

# K-12 Schooling Information For MCAS Yuma Families



## MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

(928) 269-5373 | [yumaschoolliaison@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:yumaschoolliaison@usmc-mccs.org) | MCAS Yuma Bldg. 693 | [www.mccsYuma.com](http://www.mccsYuma.com)

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### **MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program**

## School Liaison Program (SLP) Overview

The School Liaison is the critical link between families, commanders, communities, and schools to improve education outcomes, quality of life, and operational readiness for Marine Corps families. The mission of the SLP is to promote awareness of the unique educational needs of military connected children and facilitate successful school transitions. School Liaisons serve on every major Marine Corps installation and in every branch of service. School Liaison Officers (also called SLO's) are here to assist families with their child's preK-12 education needs.

## Preparing for Your Move to Yuma

Military connected children move 3 times more than their non-military connected peers and typically change schools 6-9 times over the course of their K-12 academic careers. Preparing to move to a new installation is critical to your child's academic success and future. Consider the following suggestions to prepare them for the move and help make their transition smooth.

- Talk about Yuma and research things to do and activities your child enjoys. Find activities that you can do together as a family. Research sports and extracurricular activities available at your child's new school and how to participate in them and get a head start on reaching out to coaches, teachers, and activity leaders.
- Take time (especially with older children, such as middle and high school aged children) to do activities that can help transition their current friendships to long-distance. Activities to consider are year book signing, scrapbooking, creating and maintaining an address book with friends' contact info, asking a favorite teacher to write your child a letter of encouragement, plan a farewell get together with friends, etc.
- Keep routines as consistent as possible leading up to, during, and after the move. Children thrive on routines and even small routines such as bedtime stories, family game nights, and schoolwork all give children a sense of normalcy, security, and peace of mind. Children who maintain consistent routines adapt better to their new location with fewer issues.
- Make sure not to pack sentimental items in your household goods that the movers will pick up. Be sure to pack comfort objects such as blankets and stuffed animals and important documents (especially schoolwork, report cards, transcripts, immunization records, etc.) in a bag that will travel with you or on your person during your move.
- Consider creating an education binder to keep your child's academic records and achievements in one place.
- Get children excited about the move by talking about the positives, such as being able to pick out and decorate a new room, meet new friends, try new foods (tacos and sunsets in Yuma are amazing!), and explore new places.

## MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

## Youth Sponsorship

Youth sponsorship is how a school and/or receiving installation helps incoming youth establish relationships with local youth or youth organizations who can support them during their transition to Yuma.

Many schools in Yuma have student ambassador programs that assign buddies to new students when they arrive at their new school. Ask your child's school about their student ambassador program and how you can get your child paired up with a student in their class to be their buddy from the first day of school.

Families are also encouraged to take advantage of free resources that support military children during times of transition, offered by Sesame Street for Military Families (best for young children through primary grades) and Boys & Girls Club of America My Future (best for elementary through college!)

- Sesame Street for Military Families
  - <https://sesamestreetformilitaryfamilies.org/>
- Boys & Girls Club of America – My Future
  - <https://www.myfuture.net>

## MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

## Activities for Children, Youth, and Teens

# Yuma Activities for Children, Youth & Teens

**Boy Scouts** <https://www.scouting.org/>  
**Girl Scouts** <https://www.girlscouts.org/>  
**Yuma County 4-H** <https://extension.arizona.edu/4h/yuma>  
**AZ First LEGO League** <https://outreach.engineering.asu.edu/azfl/>  
**For Inspiration & Recognition of Science & Technology (FIRST)** <https://www.firstinspires.org/>  
**Saddles of Joy** [saddlesofjoy1@gmail.com](mailto:saddlesofjoy1@gmail.com) (928) 287-1148  
**Yuma Youth Soccer Association** [yumayouthsoccer@yahoo.com](mailto:yumayouthsoccer@yahoo.com) <http://yumayouthsoccer.com/>  
**MCCS Youth Sports** [www.mccsyuma.org](http://www.mccsyuma.org) (928) 269-2324  
**Special Olympics of Arizona** <https://specialolympicsarizona.org/> (602) 230-1200  
**Yuma County Library District** <https://yumalibrary.org/> (928) 782-1871  
**MCCS Station Library** [www.mccsyuma.org](http://www.mccsyuma.org) (928) 269-2785  
**Children's Museum of Yuma County** [www.yumachildrensmuseum.com](http://www.yumachildrensmuseum.com) (844) 426-9862  
**Yuma Catch and Go Flag Football** [www.yumacatchandgo.com](http://www.yumacatchandgo.com)  
**Desert Rollerway Skating Rink** 2692 S 47th Ave 85364 (928) 318-4205  
**Yuma Art Center** [www.yumaaz.gov](http://www.yumaaz.gov), [arts@yumaaz.gov](mailto:arts@yumaaz.gov) (928) 373-5202  
**Yuma Community Theater** <https://www.yumacommunitytheater.org/>  
**Ballet Yuma/Yuma Ballet Academy** [www.balleteyuma.org](http://www.balleteyuma.org) (928) 314-4762  
**City of Yuma Parks & Recreation** <https://www.yumaaz.gov/government/parks-recreation>  
(928) 373-5200  
**Dancemakers** [www.dancemakersyuma.com](http://www.dancemakersyuma.com) (928) 783-7754  
**Dancer's Workshop of Yuma** [www.dancersworkshopofyuma.com](http://www.dancersworkshopofyuma.com)  
**Dawn's Dance Studio** <http://dawnsdancestudio.org/> (928) 329-6858  
**Yuma Heat Swimming**  
<https://www.teamunify.com/team/azheat/page/home> (928) 581-5288  
**Aqua Force** <https://www.teamunify.com/team/azaf/page/home>  
**Young Marines** [www.youngmarines.org](http://www.youngmarines.org) Territorial Chapter - (858) 900-4908  
**Sea Cadets** <https://www.seacadets.org/> (928) 581-8062 [yumanavalseacadetcorp@gmail.com](mailto:yumanavalseacadetcorp@gmail.com)  
**Yuma School of Music (Kiddy Keys)** [www.yumaschoolofmusic.com](http://www.yumaschoolofmusic.com) (928) 785-6996  
**Fretworks Music Store** <https://www.fretworksmusic.com/> (928) 248-4048  
**Rogue Wave Jiu Jitsu** (928) 581-3510  
**Yuma Taekwondo Center** (928) 388-8609 [yumataekwondocenter@gmail.com](mailto:yumataekwondocenter@gmail.com)  
**Larios Karate Center** [www.larioskarate.com](http://www.larioskarate.com) (928) 726-1258  
**Yuma Family YMCA** [www.valleymca.org/yuma](http://www.valleymca.org/yuma) (928) 317-0522  
**Yuma Gymnastics** [www.yumagymnastics.com](http://www.yumagymnastics.com) (928) 782-1994  
*\*No federal endorsement implied\**

