoD dependent must reach his/her **fifth** birthday by **October 31st** of the current school year to enter Kindergarten
- Southern Hemisphere School Year  
(March - December):
  - An eligible DoD dependent must reach his/her **fifth** birthday by **March 31st** of the current school year to enter Kindergarten



Entrance age will change effective School Year 2009-2010



[http://www.dodea.edu/back\\_to\\_school/kindergarten.cfm](http://www.dodea.edu/back_to_school/kindergarten.cfm)

## Entrance Age Change for School Year 2009-2010

- The cut off date for minimum age requirements for kindergarten entry will be:
  - o Northern Hemisphere School Year (Aug-Jun) **five** years old (Kindergarten), **six** years old (First Grade) on or before **September 1<sup>st</sup>** of the enrolling school year.
  - o Southern Hemisphere School Year (Jan-Dec) **five** years old (Kindergarten), **six** years old (First Grade) on or before **February 1<sup>st</sup>** of the enrolling school year.





# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

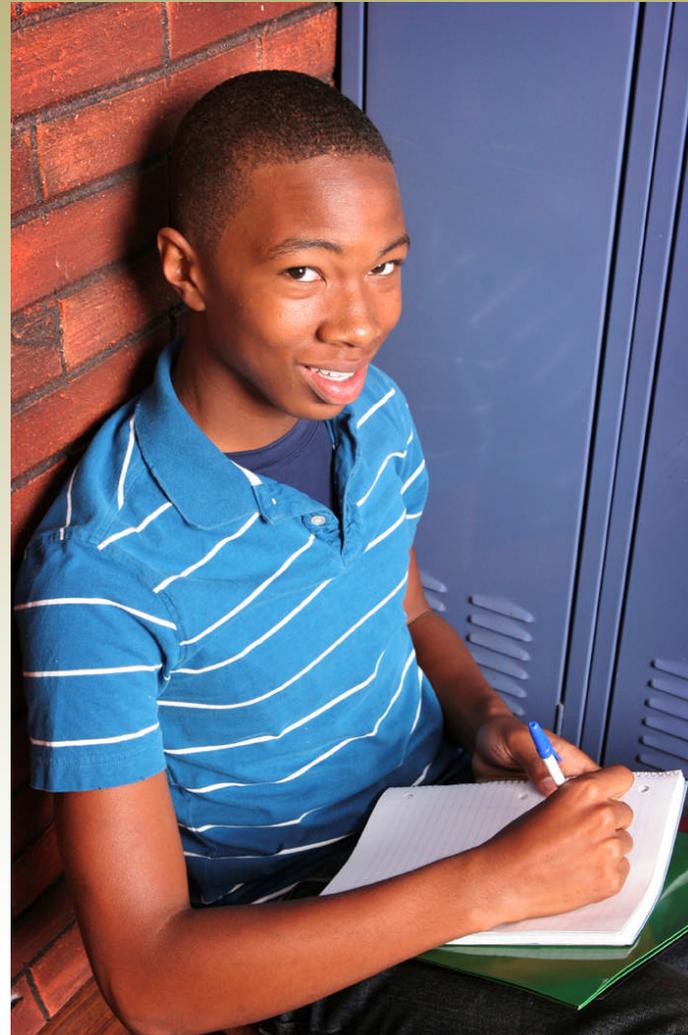
## **Home-Based Educational Program**



# Non-DoD Schools Program

## Home-Based Educational Program

- Sponsors wishing to home school their children during the SY 2008-2009 must submit their intended curriculum materials list along with a completed NDSP application package for approval.
- Sponsors must be aware of allowable and non-allowable home schooling expenses – and, when in doubt, they must inquire before incurring any costs for which they are uncertain.





# Non-DoD Schools Program

## Home-Based Educational Program

- Religious, partisan, sectarian or denominational materials may not be purchased with money provided by the NDSP.
- In lieu of the “school at post” rate (DSSR), funding is limited up to \$5,700 each school year for grades K-8 and up to \$7,700 in grades 9-12 or as specified by the DSSR; however, if the local school is certified as appropriate by the US Department of State, reimbursement is limited to the school at post rate if it is lower than the home-based educational program/private instruction.





# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

## **Special Education Services**



# Non-DoD Schools Program

## Special Education Services

### DoD Instruction 1315.19

- Sponsor should ensure screenings of dependents for the purpose of identifying family members with special needs.
  - EFMP Screening prior to departure of Tour
  - EFMP Screening for any Consecutive Tour



# Non-DoD Schools Program

## Special Education Services

### The Realities of Living in a Foreign Location with a Special Needs Child

- International Schools are not mandated to comply with IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).
- Some locations offer resource services.
- Some locations will honor an IEP (Individualized Education Plan).
- Most special services are supplemented through tutoring.



# Non-DoD Schools Program

## Special Education Services

### Actions to Take:

- If a special need is suspected, contact the NDSP Education Administrator
- The NDSP Education Administrator will assist parents, school administrators, etc., in:
  - Developing an assessment plan based on the suspected disability
  - Coordinating permission to and arrangements for assessment/evaluation
  - Establishing NDSP Special Education Eligibility that authorizes additional funding for required services



# Non-DoD Schools Program Special Education Services

## To Sum Up Special Needs:

The local NDSP liaison should contact the NDSP Education Administrator if:

- The sponsor identifies the child as having special needs' requirement.
- The school suspects the child may require special need services.
- The child is/was on an IEP or 504 at their previous school attended.



# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

## **Funding Documentation**



# Non-DoD Schools Program Funding Documentation

Necessary documents for new  
student enrollment:

- Completed NDSP Application Package
  - DoDEA Form 610
  - Eligibility Verification
  - Request for Transportation Reimbursement
- Sponsor's Assignment Orders
- School Published Fee Schedule
- School Published Calendar
- Funds Request Sheet (in USD)
- Invoices/Bills
- Transportation Contract (*if applicable*)



# Non-DoD Schools Program Funding Documentation

Necessary documents for returning  
student enrollment:

- Funds Request Sheet (in USD)
- Invoices/Bills
- Transportation Contract (*if applicable*)
- Sponsor's Extension if DEROS expired prior to the start of the new school year
- School Published Fee Schedule
- School Published Calendar





# Non-DoD Schools Program Funding Documentation

Documentation processing – Students without special needs identified prior to enrollment:

- **Step 1** – Parent communication with their NDSP Liaison
- **Step 2** – NDSP Liaison provides necessary documentation for parent completion.
- **Step 3** – Documentation returned to NDSP Liaison for submission to NDSP Program Manager.
- **Step 4** – Program manager reviews and, if in order, processes for funds authorization.



# Non-DoD Schools Program Funding Documentation

Documentation processing – Students with special needs identified prior to enrollment:

- **Step 1** – Parent communication with NDSP Liaison immediately if dependent is known to have special needs or requires special services
- **Step 2** – NDSP Liaison provides necessary documentation for parent completion.
- **Step 3** – Documentation returned to the NDSP Liaison for submission to the NDSP Education Administrator for review.
- **Step 4** – Collaboration with school officials, parents, and NDSP Liaison to facilitate supplemental educational services, evaluations for special needs, and Special Education Eligibility.



# **Non-DoD Schools Program for the Americas**

## **Educational Expenses**

Reference handout information



# Non-DoD Schools Program

## More Information

- Email:  
NDSP.Americas@am.dodea.edu

Indicate in email subject line:

- Monetary inquiries or
- Educational inquiries

- Telephone numbers
  - Monetary inquiries:  
✓ 678.364.6689
  - Educational inquiries  
✓ 678.364.8033

- Website:  
[www.am.dodea.edu/NDSP/index.htm](http://www.am.dodea.edu/NDSP/index.htm)

- DSSR Rate Adjustment Requests:

- POC: Ms. Audrey Thurman
  - Email: [ThurmanAE@state.gov](mailto:ThurmanAE@state.gov)
  - Tele # 202.261.8717

Note: The Department of State (DoS) Office of Allowances establishes DSSR Education Allowance rates which are used as the NDSP funding caps. Due to annual tuition increases for the base schools, a request for an adjustment to the established DSSR Education Allowance may be required.



# Non-DoD Schools Program

Questions, Comments, Concerns?