



## FLO and CLO Role in Special Education

The Family Liaison Office (FLO) serves USG employees assigned to, serving at, or returning from a U.S. embassy or consulate abroad and their family members and Members of Household (MOH). FLO's mission is to improve the quality of life for Foreign Service employees and family members by identifying issues and advocating for programs and solutions, providing a variety of client services, and extending services to overseas communities by managing the worldwide Community Liaison Office (CLO) program.

### Contact us:

Family Liaison Office  
Room 1239, Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520  
Tel: (202) 647-1076  
(800) 440-0397  
Fax: (202) 647-1670  
Email: [flo@state.gov](mailto:flo@state.gov)  
[floaskeducation@state.gov](mailto:floaskeducation@state.gov)  
Internet: [www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo](http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo)

### Our Programs:

Education and Youth  
Family Member Employment  
Crisis Management  
Family Support Services  
Unaccompanied Tours  
CLO Program  
Expeditious Naturalization  
FLO Publications

## FLO Role in Special Needs Education

- *Advocacy* - aware of new issues, changes to policy and regulations, active participation in Department working groups
- *Resources and information* – referrals, website, Yahoo! groups (FSSpecialNeeds, FSParent) accessible through FLO website
- *Transitioning* – concerns, documents to hand-carry, identify appropriate education method, third culture kid
- *Boarding schools* – database of boarding schools including those for special needs; identify possible schools for your child
- *Home school* – resources for home schooling a child with special needs and Washington D.C. area home school information
- *Washington D.C. area schools* – D.C. area public and private schools, how to talk to school personnel
- *College* – standardized testing, accommodations, admissions process, application workshop specifically for children with LD, scholarships

- *Summer programs* – camps and classes in U.S. and abroad, residential camps and alternate programs
- *Allowances* – assist with interpretation of allowances and how education allowances may interact with other allowances; work closely with Office of Allowances and ECS
- *Foreign Service Youth Foundation* – events and activities that may be of interest to your child such as Welcome Back picnic ([www.fsyf.org](http://www.fsyf.org)) and youth awards
- *Publications and communication* – FLO Direct, FLO weekly insert for CLO newsletter

### **CLO Role in Special Needs Education**

- Establish and maintain contact with schools and resources
- Most up-to-date options for and availability of schooling and resources at post – complement information from Overseas Schools and ECS
- Contact before arrival at post
- May be first point of contact for parent at post
- Access to internet/intranet computer and resource library
- Submit reports to Department such as child care report and School Summary Information Report for Office of Overseas Schools
- Communicates FLO programs and resources to overseas community through FLO weekly insert in post newsletter and FLO-CLO Connection (newsletter sent to CLOs)
- To contact a CLO at post, email FLO, visit the post's intranet site, or search in Outlook's global address book by "CLO, post"

### **Publication: *Education Options for Foreign Service Family Members***

Access through FLO website; Chapter 10 addresses the following sections on special needs education:

- Evaluating developmental problems
- Medical clearances
- Diagnostic testing
- Allowances
- Resources to help parents understand their child's learning process
- Important records and tests
- Post consideration
- Parent support groups
- Washington area programs including schools and summer programs
- College and required entrance tests