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## PCS Checklist for School Moves

# CHECKLIST FOR SCHOOL MOVES

Below are documents you will need to register your child in their next school

### PROVIDED BY THE PARENT / GUARDIAN

- Student's Birth Certificate
- Student's Social Security Number
- Student's Health Record (Immunizations, etc.)
- Legal Documents as needed (i.e. custody agreements)
- Proof of Residency/Military Orders (e.g., utility bills, lease/escrow deed, housing contract)

### PARENTS: TO DO BEFORE DEPARTING

- Notify the school that your child will be leaving at least 2 weeks in advance.
- Request official transcripts
- Find out the latest date your child can check out of school and still receive full credit
- Ask whether a child can complete credits after they have left the school district
- Request work that your child can do to keep current during the transfer

### PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL

- Copy of Cumulative Folder (only the copy mailed between schools is considered official)
- Current Schedule
- Report Cards
- Withdrawal Grades or Progress Reports
- Test Scores (Standardized)
- Special Education Records

### SCHOOL INFORMATION

- Address, Phone Number, other contract information
- Course Description Book/Grading Scale (if applicable for 6th grade and above)
- Copy of the Cover for Each Textbook or Title Page
- School Profile/Handbook
- School Web page (write URL below)

## - DO NOT PACK -

Carry this, and other important documents with you while you travel. DO NOT pack them with the rest of your household items.

## QUICK TIPS FOR TRANSITIONS

- Start talking about the upcoming move with your child as soon as you receive your orders. Talk about the positive aspects of moving and experiencing new areas.
- Help your child to explore the local area before the move using technology. All schools and districts now maintain websites, and many heavily impacted school districts have pages dedicated to military families.
- If your orders require that your family relocate before the end of the current school year, make sure to notify your child's current school as soon as possible.
- Make copies of your child's current textbook cover, table of contents and the course syllabus to bring to your new school.
- Contact your child's current school to arrange for unofficial copies of the all necessary school records that you can hand carry with you during the move and provide to the receiving school upon arrival.
- Bring samples of current school work your child has produced. If you will be arriving after tryouts have occurred for a favorite extra curricular activity, create a short video introducing your child and highlighting his or her skills in action; it might help reserve a spot on the team.
- Find out if the new school requires testing and/or prerequisites in order to place students at the appropriate level for their skills. It might be possible to arrange for those tests before you arrive, so you are good to go when you register your child.
- Be sure to pay any outstanding fees at your current school, return library books and any other items belonging to the school. If those items are not cleared, there could be delays with transcripts.
- Last but not least, make sure to contact your School Liaison right when you get orders. School Liaisons are subject matter experts on preK-12 education and local school communities, and can help ease the transition for everyone involved.

## MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

## Military Interstate Compact

Families are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the military interstate compact, which is state law in all 50 states and Washington D.C. The rules of the compact are designed to ease common education related transition issues and could make your next school move a lot smoother! These rules apply to public, charter, and DoDEA schools. Visit [www.mic3.net](http://www.mic3.net) for more information or to read the complete rules. You are also encouraged to contact the SLO for assistance if your child is experiencing a challenging school transition.

