

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Is there a school at Fort Benning?** There are six elementary schools and one middle school located on Fort Benning that provide a wide variety of educational experiences for students and are committed to offering top quality programs for children living on post. Educational programs are designed to serve the unique needs of military families while remaining comparable to programs offered in Georgia schools. Special emphasis is placed upon accepting children at their current achievement levels and challenging them to progress as much as possible while they are attending the Fort Benning Schools. <http://www.am.dodea.edu/benning/Programs/programs.htm>

2. **How old do you have to be to start Pre-Kindergarten in Georgia/ Alabama? Is Kindergarten full-day?** A child must be age-eligible (four-years-old on September 1) and a Georgia resident. Acceptable proof of age must be on file the day the child begins the Pre-K program. Alabama does not offer Pre-K program. Both Georgia and Alabama offers Kindergarten full-day.

3. **Where is the High School?** Fort Benning high school students receive educational services at Chattahoochee High School, Russell County High School and Spencer High school. In addition these students have the choice of attending any of the Magnet school programs in Muscogee County School District; transportation is provided. Students accepted for attendance to magnet schools are shuttled from Fort Benning to a centralized location in Columbus then bused to the magnet schools.

4. **Is there a dress code at these schools?** Visit the district website for dress specific guidelines. (The web site links includes individual school website links, school calendars, registration requirements, graduation requirements/curriculums, etc.)
 - www.am.dodea.edu/benning/
 - www.mcsdga.net/
 - www.harris.k12.ga.us/
 - www.chattahoochee.k12.ga.us/
 - www.marion.k12.ga.us/
 - www.talbot.k12.ga.us/
 - www.lee.k12.al.us/
 - www.pcboe.net/
 - www.russellcountyschools.org/

5. **Are any extracurricular activities available?** All of the school districts offer a variety of extracurricular activity i.e., sports, band, chorus, ROTC, theatre and many other opportunities for students to take advantage of. Visit the school district website for extracurricular activities that you are interested in.

6. **I am concerned about credits transferring, my class rank, graduation requirements etc., and whom do I talk to?** Visit the district website for information about credits transferring, class ranking, graduation requirements etc. or telephone the school and speak to one of the Registrars or Guidance Counselors. You may also contact the Fort Benning School Liaison Officer at (706) 545-3062 to provide assistance.

7. **If we choose not to live on Fort Benning can our children still attend Fort Benning Schools?** Students whose parents live off Fort Benning but work on the installation are not eligible to attend Fort Benning Schools. Eligibility for Fort Benning Schools requires residency on the installation or a 180-day waiver for housing.
http://www.am.dodea.edu/benning/registration/Registration_main.htm.

8. **Are there any before and after school programs offered?** In conjunction with Child & Youth Services (CYS), the School Age Services (SAS) program offers before and after school care. You may bring your school age children to the SAS building as early as 5:30 am. Before and/or after school care for children in grades K-5 attending schools on Fort Benning. Students are given a light breakfast at the SAS and transported by SAS staff to school or can eat breakfast at school. After school SAS staff picks up the students and transports them to the SAS where they are provided with a snack as well as "Power Hour". Power Hour provides students time to complete the day's homework assignments with assistance from the staff. School age students may stay at SAS as late as 6:00 pm. Students must be registered with CYS to take advantage of the before and after school programs. SAS is located at building 7, Patch Hall.
<http://www.benningmwr.com/>

9. **Where can I find more information about home schooling my child in Georgia and Alabama?** If you live in Georgia you may want to visit the www.homeschoolfoundation.org or <http://www.hslda.org/hs/state/GA/default.asp>. If you live in Alabama you may want to visit the www.homeschoolfoundation.org or <http://www.hslda.org/hs/state/AL/default.asp>.

10. **Who should I call if I have a question?** Questions about procedures or activities at a school are best answered by calling the school. Telephone numbers for all schools, departments, and administrative offices are listed in "Contact Us" and the school information section of the web site. You can also call the School Liaison Officer for additional questions at 706.545.3062.

11. **What is AYP?** AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) – represents the annual academic performance targets in reading, language arts, and mathematics that the State, school districts, and schools must reach to be considered on track to meet the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirement for 100% proficiency by school year 2013-2014.

12. **What information must I provide to register my child in school for the first time?**

Parents are to present the following documents:

- ~ An official birth certificate
- ~ Verification of address (utility statement, rent receipt or lease document, telephone statement, bill of sale for house or statement of loan)
- ~ Requested to present an official copy of their social security number
- ~ Must have proof of immunization
- ~ Georgia law also requires students to have eye, ear and dental examinations. Health certificates are available from physicians or from the local health department.