Definition of Department of Defense Dependents School (DoDDS)

DoDDS nurses are employed outside of the United States.

*Note about DDESS nurses: DDESS nurses work inside the United States at military base schools. Both DoDDS and DDESS school nurses are DoD nurses and service military students. DDESS school nurses should join or affiliate with their state school nurse association where the base school is located.*

Definition of International Schools

Schools located outside the United States that attract students who might be temporarily residing in a foreign nation, service students coming from multiple nations, offer a curriculum that differs from the national curriculum of the host country, and are characterized by a commitment to international education. Schools are usually part of one of the regional organizations that oversee international education, such as The Association for the Advancement of International Education:

- AASSA – South America
- AISA – Africa
- CEESA – Central and East Europe
- EARCOS – East Asia
- ECIS – Europe
- MAIS – The Mediterranean
- NESA – Near East and South Asia
- The Tri-Association – Central America, the Caribbean, Columbia

These schools differ from schools that are for children of American military dependents residing outside of the United States (DoDDS).