**MIC3** | MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S COMPACT COMMISSION

**WHAT IS THE COMPACT?**  
The Compact deals with the challenges of military children and their frequent relocations. It allows for uniform treatment as military children transfer between school districts in member states. Note: The Compact only applies to public schools.

**STUDENTS COVERED**

Children of the following:

- Active duty members of the uniformed services, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders (Title 10)
- Members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year
- Members who die on active duty, for a period of one year after death
- Uniformed members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and United States Public Health Services (USPHS)

**STUDENTS NOT COVERED**

Children of the following:

- Inactive members of the National Guard and Reserves (Not Title 10)
- Members now retired not covered above
- Veterans not covered above
- Other Department of Defense personnel, federal agency civilians and contract employees not defined as active duty
- Members other than the uniformed personnel of NOAA and USPHS

**SOME OF THE ISSUES COVERED**

<p><b>Enrollment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational Records</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> <li>• Kindergarten &amp; First Grade Entrance Age</li> </ul>	<p><b>Placement &amp; Attendance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course &amp; Educational Program Placement</li> <li>• Special Education Services</li> <li>• Placement Flexibility</li> <li>• Absence Related to Deployment Activities</li> </ul>	<p><b>Graduation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waiving courses required for graduation if similar course work has been completed</li> <li>• Flexibility in accepting state exit or end-of-course exams, national achievement tests, or alternative testing in lieu of testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state</li> <li>• Allowing a student to receive a diploma from the sending school instead of the receiving school</li> </ul>
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**MISSION** Through the Interstate Compact, MIC3 addresses key educational transition issues encountered by children of military families.

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## Living On Base

While there are no schools located on the installation, families who live in on base housing are zoned for our local public school districts, *Yuma Elementary School District #1 (YESD1)* and *Yuma Union High School District #70 (YUHSD)*. The Yuma Education Consortium (YEC) provides bus transportation for children living in on- base housing who attend the YESD1 or YUHSD schools that they are zoned for.

MCAS Yuma is zoned for the following schools:

- **James B. Rolle Elementary School** (grades K-5)
  - <https://rolle.yuma.org>
- **R. Pete Woodard Junior High School** (grades 6-8)
  - <https://woodard.yuma.org>
- **Kofa High School** (grades 9-12)
  - <https://kofa.yumaunion.org/>



Scan QR for Bus Stop Map  
& Schedules

Yuma Education Consortium (YESD1 & YUHSD Transportation) – (928) 502-8840

Families who live off base BUT in 16<sup>th</sup> Street Housing (which is military housing that is located 6 miles off base) are zoned for local public school districts *Crane School District #13 (Crane Schools)* and *Yuma Union High School District #70 (YUHSD)*. Bus transportation is NOT provided since 16<sup>th</sup> street housing is located within a 2 mile radius of these schools.

16<sup>th</sup> Street Housing is zoned for the following schools:

- **Ronald Regan Elementary School** (grades K-6)
  - <https://www.ronaldreagan.craneschools.org/>
- **Centennial Middle School** (grades 7-8)
  - <https://www.centennial.craneschools.org/>
- **Cibola High School** (grades 9-12)
  - <https://cibola.yumaunion.org/>

## On-Base School Bus Transportation

The schools that MCAS Yuma is zoned for provide transportation for all students who live on base. Additionally, several schools and districts also offer transportation to families living on base whose children attend schools outside of the attendance boundary for MCAS Yuma. These schools provide bus transportation to and from the MCAS Yuma Youth Center, building 1050, only. They do not pick up and drop off in base housing. Children do not need to be enrolled in the Youth Center School Age Care program to utilize transportation offered by these schools. Parents must register for bus transportation directly with the school.

- Crane School District: Centennial M.S. (7-8), Crane M.S. (7-8), Gowan Science Academy (K-8), H.L. Suverkrup E.S. (K-6), and Ronald Regan E.S. (K-6)
  - Crane School District Transportation - (928) 373-3466

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- Charter Schools: Desert View Academy (K-5), Desert View M.S. (6-8), Harvest Preparatory Academy Yuma (K-12)
  - Desert View Schools – (928) 314-1102, info@dvayuma.com
  - Harvest Preparatory Academy – (928) 706-9586

## Living Off Base

Families living off base have several options for K-12 schools. Please note that these options are available to families who live on base as well.

### 1. Attend your zoned school

- This option means that your child attends the school that you are zoned for, based on your home address. This will be a public school. Students who attend their “home” school (the school they are zoned for) will be provided bus transportation, with few exceptions. *If you need assistance identifying which school you are zoned for, contact the School Liaison. Students are guaranteed admission to their “home” school.*

### 2. Apply for “Open Enrollment” to attend a different school

- This option is for families who would like their child to attend a different **public school** than the one they are zoned for. Families will be asked to fill out an open enrollment form when they go to register their child for school. Children applying to attend a school on open enrollment are accepted on a space available basis and WILL NOT be provided bus transportation by the school. Open enrollment admission is **NOT** a guarantee. Parents are encouraged to contact schools to view currently grade level availability.

