



Welcome to Offutt AFB

On behalf of the Offutt AFB community, we extend a warm welcome to you and your family. We are pleased to provide you with the following essential information regarding the educational options available for your children.

For comprehensive details on base services, including childcare, family support, and community events, please visit the official 55th Force Support Squadron website at <https://www.offutt55fss.com/>.

Overview of Local Schooling

The greater Omaha metropolitan area offers a diverse range of educational choices, including public, private, and homeschooling options.

School Type	Key Information
Public Schools	The two largest districts serving Offutt AFB are Bellevue Public Schools and Papillion LaVista Community Schools. In Nebraska, school district assignment is determined by your residential address, as it is not a "school of choice" state. Please note that school district boundaries do not always align with city boundaries.
Private Schools	Numerous private and parochial school options are available throughout the Omaha metro area and in nearby Iowa.
Homeschooling	Nebraska law designates homeschools as "exempt schools." The Offutt AFB community includes a vibrant and active network of homeschooling families.

Enrollment Procedures and Policies

To ensure a smooth transition, please review the following state and district policies.

Advance Enrollment for Military Families

The State of Nebraska permits the preliminary enrollment of children from military families who can provide a copy of their official military orders. This allows for early registration into a school district prior to your physical arrival.

- **Process:** Upon presenting military orders, your child can be pre-enrolled.
- **Assignment:** The specific school will be assigned based on your residential address once you secure housing.
- **Contingency:** If your final address falls outside the district where you advance-enrolled, you must apply for Option Enrollment to remain in that district.

Option Enrollment

This program allows parents to apply for enrollment in a school district outside of their designated residential area.

- Application Window: Applications are accepted from September 1 through March 15 for the subsequent school year.
- Placement: If the application is approved, the receiving district will assign the student to a school where space is available.
- More Information: For detailed guidance, visit the Nebraska Department of Education's Option Enrollment website: <https://www.education.ne.gov/fos/enrollment-option-application-instructions-faqs/>

Required Health Documentation

Nebraska state law requires the following for school enrollment:

- A physical examination is mandatory for all students entering pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, or seventh grade.
- The exam must have been completed within the six months prior to the first day of school.
- Students transferring from an out-of-state school into any grade level must also provide proof of a recent physical exam.

Specialized Programs and State Resources

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

If you have a family member enrolled in EFMP, it is crucial to contact Ms. Zoe Montoya at 402-294-4329 to facilitate a smooth transition. Please be prepared to hand-carry all current Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), Section 504 plans, and a copy of your child's most recent evaluation.

State Departments of Education

For detailed school performance reports and district information, please consult the official state websites:

- Nebraska: <https://nep.education.ne.gov/>
- Iowa: <https://www.iaschoolperformance.gov/ECP/Home/Index>
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Homeschooling Registration

Families choosing to homeschool must register with the State of Nebraska. To begin the registration process, please visit the Nebraska Department of Education's website for exempt schools: <https://www.education.ne.gov/fos/exempt-schools/>.

We are here to support you during your transition. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any specific questions, as each school district has unique policies. Welcome to Offutt Air Force Base!!

Tina Luderman & Jenni Miller
Offutt AFB School Liaison Program Managers