### 3. Apply at a charter or private school

- If interested in having your child attend a charter or private school, contact that school directly to ask about requirements for enrollment. All private schools charge tuition as well as some charter schools (particularly for children enrolled in kindergarten). Parents are encouraged to ask about transportation offerings as private schools generally do not offer transportation.

### 4. Homeschool

- See homeschool section of this packet for specific guidance or contact the SLO to discuss homeschool options.

**BLUF: Children are only guaranteed admission to the public school for which they are zoned.**

Parents may choose to enroll their children in different schools, but remember spaces at charter/private schools fill quickly, open enrollment is not a guarantee, and transportation and tuition are additional considerations. Always make the public school you are zoned for your primary schooling option.

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## Yuma Area Schools

Yuma Elementary School District #1 [www.yuma.org](http://www.yuma.org)

*Grades Served: Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grade*

YESD1 operates 13 elementary schools, 5 middle/junior high schools, 1 fully online school (Digital Learning Academy), and limited preschool programs. YESD1 hosts AZ First Things First, Quality First, Tuition Based, and Special Education preschool programs at several of their elementary schools.

Crane Elementary School District #13 [www.craneschools.org](http://www.craneschools.org)

*Grades Served: Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grade*

CSD operates 8 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, and 1 magnet school. CSD also offers preschool and Special Education preschool programs at select campuses.

Somerton School District #11 [www.ssd11.org](http://www.ssd11.org)

*Grades Served: Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grade*

SSD11 operates 6 elementary schools and 1 middle school.

Yuma Union High School District #70 [www.yumaunion.org](http://www.yumaunion.org)

*Grades Served: 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>*

YUHSD operates 6 high schools, 1 alternative high school, and 1 fully online school (Yuma Online Distance Academy).

YUHSD also offers limited tuition-based preschool through their Early Childhood CTE programs on Gila Ridge High School and San Luis High School campuses.

## Other Public School Districts, Charter Schools, and Private Schools

While YESD1, YUHSD, Crane SS, and Somerton SD are the closest public school districts to the installation, Yuma County, Arizona is home to 9 independently operated public school districts as well as a wide variety of public charter schools and private schools. Please refer to the list of Yuma Schools on the School Liaison website for a complete list of schools in our area or consult the Yuma County Superintendent's Office for information on all school districts in Yuma County. Families are welcome to contact the SLO with any questions they have regarding school districts in Yuma County.


- Yuma County Superintendent of Schools [www.yumasupt.org](http://www.yumasupt.org)
- K-12 School Liaison Program Page [www.mccsyuma.com](http://www.mccsyuma.com)

## MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program


## Yuma K-12 Schools List

Schools listed are within the immediate AOR for MCAS Yuma. Refer to the previous section for a comprehensive list of Yuma County area schools.

# USMC SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM



## MCAS YUMA PCS SUPPORT



### School Liaison Mission

The mission of the School Liaison aboard MCAS Yuma is to coordinate education support services to maximize opportunities for academic success for transitioning military children / youth. The School Liaison (SL) fosters and promotes quality education for military children by working directly with the command, families, school districts, and local communities, and by providing referral services to family support agencies aboard MCAS Yuma and in the local community.

<h3 style="color: #8B0000;">Yuma School District One</h3> <p>District Office - (928) 502-4300                  Palmcroft Elementary - (928) 502-8000                  Rolle Elementary - (928) 502-8200                  Desert Mesa Elementary - (928) 502-8600                  Otondo Elementary - (928) 502-8500                  Sunrise Elementary - (928) 502-8800                  McGraw Elementary - (928) 502-7700                  Alice Byrne Elementary - (928) 502-7500                  G. Washington Carver Elem.- (928) 502-7600                  Pecan Grove Elementary - (928) 502-8050                  O.C. Johnson Elementary - (928) 502-7900                  Roosevelt Elementary - (928) 502-8150                  James D. Price Elementary - (928) 502-7730                  Woodard Junior High School - (928) 502-7200                  Gila Vista Junior High School - (928) 502-7100                  Fourth Ave Junior High School - (928) 502-7000                  Castle Dome Middle School - (928) 502-7300                  Ron Watson Middle School - (928) 502-7400                  Dorothy Hall Elementary - (928) 502-8300</p>	<h3 style="color: #8B0000;">Crane School District</h3> <p>District Office - (928) 373-3400                  Ronald Reagan Elementary - (928) 373-3700                  Gary Knox Elementary - (928) 373-5500                  Mesquite Elementary - (928) 373-4100                  Valley Horizon Elementary - (928) 373-4000                  H.L. Suverkrup Elementary - (928) 373-3500                  Pueblo Elementary - (928) 373-3600                  Salida Del Sol Elementary - (928) 373-5600                  Rancho Viejo Elementary - (928) 373-3800                  Crane Middle School - (928) 373-3200                  Centennial Middle School - (928) 373-3300                  Gowan Science Academy - (928) 539-1200</p>
<h3 style="color: #8B0000;">Private Schools</h3> <p>Yuma Catholic High School - (928) 317-7900                  St. Francis of Assisi- (928) 782-1539                  Immaculate Conception - (928) 783-5225                  Yuma Lutheran - (928) 726-8410                  Southwestern Christian School - (928) 726-3086                  Yuma Christian Academy - (928) 726-2113                  Yuma Adventist Christian - (928) 783-0457                  Freedom Christian Academy - (928) 366-3585</p>	<h3 style="color: #8B0000;">Yuma Union High School District</h3> <p>District Office - (928) 502-4600                  Yuma High School - (928) 502-5000                  Kofa High School - (928) 502-5400                  Cibola High School - (928) 502-5700                  Gila Ridge High School - (928) 502-6400                  San Luis High School - (928) 502-6100</p>
<h3 style="color: #8B0000;">Charter Schools</h3> <p>Desert View Academy - (928) 314-1102                  Desert View Middle/High School - (928) 317-3113                  AmeriSchools South - (928) 329-1100                  AmeriSchools North - (928) 919-7203                  Harvest Prep Academy - (928) 782-2052</p>	<p><b>MCAS Yuma School Liaison (928) 269-5373</b>  <a href="mailto:yumaschoolliaison@usmc-mccs.org">yumaschoolliaison@usmc-mccs.org</a></p>

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**2024-2025 School Calendars (current as of 10 July 2024)**

Most school calendars can be found on school websites and are available on the Yuma County Superintendent Website, [www.yumasupt.org](http://www.yumasupt.org)

**First & Last Days + Holidays/Breaks – 2024-2025 School Year  
Yuma County, Arizona**

*\*Current as of 10 July 2024*

Public	First Day	Fall	Thanksgiving	Winter	Spring	Last Day
Antelope Union HS District	7 Aug	N/A	25-29 Nov	23 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May
Crane School District	31 July	14-18 Oct	27-29 Nov	16 Dec-3 Jan	24 Mar-4 Apr	30 May
Gadsden School District	7 Aug	11-14 Oct	27 Nov-2 Dec	23 Dec-8 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	23 May
Hyder Elementary School District	7 Aug	14-18 Oct	27-29 Nov	23 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	30 May
Mohawk Valley Elementary School	6 Aug	N/A	25-29 Nov	23 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	23 May
Somerton School District	30 July	14-18 Oct	25-29 Nov	16 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	23 May
Southwest Technical District of Yuma (STEDY)	5 Aug	N/A	25-28 Nov	23 Dec-9 Jan	31 Mar-3 Apr	22 May
Yuma School District One	5 Aug	11-14 Oct	25-29 Nov	16 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	29 May
Yuma Union High School District	1 Aug	11-14 Oct	25-29 Nov	23 Dec-8 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May
Wellton Elementary School <small>(no school on Friday)</small>	29 July – 1 <sup>st</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> 31 July – Kinder	N/A	27-28 Nov	18 Dec-6 Jan	31 Mar-3 Apr	21 May

Charter	First Day	Fall	Thanksgiving	Winter	Spring	Last Day
Amerischools (North & South)	1 Aug	7-11 Oct	27-29 Nov	23 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May
Calibre Academy	1 Aug	14-18 Oct	25-29 Nov	20 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May
Desert View Academy	31 July – Kinder Only 1 Aug – 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	N/A	25-29 Nov	16 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May
Desert View Middle School	31 July	N/A	25-29 Nov	16 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May
Harvest Preparatory Academy	31 July	N/A	25-29 Nov	16 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May
Student Choice High School	TBA					
Thrive Point High School	1 Aug	14-18 Oct	25-29 Nov	20 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May

Private	First Day	Fall	Thanksgiving	Winter	Spring	Last Day
Freedom Christian Academy	5 Aug	10-14 Oct	27-29 Nov	16 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	13 May – Kinder Only 16 May – 1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade 21 May – 3 <sup>rd</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Gila Mountain Christian Academy	5 Aug	11-14 Oct	25-29 Nov	16 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	23 May
Hand in Hand Christian School	12 Aug	N/A	27-29 Nov	21 Dec-8 Jan	29 Mar-6 Apr	21 May
Immaculate Conception School	TBA					
Southwestern Christian School	1 Aug	11-14 Oct	25-29 Nov	23 Dec-7 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	21 May
St Francis of Assisi School	9 Aug	N/A	28-29 Nov	19 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	23 May
Yuma Adventist Christian School	TBA					
Yuma Catholic High School	5 Aug	14-15 Oct	27-29 Nov	23 Dec-8 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May
Yuma Christian Academy	19 Aug	N/A	27-29 Nov	19 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	21 May
Yuma Lutheran School	7 Aug	N/A	25-29 Nov	19 Dec-3 Jan	31 Mar-4 Apr	22 May

For access to county wide public school district calendars, visit [www.yumasupt.org](http://www.yumasupt.org)

**MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program**

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## Preschool

Preschool options off base in Yuma are varied and have varying age and income eligibility requirements to attend. Arizona does not have universal preschool or transitional kindergarten programs. Preschool programs offered by a local public school district will only enroll children that live within the district's attendance boundary. Active-duty military families are eligible to enroll children in preschool at the Child Development Center on base. For more information about Pre-K options that meet your child's needs, contact the School Liaison.

- MCAS Yuma Child Development Center
  - <https://yuma.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/child-and-youth/child-development-centers>
- AZ First Things First
  - <https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/resources/find-programs/>
- WACOG
  - <https://www.wacog.com/early-childhood-programs/>
- Yuma School District One
  - <https://www.yuma.org/Preschool>
- Crane School District
  - [https://www.craneschools.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=1926042&type=d&pREC\\_ID=2062171](https://www.craneschools.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1926042&type=d&pREC_ID=2062171)
- AZ Department of Education – Early Childhood Education, Preschool Resources
  - <https://www.azed.gov/ece/preschool>

## Researching Schools

Researching to find the “perfect” new school for your child can be exciting, but also challenging. Finding reliable information on the internet is increasingly difficult, so it's recommended that you choose your sources wisely as you conduct your research. Here are a few suggestions in order of reliability, listing the most reliable source first and the least reliable source last:

### 1. Visit the School or Call to Speak to the Principal/Asst. Principal

You can learn much by a school visit and a conversation with their leadership. If in person visits aren't possible, ask for a virtual tour. Many schools are happy to accommodate prospective families. Refer to the list of [recommended questions](#) on the School Liaison website to guide you when speaking to the school leadership.

### 2. Contact your School Liaison Officer

The School Liaison Officer (SLO) is the installation subject matter expert on all matters involving K-12 education within their area of responsibility. They work closely with the schools and districts that serve military students and can answer many questions that parents have about schools in Yuma.

### 3. School Report Card Data

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The Arizona Department of Education assigns letter grades to public and charter schools in Arizona based on a variety of factors, including academic performance. School letter grades are generally a good indicator of how well a school does in ensuring students succeed, but won't answer all of your questions such as specific school initiatives, academic programs, extracurricular activities, sports, special education, etc. Those questions are best directed at school leaders or your SLO.

School report card data can be found at <https://azreportcards.azed.gov/>

#### 4. School Ranking & Real Estate Websites

Parents can find very general information about schools on school ranking and real estate websites such as school digger, great schools, niche, public school review, zillow, realtor.com, etc. Rankings published on these sites are not reliable and school attendance boundaries may be very outdated. Use this information with caution.

#### 5. Anecdotes & Social Media

Personal anecdotes or comments in community pages on social media regarding schools are typically fraught with misinformation and only provide very biased points of view without giving families a complete picture, be those stories positive or negative. This information is probably the least reliable source and should be considered carefully along with other reliable sources of information such as talking to school leadership directly and/or the SLO.

### **Private Schools & Students with Special Needs**

Families who choose to send their children to private school should be aware that private schools are not legally required to provide special education evaluations or equitable services to children who have or need an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 accommodation plan. It is the sole legal responsibility of public schools (including charter schools) to evaluate students to determine eligibility for special education services and to provide equitable services to students who qualify. If your child has a current IEP or 504 plan and you intend to enroll them in a Yuma private school, contact the school directly to ask if and how the school will be able to provide the support your student needs. Only a public school district can create, modify, or renew an IEP or 504 plan for a student. Families who have a child with exceptional needs are encouraged to speak with the School Liaison before enrolling in private school to discuss options for services and supports. Families are also encouraged to contact MCAS Yuma EFMP at (928) 269-2425.

Resources for Parents – Private Schools and Special Education

- [Special Education in Private School: 6 Things to Know | Understood - For learning and thinking differences](#)
- [Private Special Education Schools | Arizona Department of Education \(azed.gov\)](#)
- [Parents & Families | Arizona Department of Education \(azed.gov\)](#)

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➤ [MCAS Yuma Exceptional Family Member Program \(EFMP\)](#)

## Enrollment Laws in AZ

### Required Enrollment (ARS 15-802)

- Children between the ages of 6 and 16 must be enrolled in school and at a minimum, must study math, reading, grammar, science and social studies.

### Kindergarten Eligibility (ARS 15-821)

- Students must be 5 years old by September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year to be eligible to enroll in kindergarten. Students whose birthday falls after September 1<sup>st</sup> can be considered by a school district for early enrollment in kindergarten, but they must turn 5 by January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year.

### Open Enrollment (ARS 15-816.01)

- Arizona has a broad open enrollment policy which allows families to apply for open enrollment for their children to attend the **public school** of their choice in Arizona. Open enrollment is granted if a school can reasonably accommodate the student. Children who attend a school on open enrollment will not have access to school bus transportation. Families will need to provide their own transportation to school.

### Enrollment Documents

- Arizona requires the following documents for children to enroll in public school:
  - Child's original birth certificate\*
  - Proof of Arizona Residency\*\*
  - Immunization Records (within 30 days)
  - Valid Parent/Guardian Contact Information
  - Proof of Withdrawal from Previous School
  - Most Recent Report Card

\*Parents can provide an unofficial copy until the genuine certificate can be furnished in person.

\*\*Military parents have 10 days after their official arrival date to provide proof of Arizona residency. Refer to ARS 15-823.01 for more information on accepted forms of proof such as temporary billeting. This exception allows military families to remotely enroll their children in school prior to their arrival in Yuma.

## Registration

Registration for school can be completed in a variety of ways, depending on the school. For virtually all Yuma schools, registration documents and instructions can be found on a school's website. Families can typically provide all documentation electronically or, if they prefer, can wait until their arrival in Yuma and go to the school to drop off their registration packet and required

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documents. If you have questions on how to register your child for school, contact the school registrar directly.

#### Registration Information by District

- Yuma Elementary School District #1
  - <https://www.yuma.org/Registration>
- Crane Elementary School District #13
  - <https://www.craneschools.org/apps/pages/studentenrollment>
- Somerton School District #11
  - <https://www.ssd11.org/>
- Yuma Union High School District #70
  - <https://www.yumaunion.org/welcome/boundaries-enrollment>
- Charter School & Private Schools
  - *Contact schools directly for information or visit school websites.*

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## AZ K-12 Immunization Requirements

### ARIZONA GUIDE TO IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY - *Grades K-12 (School Year 2023-2024)*



- Requirements are shown below as stated in [Arizona Administrative Code, R9-6-702](#), Table 7.1 and Table 7.2
- Please review the [Arizona Immunization Handbook for Schools and Child Care Programs](#) along with the [Vaccine Catch-up Flowcharts & FAQs](#) for further information and details about immunization requirements and exemptions.
- Vaccines must follow ACIP minimum intervals and ages to be valid. See page 3-4 of this document for minimum interval and catch-up schedule information.
- The 4-day grace period only applies to vaccine-administration minimum age and intervals. Refer to the Handbook for questions.

Vaccine	4-6 Years Old and attendance in Kindergarten or 1 <sup>st</sup> grade	7-10 Years Old	11 Years and Older
<b>HepB</b> Hepatitis B	3 doses The final dose of HepB must be given at 24 weeks of age or older. Only 3 doses are required if the 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose was received at or after the child was 24 weeks of age; otherwise 4 doses are required.		
<b>Polio</b> Poliomyelitis (IPV) For OPV see page 2	4 doses The final dose of polio must be received at/after 4 years of age and at least six months after the previous dose. Only 3 doses are required if the 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose was received on/after the child's 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday and at least six months after the 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose. Additional doses may be needed to meet requirements. See pg. 2 for retrospective history guidance.		
<b>MMR</b> Measles, Mumps and Rubella	2 doses Minimum recommended age for dose 1 is 12 months. A 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose will be required if dose 1 was given more than 4 days before 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday.		
<b>VAR</b> Varicella (chickenpox)	1 dose Minimum recommended age for dose 1 is 12 months. 2 doses, at least 4 weeks apart, are required if dose 1 was given at 13 years of age or older.		
<b>DTaP, Tdap, Td</b> Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis	5 doses of DTaP The final dose of tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine must be received at/after 4 years of age and at least six months after the previous dose. Only 4 doses are required if the 4 <sup>th</sup> dose was received on/after 4 years of age; in certain situations, an additional dose may be required, up to a maximum of 6 doses (before age 7).	4 doses of tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine (or combination of DTaP, Td or Tdap doses). At least one dose at/after 4 years of age and at least 6 months from the previous dose.  3 doses (with one at/after 4 years) is acceptable if the first dose was given on/after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday; otherwise refer for an additional dose.	1 dose of Tdap is required If the student does not have a Tdap but received a dose of tetanus-diphtheria-containing vaccine within the past 5 years, refer for the adolescent Tdap dose when 5 years has passed since that dose. If a student has received 1 valid dose of adolescent Tdap (age 10 years or older), no further doses are needed. Students must have a minimum series of 4 doses of tetanus-diphtheria-containing vaccine; 3 doses acceptable if the 1 <sup>st</sup> dose was given on/after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday.
<b>MenACWY or MCV4</b> Quadrivalent Meningococcal	Retrospectively: Menomune (Meningococcal Polysaccharide) vaccine was a quadrivalent vaccine so it is acceptable; however, production of this vaccine was discontinued in February 2017. Menomune doses are considered acceptable for school requirements.		1 dose of MenACWY is required A dose administered at 10 years of age will meet the requirement.

Bureau of Immunization Services: (602)-364-3630

Last Reviewed: July 2023

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Visit AZ Dept of Health Services to see school vaccination requirements and to obtain medical, religious, or personal exemption forms: <https://www.azdhs.gov>

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## Homeschooling Information

Families in Arizona have the option to homeschool. If you decide to homeschool your child, you are required to complete an Affidavit of Intent and send it to the Yuma County Superintendent's office within 30 days from the day the child begins homeschool. If you choose to homeschool, please also remember to notify the Yuma County Superintendent's office if you move out of Yuma County so they can remove your child from the roll of homeschooled children.

Arizona law requires all homeschooled students to, at a minimum, receive instruction in reading, grammar, math, science, and social studies. There are various support groups in Yuma to assist families who homeschool. For more information on homeschooling and supports, contact the Yuma County Superintendent's office or the School Liaison Officer. The School Liaison is available to provide guidance to families who wish to homeschool.

**\*\*Important:** please note that when you enroll your child in a virtual charter school or other online public school, your child is *by law* considered a public-school student and not a homeschool student. **\*\***

### Homeschool Resources

Yuma County Superintendent of Schools – [www.yumasupt.org](http://www.yumasupt.org)

Home School Legal Defense Association – [www.hsllda.org](http://www.hsllda.org)

Arizona Families for Home Education – [www.afhe.org](http://www.afhe.org)

Military Homeschoolers Association – [www.militaryhomeschoolers.org](http://www.militaryhomeschoolers.org)

## AZ Empowerment Scholarship Accounts (ESA)

“What is an ESA?”

An Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) is an account administered by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and funded by state tax dollars to provide education options for qualified Arizona students.

An ESA consists of 90% of the state funding that would have otherwise been allocated to the school district or charter school for the qualified student (does not include federal or local funding). By accepting an ESA, the student's parent or guardian is signing a contract agreeing to provide an education that includes at least the following subjects: reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies and science. ESA funding can be used to pay private school tuition, for curriculum, home education, tutoring and more.

Can my student participate in the ESA Program and remain his/her public or charter school?

**In almost all situations, students on ESA cannot be enrolled in a public school (this includes district, charter and public online programs).** This is a violation of the ESA contract.

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Additionally, the student must be withdrawn from the public school at the time that the ESA contract is signed. If the state is paying for an ESA student's education at the same time as the student is receiving ESA funds, the state is distributing the student's education funding twice. You may be able to pay for certain public school programs utilizing your student's ESA funds, please contact us for more details.” – Arizona Department of Education

The School Liaison is available to help explain ESA program parameters and help parents make an informed decision when choosing to apply for the program. If you need technical assistance with the application or assistance with any function regarding your ESA account, you will need to contact the ESA Department directly for assistance.

#### Empowerment Scholarship Account – Support

ESA Support Line - 602-364-1969

ESA Help Desk Email – [ESACallCenter@azed.gov](mailto:ESACallCenter@azed.gov)

ESA Website and Application – [www.azed.gov/esa](http://www.azed.gov/esa)

#### **Student Tuition Organizations - Tax Credit Scholarships**

Arizona families can utilize tuition assistance from registered student tuition organizations (STO's) to pay for tuition to private schools *if they qualify*. Families who apply for tax-credit scholarships from student tuition organizations *may not* also use Empowerment Scholarship Account funds to pay for private school tuition. Families who wish to receive scholarships through these tuition organizations need to apply directly with the organization. Local organizations in Yuma are the Yuma's Education Scholarship Fund for Kids, Inc. (YES) and School Tuition Assistance of Yuma, Inc. (STAY) and others. These are registered not-for-profit 501(c)3 student tuition organizations authorized by the Arizona Department of Revenue to accept tax credit donations to create scholarships for students.

#### More Information on STO's

Love Your School – [www.loveyourschool.org](http://www.loveyourschool.org)

YES - [www.yesfundforkids.org](http://www.yesfundforkids.org)

STAY – [www.azstay.org](http://www.azstay.org)

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## Useful Websites

MCAS Yuma School Liaison

<https://yuma.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/child-and-youth/school-liaison-program-k-12>

MCAS Yuma School Age Care

<https://yuma.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/child-and-youth/school-age-care>

MCAS Yuma Exceptional Family Member Program

<https://yuma.usmc-mccs.org/marine-family-support/military-family-life/exceptional-family-member-program/>

MCCS Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/mccsyuma>

Military One Source – MCAS Yuma Installation Guide

<https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/military-installation/mcas-yuma>

MCAS Yuma Official Website

<https://www.mcas-yuma.marines.mil/Unit-Home/>

Yuma County Superintendent of Schools

<https://www.yumasupt.org/index.html>

Yuma Elementary School District #1

[www.yuma.org](http://www.yuma.org)

Crane Elementary School District #13

[www.craneschools.org](http://www.craneschools.org)

Somerton School District #11

[www.ssd11.org](http://www.ssd11.org)

Yuma Union High School District #70

[www.yumaunion.org](http://www.yumaunion.org)

Arizona Western College

<https://www.azwestern.edu/>

Tutor.com

<https://military.tutor.com/home>

Arizona Families for Home Education

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<https://www.afhe.org>

Homeschool Legal Defense Association

[www.hslda.org](http://www.hslda.org)

Arizona Department of Health Services

<https://azdhs.gov>

AZ First Things First (support for birth-5 years of age)

<https://www.firstthingsfirst.org>

WACOG – Early Childhood Programs in AZ

<https://www.wacog.com/early-childhood-programs/>

Military Child Education Coalition

[www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org)

Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission

[www.mic3.net](http://www.mic3.net)

Raising Special Kids

<https://raisingspecialkids.org/>

Arizona Dept. of Education – Exceptional Student Services

<https://www.azed.gov/specialeducation>

Yuma County

<https://www.yumacountyaz.gov/home>

City of Yuma

<https://www.yumaaz.gov/>

City of Somerton

<https://www.somertonaz.gov/>

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